



# PLASTIC PIPES CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION



PPCA is a global association dedicated to the ongoing creation and distribution of technical and application information on plastic pipes systems in order to educate and expand their safe, cost effective and sustainable use.

## **PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: 16 March 2017**

### **PIPES XI - SUSTAINABILITY ON CONFERENCE AGENDA**

Sustainability of plastic pipe systems will be a key issue at the Pipes XI Conference and Exhibition to be held in South Africa on 4 – 5 September 2017 at the Emperors Palace in Johannesburg. A preliminary programme released by event organizers, includes conference speakers from around the world. Presentations will focus on the low environmental impact of plastic pipe systems in addition to recent technical and business developments.

Innovation throughout the industry continues to drive market growth and share for plastic pipe systems. This process has embraced recycling technology. For example, conference speaker, Dr Michael Pluimer (US Crossroads Engineering Services) will evaluate the long term performance of corrugated polyethylene pipes manufactured from recycled materials for railroad applications.

PVC-O pipes represent a new generation of plastic pipes that offer distinct environmental benefits for users and installers alike. Rob Spekrijse is CEO of Rollepaal – an international company that makes the machines that make these pipes. He will be explaining the quality principles that underline the pipelines that are light yet robust enough to replace steel pipes for numerous utility applications.

Long life is an essential factor in assessing plastic as the sustainable pipe material of choice. Dr. Andreas Frank from the Polymer Competence Center in Austria, will announce latest findings on the lifetime prediction of PE100 and PE100 RC pipes based on slow crack growth resistance.

Speakers from South Africa will include Bernard Reeksting, a senior consulting engineer who has developed guidelines for the successful use of reprocessed plastic materials in polyethylene manufacture. Professor Fanie van Vuuren from the University of Pretoria will explain his landmark research on biofilm growth in pipes and its impact on the hydraulic capacity as well as controlling mechanisms.

The conference keynote speech will be delivered by Dr Roelof Botha, an eminent international expert on venture capitalism.

The PIPES XI Conference and exhibition is organized by the Southern African Plastic Pipe Manufacturers Association (SAPPMA) in close cooperation with the PPCA. At least ten papers will be included from the international Plastic Pipes Conference held in Berlin during 2016. For this reason, the duration of PIPES XI has been extended to two days.

Major sponsors of PIPES XI are the Baerlocher Group, Aenor-Ceis, Molecor/Sizabantu, Macneil Plastics, Pipeflo, Plastiweld and Rollepaal.

Full details of programme, registration, exhibition and sponsorship opportunities are available on the following website:

[www.pipesxiconference.co.za](http://www.pipesxiconference.co.za)

Further Information:

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Note to editors: Member associations of the PPCA are the PE 100+ Association, Plastics Pipe Institute, PVC4Pipes and The European Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association (TEPPFA). PPCA conferences and exhibitions are self-financing and any profits re-invested in future conferences, educational tools or "spin-off" events.