



South African Institute of Electrical Engineers



PRESS RELEASE

SAIEE INAUGURATES NEW PRESIDENT

APRIL 2017 - JOHANNESBURG: Jacob Machinjike, General Manager: Grids in Eskom Transmission, has been appointed as the 2017 President of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE) at the recent Annual General meeting (AGM) held at the Military Museum in Johannesburg at the end of March.

Jacob started serving in SAIEE leadership as an Office Bearer in 2014 when he served as the SAIEE Junior Vice President.

Jacob Machinjike has 30 years' experience in the engineering industry and a sound understanding of the operation and maintenance of the entire value chain of the electricity supply industry. He is no stranger to receiving accolades for his leadership role including being named Transmission Executive of the year 2011 and 2015. In the same year he also proceeded to be named the runner-up for the more prestigious Eskom Executive of the Year award.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (Honours) and a Master of Business Leadership (MBL). He is a Fellow of the SAIEE and is registered with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) as a Professional Engineer.

He joined the SAIEE in 1996 as a Senior Member. He became a fellow in 2002. He served as a Council member from 2001 to 2006 and then again from 2011 to the present. Jacob has served on various council committees, including Membership, Professional Development, Finance, Restructuring and Policies and the SAIEE's Executive Committee.

In 1998, Jacob was the recipient of the SAIEE's Young Achiever's Award. Besides being General Manager at Eskom responsible for Transmission Grid assets, he also represents Eskom on the Governing Board of the GO15 (an international organisation of very large power grid operators). He is a former director of a number of Eskom subsidiary companies, which include Trans Africa Projects (TAP), PN Energy Services, Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR), Umeme of Uganda, Motraco and Elgas of Mozambique.

"The objective of the 2017 SAIEE presidential term of office is to continue building on the focus areas of the past few years, namely developing and nurturing skills to ensure the professionalisation of engineers, technologists and technicians," explains Jacob. He sees the role of the Engineering Professional in today's complex decision-making as requiring "enthusiasm in growing membership among students and practicing engineers, increasing their ability to serve customers and to help in resolving South Africa's and society's challenges. Some of the opportunities require making use of new and emerging technologies, industry models, smart technologies, innovative solutions to attract investments, members' access to international institutions and global business," says Jacob.

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