Sulphur and Sulphuric Acid 2009 Conference

4–6 May 2009

SUN CITY, SOUTH AFRICA
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FOREWORD

The recent upsets in the world economy have also had a drastic effect on the sulphur and sulphuric acid markets. Sulphur prices started 2008 at $500 per ton, peaked at around $800 per ton mid-year and within four months fell to below $200 per ton. Where it will be by mid 2009 is anyone’s guess. The slow down in the world economy has had a negative impact on the world demand for metals. This in turn has led to some Southern African mines being run at lower rates and even the closure of a number of mines in Southern Africa. Similarly, projects to develop new mines have been put on hold. With mineral processing being one of the main consumers of sulphuric acid, this slow down has had a major effect on the Southern African sulphuric acid and sulphur markets.

With such insecurity in the market it is important for producers of sulphuric acid to operate production sites at optimum capacity and conversion efficiency. To achieve these requirements producers need to have as much support and back-up as possible from vendors and specialists. Since the last conference, there has also been a number of technological advances made in equipment design and technology development. This conference will present the opportunity to expose operational personnel to these technologies.

Access to a network of knowledgeable people in your industry is imperative. An event such as the sulphuric acid conference also presents an invaluable opportunity to develop and expand your formal and informal contacts in the sulphuric acid industry.

At the 2009 conference the organising committee together with technology suppliers wishes to bring together producers, vendors and specialists to assist sulphuric acid producers in Southern Africa in getting the most out of their facilities.

S. Laubscher and T. Claassens
Chairmen
Organising Committee
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