



The Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy  
Founded in 1894

is organising the

4th International Platinum Conference

## ***Platinum in transition: 'Boom or Bust'***

**Sun City, South Africa**

**11–14 October, 2010**



**P**latinum mining in South Africa was for many years the younger brother of gold mining in South Africa. Both industries have similar mining methods and require similar skills. Skilled people moved from one area to another as the health and profitability of one area improved over the other. Both industries have operated in a boom or bust mentality with operating costs continuously squeezing up against selling price of the product and hence cutting margins. Early this decade things looked to be changing with platinum sales exceeding gold sales for the first time. This, together with the argument that platinum was a commodity rather than a store of wealth looked to create a more stable narrow reef mining environment. Then in early 2008 there was a massive increase in the platinum price followed in late 2008 by a more massive decline in platinum price. We know

that as a mining industry we have to change and progress but this boom or bust scenario generates the thinking that 'when prices are low we can not afford to change and when prices are high there is no need to change'.

For Platinum in Transition—Boom or Bust the SAIMM is looking to promote change. Firstly, to make the 2010 conference more inclusive with a 'cradle to cradle' approach to the platinum business and that means the business associated with all the minerals mined in association with platinum. The conference will cover all aspects from exploration, feasibility studies, mine development, mining, metallurgy, customers and customer demands to recycling and interaction with society. Secondly, to learn from this latest boom and bust experience and through increased understanding continue to build a strong viable mining industry that will benefit all stakeholders.

# ***First Announcement and Call for Papers***

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## **Call for Papers**

### **TOPICS**

These include:

- Risk management and safety initiatives
- Environment and sustainability
- Impact of increasing cost of utilities
- Exploration and orebody delineation
- Project valuation and funding
- Current and future mine design and layout
- Current and future mining operations
- Mineral processing, smelting, and refining
- New technologies for mining and processing
- Mining Charter and legislation
- Platinum marketing, uses and applications

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Conference is being organised by the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, and individuals are invited to submit papers for the Conference. Titles and short abstracts (no more

than 500 words) on any relevant subject should be submitted in **English** before **26 February 2010** to Jackie van der Westhuizen, Head of Conferencing, via e-mail: [jackie@saimm.co.za](mailto:jackie@saimm.co.za)

**Telephonic enquiries may be made at**

**Tel: +27 11 834-1273/7**

**Facsimile: +27 11 838-5923 or**

**e-mail: [Jackie@saimm.co.za](mailto:Jackie@saimm.co.za)**

**Website: <http://www.saimm.co.za>**

### **KEY DATES**

**26 February 2010** Submission of abstracts

**26 April 2010** Provisional acceptance of abstracts

**28 June 2010** Submission of papers

**11–13 October 2010** Conference

**14 October 2010** Possible technical visits



**The Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy,  
Head of Conferencing, 4th International Platinum Conference 'Boom or Bust'**

P.O. Box 61127, Marshalltown, 2107, Tel: 27 11 834-1273/7

THE DETAILS OF THIS FORM CAN BE POSTED TO US, or E-MAILED TO: [jackie@saimm.co.za](mailto:jackie@saimm.co.za) or  
FAXED TO: 27 11 838-5923 / 833-8156

- I am interested in attending the Conference
- I expect to be accompanied by my partner
- I may be interested in participating in a technical visit
- I may be interested in taking a sponsorship package
- I intend to submit an abstract of a proposed paper

Title of paper: .....

Personal Details: Name .....

Address .....

Tel: ..... Fax: .....

E.mail: .....