

7TH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE

29-30 SEPTEMBER 2026
MINTEK, RANDBURG, JOHANNESBURG

ECSA and SACNASP Validated CPD Activity Credits = 0.1 per hour attended

The role of youth and young professionals in Future Proofing African Mining, Today

The conference promises to be an engaging and informative event that will explore the latest trends, ideas, and innovations in the minerals industry. This conference offers young professionals the opportunity to network with peers and industry experts, establish professional relationships, and collaborate on future projects. A conference dedicated to young professionals emphasises the importance of empowering young professionals to lead the way in driving innovation and sustainability in the South African minerals industry.

OBJECTIVES

- During the conference, attendees can expect to participate in engaging sessions, informative talks, and interactive workshops covering a broad range of topics. These sessions will explore innovative technologies, sustainable mining practices, and the role of young professionals in driving positive change in the industry.
- In addition to the informative sessions, there will be ample opportunities to network with peers and industry experts, share ideas, and collaborate on projects. The conference will provide a platform for attendees to showcase their work, gain feedback, and receive recognition for their contributions.
- To promote diversity and inclusion in the mining industry by creating an environment that supports and celebrates individuals from all backgrounds.

Overall, the conference is a must-attend event for young professionals in the minerals industry. Whether you are an early-career professional or an experienced industry expert, this conference is an excellent opportunity to learn, network, and contribute to the future of the minerals industry in South Africa.

Key Dates:

4 May 2026 - Submission of abstracts

22 June 2026 - Submission of papers

29-30 September 2026 - Conference

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Gugu Charlie,
Conferences and
Events Coordinator

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This conference should be of value to all professionals across the entire minerals industry value chain, including:

- All metallurgical fields
- Exploration
- Geology
- Geotechnical engineering
- Leadership/management/government/community
- Mining
- Occupational Hygiene and SHE practitioners
- ICT experts
- Mechanical, electrical/electronic engineers
- Mineralogy

EXHIBITION/SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Companies wishing to sponsor or exhibit should contact the Conference Co-ordinator.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Prospective authors 35 years and younger, in the minerals industry, are invited to submit titles and abstracts of their papers on research or work being done for the 2026 Young Professionals Conference.

WHY PRESENT A PAPER?

Presenting a paper is a great opportunity to:

- Present your work to industry professionals
- Obtain exposure, build reputation and further your career
- Network with peers and upcoming key players
- Familiarise yourself with current developments and exchange ideas on future innovations
- Have your paper published in the SAIMM Journal*
- ECSA and SACNASP CPD points will be allocated to all attending delegates.

**Journal acceptance subject to peer-review by the Conference Committee and SAIMM Publications Committee*

Prospective authors are invited to submit titles and abstracts of their papers in English. The abstracts should be no longer than 500 words.

Submit an Abstracts

Acceptance of papers for publication in the SAIMM Journal will be subject to peer review by the Conference Committee and SAIMM Publications Committee pre-conference.

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TOPICS

Technical papers on design, research and development and current practices and processes in the following areas; amongst others:

Sustainable Mining and Processing Practices:

This theme could cover topics related to reducing the environmental impact of mining operations, promoting responsible mining practices, and exploring alternative energy sources for mining activities.

Innovation and Technology in the Minerals Industry: This theme could explore the latest advancements in technology and innovation in the mining industry, including robotics, automation, artificial intelligence, and machine learning.

Diversity and Inclusion in the Minerals Industry: This theme could discuss ways to promote diversity and inclusion in the mining industry and how to create a more equitable and inclusive workplace for all employees.

Skills Development and Training: This theme could focus on training and development programs for young professionals in the mining industry, including mentorship, leadership training, and upskilling.

The Future of the Minerals Industry in South Africa: This theme could explore the future of the mining industry in South Africa and the challenges and opportunities that young professionals will face in the coming years.

Social Responsibility in the Minerals Industry: This theme could examine the social impact of mining operations and how companies can promote social responsibility and sustainable community development.

Health and Safety in the Minerals Industry: This theme could explore the latest best practices for promoting health and safety in mining operations and how to create a culture of safety in the workplace.

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