



EMS CONFERENCE 2024

QUO VADIS: FUTURE OF FIRE SAFETY AND THE EMERGENCY SERVICES - INNOVATIONS AND SOLUTIONS

**REGISTER TO ATTEND AND
EARN CPD POINTS**

DON'T DELAY

BOOK TODAY

Go to: www.safety1st.co.za/events/

or

phone: 083 266 6662

or email: debbie@safety1st.co.za

Delegate fees: R6900

**21-22
October 2024**

Venue:

Dräger Auditorium
Sandton

Tel:

+27 83 266 6662

Email:

debbie@safety1st.co.za

Websites:

www.safety1st.co.za

www.emsguide.co.za

Organisers



SAFETY FIRST
ASSOCIATION

Supporting Organisation



SAESI



SAIIOB

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EMS GUIDE



EMS CONFERENCE 2024

QUO VADIS: FUTURE OF FIRE SAFETY AND THE EMERGENCY SERVICES - INNOVATIONS AND SOLUTIONS

THE FUTURE OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICES - *keeping up with the modern era*

Anyone involved in the emergency services, fire fighting and fire safety cannot afford to miss this conference which will focus on the future of this vital service.

Over the past few years we have witnessed significant transformations, bringing about a new era in technology. Embracing this new technology is a key to the success of all emergency services

Until recently, words such as lithium batteries, artificial intelligence, drones, Apps were not part of every day vocabulary, but now they cannot be ignored. They are integrated into the working life of fire fighters and other emergency workers.

Some presentations of the conference will examine:

- The challenges of fighting lithium battery fires - are they pitfalls of new technology?
- Can AI be used in fire prevention and fire fighting?
- Drones and their uses. Are fire fighters properly trained to operate them?
- Are fire fighters adequately trained to fight fires in modern building structures?
- How can emergency services mitigate the potential catastrophes of climate change?

A summary of some other presentations

- Another change to the emergency service landscape has been the growth of the private fire services. Why and how did they become part of the South African landscape? Are they here to stay? This will be discussed in detail.
- Emergency service workers' tasks are physically onerous and stressful, impacting on their mental well being. Their ability to effectively carry out their activities effectively will be compromised if they are not properly cared for. This impacts not only themselves and their families, but on entire communities as well. Attendees will also learn how to implement wellness programmes and how to recognise and mitigate against stress and burnout.
- The future of SAESI has been a subject of discussion among its members over the past couple of years. This will be clarified.

SCROLL DOWN TO SEE THE FULL PROGRAMME WITH ALL PRESENTATIONS

After 2 days of back-to-back presentations and networking, attendees will leave with a wider knowledge, understanding and improved capabilities of what is in store for them in an era when rapidly changing technology cannot be avoided.

Register today to attend this exciting and informative 2-day event - 21-22 October 2024

REGISTER TODAY:

Dates: 21-22 October 2024

Price per delegate: **R6900**

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or

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or

email: debbie@safety1st.co.za

CPD Points will be awarded
to attendees

The number of points will
depend on the professional
organisations that the
attendee belongs to

Delegate fee **includes**:

- Two (2) days attendance at the conference
21st October 2024: Teas, lunch, refreshments and cocktails
22nd October 2024: Teas, braai lunch and refreshments
- Goodie bag with exciting surprises
- Competitions and raffles with exciting prizes

Delegate fee **excludes**:

Accommodation and travel is not included in the delegate fee. Reduced accommodation rates have been negotiated with a nearby hotel. Please discuss with the organisers.

To register:

visit <https://www.safety1st.co.za/events/>
or complete the attached application form

or phone: + 27 83 266 6662

or email: debbie@safety1st.co.za

WILL YOU BENEFIT BY ATTENDING?

YES YOU WILL!!

The ultimate goal of every emergency service is to save lives, protect property and make their communities and working environments safer.

This conference will bring those professionals together under the same roof to help them achieve these goals.

- **Life safety:** Protecting people and animals from harm or injury
- **Property preservation:** Minimising damage to buildings, structures and contents
- **Fire extinguishment:** Quickly and effectively putting out fires
- **Emergency medical services:** Providing medical assistance and care in emergency situations
- **Hazard mitigation:** Identifying and reducing potential hazards to prevent future emergencies
- **Community education:** Educating the public on fire safety, fire prevention and emergency preparedness
- **Response efficiency:** Responding quickly and effectively to emergencies, minimising response times
- **Scene stabilisation:** Security and stabilising the scene to prevent further damage or injury
- **Investigation and analysis:** Investigating the cause of fires and other emergencies to improve prevention and response
- **Continuous improvement:** Continuously training, learning and improving skills and techniques to provide the best possible service.

CPD POINTS WILL BE AWARDED TO PARTICIPANTS



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PROGRAMME

Day 1 - Monday 21 October 2024

Time	Topic	Speaker
07:00-07:45	Registration	
07:45-07:50	Welcome/OSH regulations	Leighton Bennett
1. 07:50-08:35	Keynote: Navigating the emergency services to success during current difficult times	Jonathan De Villiers
2. 08:35-09:20	Keynote: SAESI: Past, present and plans for the future	Theresa Geldenhuys
3. 09:20-10:00	Modernisation of the emergency services	Louis Pretorius
10:00-10:30	Tea break	
4. 10:30-11:10	Johannesburg inner city fires in hijacked buildings - Lessons learned	Andries Mucavele
5. 11:10-11:50	Privatised fire services - a necessity in today's age or just a nice-to-have?	De Wet Engelbrecht
6. 11:50-12:30	Improving medical emergency efficiency through Apps and emerging technology	Saul Behrmann
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
7. 13:30-14:10	Strategic Roadmap 2030: Shaping the future of the fire services	Roland Hendricks
8. 14:10-14:50	The first responder vs The fire investigator	Saritha Wolff
14:50-15:20	Tea break	
9. 15:20-16:00	First responder and emergency worker burnout	Lizelle De Villiers
10. 16:00-16:40	Team building through employee wellness	Riaan Janse van Vuuren
11. 16:40-17:20	Ignore the law at your peril	Mziwakhe Nhlapo
17:30-19:00	Cocktails	

Day 2 - Tuesday 22 October 2024

Time	Topic	Speaker
07:55-08:00	Welcome	
12. 08:00-08:40	Prevent fire deaths through community education programmes	Fulufhelo Hendrick Sibara
13. 08:40-09:20	Team building for USAR effectiveness	Thabo Charles Mabaso
14. 09:20-10:00	Climate change and wildland fires: A potential catastrophe	Trevor Abrahams
10:00-10:30	Tea break	
15. 10:30-11:10	Inspections, compliance and fire fighter competencies in the 21st century	Tibor Szana
16. 11:10-11:50	From first aid to frontline: The evolution of EMS training	Debbie Groome
17. 11:50-12:30	Implement effective risk assessments and help save more than lives	Marius Atterbury
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
18. 13:30-14:10	From prediction to response: AI's critical role in fire fighting and fire prevention	Linda Botha
19. 14:10-14:50	Containing lithium fires	Duncan Boyes
20. 14:50-15:15	Closing, wrap-up, competition winners	Leighton Bennett

Please note: Speakers and topics in the programme may change before the event. Circumstances beyond the control of the organisers may result in substitutions, alterations or cancellations of topics or speakers. The organisers reserve the right to alter or modify the advertised speakers or topic if necessary.

SPEAKERS - PRESENTATIONS



Jonathan De Villiers

Vastly experienced in Disaster Management, Fire Protection and Emergency Response (to name a few), over the past 4 decades, in SA as well as internationally.

Presentation title: Navigating the emergency services to success during current difficult times.

Abstract: Are the emergency services receiving the attention they deserve? Current challenges and viable solutions will be explored.



Thabo Charles Mabaso

Deputy Chief: Public Information and Liaison Officer City of Tshwane Emergency Services Department

Presentation title: Team building for USAR effectiveness

Abstract: Effective response through excellent team building at local and international search and rescue missions. Case studies to be discussed will include the disasters in Pakistan, Haiti, Philippines, and Japan as well as the devastating floods in Kwa-Zulu Natal.



Trevor Abrahams

Managing Director, (WoF)

Presentation title: Climate change and wildland fires: A potential catastrophe facing South Africa

Abstract: National average temperatures in South Africa have surged at twice the pace of global temperatures posing a grave scenario. What response is needed amidst increasing temperatures, fire catastrophes, intense extreme wildland fires, escalating death tolls and devastated communities?



Fulufhelo Hendrick Sibara

Vhembe District Municipality, Senior Divisional Officer, (Assistant Fire Chief), Fire Safety Section Head (SDO)

Presentation title: Prevent fire deaths through community education programmes

Abstract: Public education, an important feature of any fire department educates communities in fire prevention. Education blitzes if properly performed will help prevent tragedies and unnecessary fire deaths.



Louis Pretorius

Chief Fire Officer - Fidelity SecureFire, Fidelity Services Group.

Presentation title: Modernisation of EMS services and challenges.

Abstract: The emergence of the private fire services in South Africa is a growing phenomenon that needs to be discussed, including the reasons for their existence, their relevance and their professionalism.



Mziwakhe Nhlapo

CEO of MMAT SHEC & ESG Training & Consulting Services, specialising in compensation matters.

Presentation title: Ignore the law at your peril.

Abstract: Emergency Services can find themselves falling foul of the law if they fail to protect employees and assets both at incidents and at the workplace.



Lizelle De Villiers

Senior Consultant: Empower Talent (BBA; MBA; Dip LC (LC Inst. UK).

Presentation title: First Responder and emergency worker burnout.

Abstract: This presentation will provide valuable advice on what can be done to reduce and manage stress exposure impacts and its consequences.



Saritha Wolff

Technical Consultant: Fire Safety, Accu-SHERQ Risk Consultants

Presentation title: First responder vs Fire Inspections

Abstract: The challenges that fire investigators are faced with when attending fire scenes after the fire brigades have left including unnecessary damage caused by fire fighters stampeding through the damage, or the use of excessive water.



Saul Behrmann

CEO Medi-Response

Presentation title: Improving medical emergency efficiency through Apps and emerging technology



Duncan Boyes

Chairman Centa Holdings

Presentation title: Containing lithium fires

Abstract: A pitfall of modern technology is lithium fires. Containing them will be learned.



Andries Mucavele

Chief, Johannesburg Emergency Management Services

Presentation title:

Johannesburg inner city fires in hijacked buildings - Lessons learned



De Wet Engelbrecht

CEO Fire Ops SA

Presentation title: Privatised fire services - a necessity in today's age or just a nice-to-have?

Abstract: What we bring to the table.

SPEAKERS - PRESENTATIONS



Marius Atterbury,
CEO, Fire Protection Association
of Southern Africa
*Presentation title: The
importance of an effective risk
assessment*
*Abstract: The road to being
prepared for fires and other
emergencies, including possible
legislative improvements.*



Riaan Janse van Vuuren
MD Elpis Training and
Development. Retired Manager:
Sol Plaatje Emergency Services
*Presentation title: Effective team
building through employee
wellness*
*Abstract: For emergency service
teams to be successful,
employee wellness programmes
must be introduced into every
department. Healthy employees
will be more motivated and have
a positive attitude.*



Linda Botha
CEO Skills Train Distribution
*Presentation title: From
prediction to response: AI's
critical role in fire fighting and
fire prevention*
*Abstract: Fires can be prevented
and fought through the rapid
and challenging evolution of
artificial intelligence (AI) such as
early detection, optimized
resource allocation, fire spread
studies, training and simulation.*



Tibor Szana
Retired Chief Inspector DEL
*Presentation title: Inspections,
compliance and fire fighter
competencies in the 21st century*
*Abstract: Observations from an
inspector's perspective of fire
fighter competencies. Are they
adequately trained in
technological advances such as
drones? Are they adequately
trained to control fires in new
building structures with soaring
heights and novel materials?*



Theresa Geldenhuys
President SAESI
Keynote speaker
*Presentation title: SAESI, Past,
Present and Future*



Roland Hendricks
Director, NDMC Fire Services
*Presentation title: Strategic
Roadmap 2030: Shaping the
future of the fire services*



Debbie Groome
Program Quality Practitioner,
Boston City Campus
*Presentation title: From first aid
to frontline: The evolution of
EMS training*



Leighton Bennett
Chairman Safety First
Association
*Presentation title: Fire blame
game. No two fires are the same*

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