

A COMMITTED LOCAL ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURER



CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

LESCO Manufacturing, established in 1999 by David Shapiro, has deep roots that trace back to the founding of Switch King by David's father, Natie Shapiro, in 1958. Today, under the leadership of David's son, Jonathan Shapiro, who has been involved in the company since 2009, LESCO Manufacturing has expanded and become a prominent South African producer of electrical products.

LESCO Manufacturing is not just a manufacturer; it is a company with a strong sense of social responsibility. It strives to build a sustainable organisation that supports local talent and infrastructure, thereby contributing to several of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The company provides employment opportunities to individuals who are typically overlooked in the job market, including the disabled and the youth.

The core focus of LESCO is to produce a range of high-quality electrical products at competitive prices for the local market. All products adhere to local standards and carry SABS ISO 9001 accreditation. Moreover, through its community development programmes, LESCO Manufacturing aims to bridge the gap between safety, aesthetics, and affordability.

Recently, LESCO Manufacturing has consolidated its operations in larger premises and introduced a new product range called Apollo. With its motto, "Switch to Local. Switch to Safety. Switch to Affordability," the Apollo range of switches and sockets fills a significant gap in the market. These locally produced products prioritise both safety and aesthetics. Jonathan Shapiro explains that LESCO's in-depth understanding of the South African landscape led them to design an ultra-high-quality yet cost-effective range of switches and sockets. The launch of the Apollo range eliminates the need for customers to compromise on style or safety in the pursuit of affordability.

Manufactured in a state-of-the-art new production facility within South Africa, LESCO's Apollo products

feature a sleek, durable design that embodies innovation and meets world-class quality standards. Each product undergoes rigorous testing according to SABS specifications, including impact testing and in-house glo-wire testing, ensuring their

APOLLO
BY LESCO MANUFACTURING

6.9mm

Sleekest, slimmest profile on the market

Seamless style, at your fingertips.



SWITCHES & SOCKETS

Switch to **Local**.
Switch to **Safety**.
Switch to **Affordability**.

NO COMPROMISE

MADE BY US IN RSA, WITH YOU IN MIND



LESCO
MANUFACTURING (PTY) LTD
Tel: 011 613 7417
Email: sales@lescosk.co.za
www.apollolesco.co.za



EAGLE LIGHTING

www.eaglelighting.co.za

LEADERS IN LED SOLUTIONS & PROJECT LIGHTING



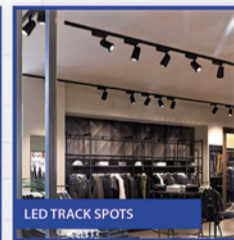
CONTACT OUR PROJECTS DEPARTMENTS

CPT - Email: info-sales@eagle-lighting.co.za.co.za
JHB - Email: sales@lascon.co.za

Tel: 021 440 7100
Tel: 011 621 0620



LED PROFILES & TAPELIGHT



LED TRACK SPOTS



LED DOWNLIGHTS



The Eagle Lighting projects division supplies a wide variety of commercial luminaires including High bays, Vapour Proof's, Profiles, LED Tape-light, Downlights, Exterior Luminaires, LED Panels, Fluorescent fittings and more.



UPGRADE TO LOCAL WITH APOLLO.

Now at Voltex, get the thinnest switches and sockets in the market.

10 YEAR FACTORY WARRANTY



6.9mm

APOLLO
BY LESCO MANUFACTURING



voltex[®]
your electrical connection[®]



SHOP NOW
IN-STORE | ONLINE | APP
WWW.VOLTEX.CO.ZA



Central Support Systems is now ISO compliant

Central Support Systems is a leading supplier of cable support systems in Southern Africa, serving the commercial and industrial markets. Founded 27 years ago, the company has grown steadily by maintaining its focus on superior customer service. From humble beginnings in 1996, with a staff complement of five people and one delivery vehicle, Central now has a staff complement of over 100 and a fleet of 20 vehicles.

Central Support System's mission is to be the pre-eminent cable management supplier in Southern Africa, combining the highest quality product in the market at the most competitive

prices along with superior service.

Kevin Kohler, the new Central Support Systems CEO adds, "While quality has always been paramount to Central Support, we have recently formalised this drive by implementing ISO 9001:2015 throughout the company's business processes."

Both Central Support Systems (Pty) Ltd and CSS Commercial (Pty) Ltd have achieved their ISO9001:2015 certification for Warehousing, Sales and Distribution of Cable Management Systems, as well as associated Products and Components.

Following an initial assessment on all areas of Central Support's business management systems, the project to become ISO compliant began in early 2020. Central Support worked with United Registrar of Systems (URS Certification), an independent accreditation body operating in more than 40 countries within the multinational URS Holdings. Their high-quality services are guaranteed by the United Kingdom accreditation body UKAS, who carefully examine the certification processes throughout.

URS Certification focuses on the notable concept of operational safety, which presents customers with considerable added value including significant financial savings and efficient and effective business operations.

Kohler adds; "We believe in the core values of the ISO standards, and so implementing them was an important goal for us. It shows our customers that our organisation believes in the importance of quality assurance. The implementation of this international standard means that they can trust that Central's products are of a global standard."

On 13 March 2023, Central Support Systems and CSS Commercial received its certification from URS, and celebrated the achievement with its staff and team members, acknowledging them for the commitment and hard work it took to achieve this certification.

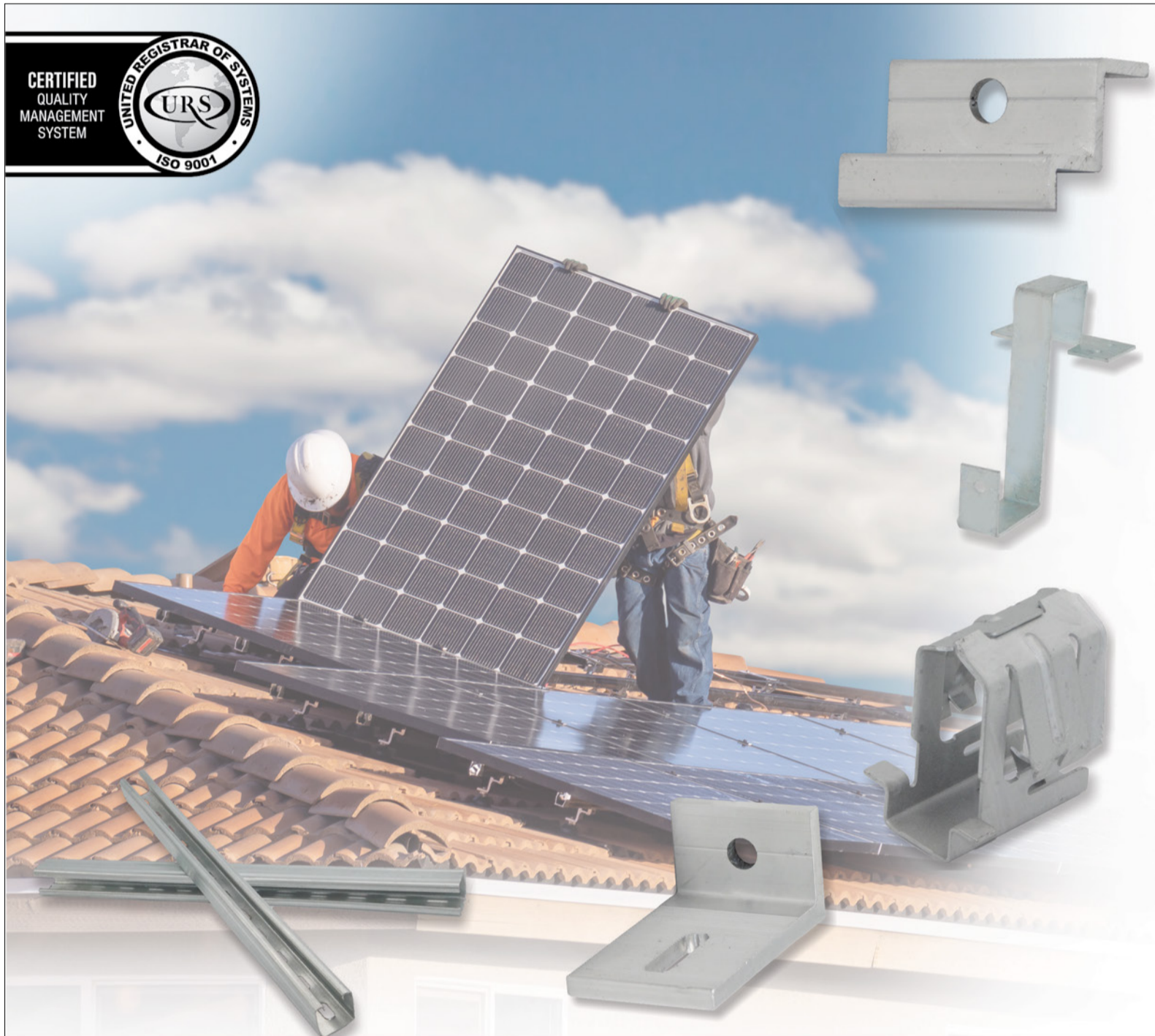
The ISO 9001:2015 certification will undoubtedly generate new business opportunities for Central Support, and reinforce its existing customers' trust in them as a reliable supplier of quality products and services. The certification also enhances Central's competitiveness, as it assists with identifying and optimising the effectiveness of business processes.

Expanding into the solar market

Central Support Systems has had so much interest in expanding into the solar market, that the company has developed a full range to support the booming South African solar industry. From steel and aluminium trunking (plain or slotted) mounting rails, Anti-Theft power snap brackets, flat and L-brackets, spring nuts and end clamps, to bolts and washers, the company has products that can be used in any application. All products are developed to allow for easy mounting of structures for a variety of solar panel applications.

Kohler concludes; "We are here to work with our customers to achieve their goals. We see ourselves as an extension of our clients' businesses, which means we are happy to work with them to develop solutions that work for their business out in the real world. We believe in our solar offering, and look forward to working with clients on this new, popular product range."

Enquiries: www.css.co.za



These are exciting times, full of opportunity for the electrical industry. Central Support Systems is ready to partner with you, to take this segment into the future.

From steel and aluminium trunking (plain or slotted), Anti-Theft power snap brackets, flat and L-brackets, spring nuts, end clamps, mid clamp flat roof mounting, mounting rail, bolts and washers, our products can be used in any application. Our ISO9001:2015 certification means that you can rest assured that you are selling products on to your customer that are only of the highest quality.

As always, we work with you, our valuable customer, as a partner. We respect your feedback and will use it to shape our solar product range as it grows.

Contact us to put our new solar range to the test.

For more information, contact us today

011 492 2314 | sales@css.co.za

 **central**
support systems



The extra hand field technicians needs

By Heman Kassan, Chief Operating Officer
Technodyn International

Throughout Africa, businesses that have technicians in the field face unique challenges compared to their European and US-based peers. Geography, for one, resources are another, and the continuation of faults because of power disruptions and ageing technologies and systems.

Getting teams to the right place at the right time, with the right tools and people, takes careful and often real-time planning. Something that the whiteboard schedules of the past are no longer able to deliver. It's also one of the many reasons organisations with a field service or mobile team should consider using the cloud for service management, planning, and scheduling optimisation.

Working with the cloud

Many companies have centralised their systems well, creating a single platform that pools together mission-critical information to deliver a consolidated map for fault reporting, maintenance requirements, and staffing needs. But what is lacking is getting the information into the hands of field technicians who spend most of their time on the road in real time.

For example, if an Eskom technician has been assigned to replace a few components in a substation in Joburg North as part of maintenance, but there is a critical infrastructure failure that has just been reported in the same area, the technician can be alerted to the fact through cloud-

based field service management software such as IFS on their cloud-linked mobile device, for example, a Zebra handheld. They can then be assigned to the critical fault, and once they log that the fault has been fixed, the system will immediately prioritise the initial job they had set out to do.

With real-time planning and resource allocation, which can only be done with a cloud-based environment, service providers across all sectors can immediately improve response times and heighten customer service.

Making smarter decisions

But it's not just alerts and schedule changes that are the key to improved service operations and field productivity. Adding AI-driven predictive analytics embedded in the software an organisation uses will also help optimise field service resource scheduling and maximise business efficiencies.

Using AI, all data collected becomes critical to resource allocation and system performance. Again, if our Eskom technician's initial task was to replace components that were on the brink of causing a major fault themselves, the AI wouldn't reassign them to the new fault. Instead, it would be able to determine the severity of each callout and then calculate where the field resource is best needed, alert senior project managers and field engineers, who can then make the call based on all the information at hand.

This data is presented back at the 'home base' to senior supervisors in a dashboard or report that gives them visibility over

operations, enabling them to make informed decisions in real-time. In parallel, field technicians will be sent communications on where they need to be via a mobile app that will empower them to receive schedule changes quickly and rapidly report on the status of jobs.

Where the cloud meets mobility

While many organisations know the technology to assist their field service operations exists, many are still unwilling to transform from their legacy environments they deem to have "served them well". So, let's look at another benefit, this time around the use of mobile technology to deliver a competitive edge in field service.

With mobile technology connected to your field service cloud, a business can always gain access to all relevant data. In the case of a sales environment, this is especially useful when checking the availability of spare parts on a smartphone or tablet and creating invoices and quotations on-site at the customer. It's all about creating that moment of service which wows your customer and increases the efficiency of the service.

A great example is IFS client Konica Minolta, which currently has around two million customers in 150 countries. The company is a leading provider of digital workplace services, commercial and industrial printing, and optical systems for industrial use, which means the company has a large field service operation with 3 250 employees. With the IFS's Field Service Management software, Konica Minolta is transitioning to a predictive maintenance model that will allow it to plan



Heman Kassan, Chief Operating Officer
Technodyn International.

the deployment of field service staff more efficiently across ten national operating companies (NOCs) across Europe. IFS Cloud will also ensure maximum equipment uptime, reduce engineer callouts, and improve customer experience.

Transforming field worker productivity

In short, if you empower field workers to manage their day, from start to finish, on mobile devices to efficiently deliver great service as part of a connected team – you create the moment of service. The only real way to do this in today's interconnected world is by using the cloud.

Enquiries: info@technodyn.co.za

20 green energy innovators receive \$400 000 in funding

The Milken Institute and the Motsepe Foundation have announced the 20 teams receiving Design Round prizes for the Milken-Motsepe Prize in Green Energy and are advancing to the Semi-finalist Round. At this stage, each semi-finalist team will receive \$20 000 to further develop and test their designs anywhere in the world. The semi-finalist teams will also have complementary access to a Stanford Online course to help build their businesses.

The competition will ultimately award US\$2 million in total prizes and additional benefits for entrepreneurs who expand access to reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity in Africa.

More than 3 800 people from over 120 countries have registered their interest in the competition, which launched in November 2022. Over 160 of these registrants, representing 36 countries across six continents, submitted technological design and business model proposals. From these proposals, the judges selected the 20 most transformative ideas.

"Access to electricity is vital to transforming societies – from health care to education to economic growth. We are excited to see these semi-finalists bringing new ideas to the forefront to light the way to a sustainable future," said Dr. Precious Moloi-Motsepe, co-founder and CEO of the Motsepe Foundation. "As recently proven by the winners of the Milken-Motsepe Prize in AgriTech, innovators have the power to create transformative solutions to challenges once thought to be impossible. We have no doubt

these semi-finalists will do the same."

An independent panel of expert judges determined the 20 teams receiving funding. The teams have four months to demonstrate the effectiveness of their ideas in field tests, which will be evaluated for their ability to:

- Generate off-grid electricity using green energy sources;
- Provide affordable and reliable electricity to energy-poor communities, including in rural areas, using innovative technologies; and
- Develop a technological and business approach that is scalable across Africa.

These teams represent 12 countries across three continents. Their innovations include potential breakthroughs in wind, solar, hydro, and geothermal electricity generation, as well as energy storage and distribution. After the Semi-finalist Round, five finalist teams will be selected to conduct another round of field tests in Africa.

"The innovation competition encourages entrepreneurs to be creative and expansive," said Dr. Emily Musil Church, senior director at the Milken Institute's Center for Strategic Philanthropy. "By allowing field tests anywhere in the world in the first round, the competition allows flexibility for teams to take strategic risks. This is the heart of the innovation competition model: to reward innovators who take bold action."

In May 2024, the judges will award a \$1 million grand prize. A Runner-Up Prize of \$250,000 will also be awarded.

Enquiries: www.milkeninstitute.org

TOSUN LUX
RANGE OF
RENEWABLE
ENERGY
SOLUTIONS

Consolidated Electrical Distributor

Tel: +27 (087) 703 0888
Email: Info@cedsa.co.za



New editor takes over at Sparks

From the August 2023 issue, *Sparks Electrical News* will have a new editor when Craig Falck takes over the reins from Gregg Cocking, who has been at the helm since 2018.

"I have been in publishing and print media for 17 years, and this is the most excited I've been about a new role," says Falck. "It's almost like there's electricity flowing through my fingertips as I get ready to plunge headfirst into the world of *Sparks* and everything to do with the electrical contracting industry. I'm looking forward to stepping into Gregg's shoes and continuing to provide you with exciting, current, and industry-changing articles and news stories."

"As you can imagine, this is quite a change of scenery for me," he continues. "I come from a mainly entertainment journalism background where the most exciting articles I wrote about related to celebrities and their extravagant lifestyles. But rest assured, you're in good, safe editorial hands – and we're going to have a great time together. Having recently also worked through a home renovation with countless hassles and dead-ends, I've found a new love to go with my passion for print: Electricity and lighting up people's worlds. It's going to be exciting to see how the two gel together as I take on the editor position of *Sparks*."

Outgoing editor Cocking says that, "Being the editor

of *Sparks* has been an interesting part of my journey in journalism, especially given the fact that the magazine had to weather the proverbial storm of a pandemic during my stint on the publication. While this was a major challenge, it gave us the push we needed to expand the title digitally, and I am proud to leave the magazine in a position where it still caters to those who prefer the feel of paper on their fingers, but also to those who read the magazine on the go, be it on their computers, phones, or tablets."

"I have met so many great people through my work on the magazine, and can say with absolute certainty that the electrical contracting industry in South Africa is one of the most colourful, hardworking, and passionate industries I have been fortunate enough to cover. While the electrical industry may be unfairly tainted due to Eskom, the people and companies who are the heartbeat of electrical contracting in the country give me confidence that the sector will not just survive, but thrive. With that said, I also have full faith that Craig will be able to take *Sparks Electrical News* to new heights, and I look forward to reading the magazine from my new home in the United Kingdom."

Falck concludes: "I'd love to hear from you as we start our electrifying journey together. Please mail me at sparks@crownc.co.za."



Danfoss celebrates 30 years in South Africa



Roy Naidoo, Sales Director Danfoss Climate Solutions, South Africa; Ziad Al Bawaliz, Regional President for Turkey, Middle East and Africa; Emil Berning, Country Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa; and Shikantha Naidoo, Senior Country Sales Manager Danfoss Drives, South Africa.

Danfoss, a multi-national Danish engineering company, is celebrating its 30th anniversary in South Africa, marking three decades of growth and expansion in the region. Founded in 1933 by Danish engineer Mads Clausen, Danfoss has evolved into a global enterprise employing over 42,000 individuals worldwide. The company has recently focused on integrating its local presence in South Africa, following several strategic acquisitions, with the aim of leveraging its operations in the country to drive further expansion throughout Africa.

Danfoss offers a wide range of energy solutions and expertise, with a strong commitment to energy efficiency and decarbonisation. The company's portfolio includes solutions for reducing power consumption, minimising food loss and waste, improving cooling and heating systems, optimising wastewater treatment, and enhancing mining productivity. The company has embraced an "energy efficiency

first" principle and is actively working towards achieving carbon neutrality in its global operations by 2030. In South Africa, Danfoss aims to be the preferred partner for decarbonisation initiatives.

"To mark 30 years of pioneering sustainable growth together, and looking forward to going from strength to strength, both locally and on the continent, we crowned this anniversary with a local celebration for our partners, customers and colleagues, in which Danfoss honoured local traditions within the ongoing priority of 'engineering South Africa's tomorrow'," said Emil Berning, Country Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa.

This mission aligns with the company's core values of increasing machine productivity, reducing emissions, lowering energy consumption, and promoting electrification. The celebration of this milestone reaffirmed Danfoss's commitment to continued growth and innovation in South Africa and across the continent.

Danfoss solutions find applications in various industries, including refrigeration, air conditioning, heating, power conversion, motor control, industrial machinery, automotive, marine, and off- and on-highway equipment. The company also provides solutions for renewable energy sources like solar and wind power, as well as district-energy infrastructure for cities.

Ziad Al Bawaliz, the Regional President for Turkey, Middle East and Africa, highlighted the importance of engineering in driving society forward and addressing key global challenges such as urbanisation, climate change, food and water supply, digitalisation and electrification.

With South Africa as a strategic hub, Danfoss looks to expand its operations throughout Africa and continue its commitment to engineering a greener tomorrow.

Enquiries: www.danfoss.co.za

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A committed local electrical manufacturer

reliability and dependability.

The Apollo range offers a choice of three colours, all with a modern matte finish: Contemporary White, Edgy Sapphire Black, and Elegant Gold. These switches and sockets seamlessly complement a variety of interior design styles, from urban industrial to light contemporary or tasteful spaces with neutral tones and textures. Additionally, the Apollo range boasts the slimmest profile on the market, measuring only 6.9mm. Installers will appreciate the socket terminals that accommodate 3 x 2.5mm stranded house wire conductors.

LESCO Manufacturing not only prioritises inclusivity in its hiring practices, providing opportunities for individuals with varying levels of disabilities, but also incorporates thoughtful touches into its products. For example, the Apollo range includes touch-sensitive markings to cater to individuals who rely on touch to interact with the world. This exemplifies LESCO's commitment to thinking outside the box.

"As a local company, we have a responsibility to supply high-quality products," Shapiro asserts. "We want to enable customers who cannot afford high-end products to still have access to appealing and reliable options. With the growing lower LSM market in mind, the Apollo range is a perfect fit for this segment. Apollo products are now available through leading retailers, electrical wholesalers, and distributors."

Enquiries: www.lescosk.com





A kilowatt saved is worth more than a kilowatt produced says Schneider Electric at Enlit Africa 2023

This year's Enlit 2023 Africa event, held at the CTICC in Cape Town had a pertinent and recurring theme, how can the continent ramp up energy efficiency to mitigate the unstable energy provision faced by many countries including South Africa?

Speaking on the panel, Utilising advanced technologies to improve grid reliability, efficiency and security, Vladimir Milovanovic, Vice President, Power Systems Anglophone Africa at Schneider Electric emphasised that whilst the country is going through an energy crisis, there is also opportunity to take a different direction, learn from the mistakes in the past and map a more sustainable and progressive way forward.

"We are looking at ways to enable

utilities to find solutions to current challenges whilst addressing sustainability goals. Four pillars that enable these are operational efficiency, reliability and resilience, grid efficiency and grid flexibility," said Milovanovic.

"Another key enabler is embracing digital technology, collecting the data from all our processes, analysing this vast amount of data using machine learning models to turn it into actionable information, and looking at the current and future power provision scenarios in a proactive rather than reactive manner. This will also lead to a more sustainable practices whilst meeting the critical goals of CO₂ reduction."

Looking closer at the technology that

will assist utilities; an accurate, unified and standards-driven model, built on a secure and robust digital platform, is key. For example, all smart grid applications should align with the IEC 61850 that defines communication protocols for intelligent electronic devices at electrical substations.

Referring to abovementioned first pillar, operational efficiency, Milovanovic noted tighter integration between the field workers and the control will offer quantifiable gains. "Field workers need visibility, whether it's with handheld devices or constant contact with the control rooms. It has been found that improved integration between field services teams and controls rooms can lead to a 60% improvement in productivity."

"A kilowatt saved is worth a lot more than a kilowatt produced. By being efficient and saving energy we are reducing transmission losses, distribution infrastructure losses, reserve capacity

and most importantly driving down CO₂ particularly in a country where we are still very reliant on fossil fuels for electricity generation."

Enquiries: www.se.com



Vladimir Milovanovic, Vice President, Power Systems Anglophone Africa at Schneider Electric.



Arrow Altron celebrates 25 years of excellence

Altron Arrow, a leading supplier of electronics components and enterprise computing solutions, celebrated its 25th birthday in style in May, with a luxurious event at its offices in Jet Park, Johannesburg.

The event saw current and former employees, customers and suppliers all reflecting on the growth and successes the company has achieved on the journey to this milestone birthday celebration.

Renato Martins; Altron Arrow's Managing Director, Jörg Strughold: President of Arrow Electronics Global components EMEA, and Werner Kapp; Altron's CEO, took guests through the history and achievements made during the past 25 years.

"In our continuous drive to be there when it matters, we celebrate our last 25 years as a key electronics enabler - providing smart thinking, impactful innovations, and working partnerships to our amazing customers and suppliers," said Managing Director, Renato Martins.

The celebratory theme of the event was "Megatrends", and the company expressed how much they are looking forward to technology trends and

practical innovation for a better world with a particular view of the four megatrends: Electrification of Everything, Smart Everything, Energy Management, and Autonomous Machines.

"The partnership between Arrow and Alton has been a remarkable journey over these 25 years," said President components EMEA, Jörg Strughold.

He reminisced about various highlights, such as moving into their offices in 1998, the number of franchises added throughout the years, and the expansion of their business into Enterprise Computing Solution, all while growing their business, solving customer and supplier challenges, and guiding innovation forward.

"Megatrends drive our doing! We believe in making the benefits of technology available to the many and not just the few," he said.

Werner Kapp from Altron continued by saying that as they celebrate their 25th birthday they also look to the future with excitement and optimism. "We know that the world is changing rapidly, and we are committed to staying at the forefront of these changes."

Enquiries: www.altronarrow.com

ABB inspires high school learners at Longmeadow factory for Youth Month

In celebration of Youth Day on 16 June, ABB hosted a special event at its Longmeadow, Johannesburg facility for Grade 11 and 12 learners from various high schools in Tembisa and Alexandra townships on 23 June. The learners were given a tour of the factory and were also addressed by successful graduates employed by ABB, in addition to senior management.

Speakers included Momelezi Sifumba, who graduated with a BTech in Electrical Engineering (Power Systems) in 2018. Unable to find employment in his chosen field, a photograph of Momelezi with a 'Help Me to Find a Job' sign on LinkedIn in July 2022 caught the attention of Graham Abrahams, Senior Vice President, Electrification, who interviewed Momelezi and subsequently employed him at ABB.

Momelezi received firsthand training that rotated him through different departments and activities for the best practical experience possible. "There is nothing to stop me from aspiring to fill a team leader or management role. I will also be able to mentor other deserving and unemployed youth," he says.

Mervin Munsamy, Human Resources Director for ABB, took inspiration from some of our great leaders and said: "Mahatma Gandhi advocated for us to be the change that we would like to see in the world. We should take ownership and commit to lifelong learning and development to make a difference in our lives and the communities in which we live."

With June designated as Youth Month, graduate Nthabiseng Manana says important attributes for young people to succeed are freedom of choice, an open

mind, and the recognition that your current situation is not the only possible outcome. "Shape your own possibilities," urges Nthabiseng.

Graduate Arleta Mukhesi says Youth Month highlights the significant role of quality education in a thriving society. "It gives us an opportunity to reflect on our education system and whether it is meeting the future needs of our youth. We must come up with creative ways to improve the future for our youth and our country." Arleta adds that nothing comes on a silver platter, as you need to work your way to the top by being innovative and building a network.

According to another graduate, Tebogo Seemela, Youth Month is a celebration of young people and their contribution to development. "It is also an opportunity for the youth to realise their power to drive change in the country. Young people are our future leaders and therefore must drive change. We need to be united in working towards the same goal; there is nothing that we cannot achieve together," concludes Tebogo.

ABB is a leading global technology company that energizes the transformation of society and industry to achieve a more productive, sustainable future. By connecting software to its electrification, robotics, automation and motion portfolio, ABB pushes the boundaries of technology to drive performance to new levels. With a history of excellence stretching back more than 130 years, ABB's success is driven by about 105 000 talented employees in over 100 countries.

Enquiries: www.abb.com





Counterfeit electrical products pose grave threat to South Africans' lives and homes

Smoke, fire, and flames claim numerous lives in South Africa, ranking among the top causes of death. In addition, the Fire Protection Association of Southern Africa has reported that almost one-tenth of all fires stem from electrical sources. "However, many South Africans are unaware that counterfeit electrical products play a major role in fuelling these incidents. To safeguard local households, it is crucial to raise awareness and illuminate the extent of this problem," says Dr Andrew Dickson, Engineering Executive at CBI-electric: low voltage.

Speaking in light of World Anti-Counterfeiting Day, he points out that commonly counterfeited items include terminal connector blocks, timing switches, circuit breakers and earth leakage devices, as well as multi-plugs and adapters. "These products can cause burns, electrical shocks and even fires."

Dr Dickson explains that the use of substandard materials to make counterfeit products cheaper is largely to blame and unfortunately, with the current economic climate, the counterfeit market is rife. "For example, instead of using plastic materials that are non-flammable or self-extinguishing to produce electrical products and components, counterfeiters use cheap alternatives that burn more easily and can produce toxic smoke which makes the electrical installation unsafe and ultimately puts the consumer at risk of injury or death."

"Not only are these criminals putting people's lives at risk, but they are also taking away economic activity from legitimate businesses," he notes. "In fact, a report published by the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade has shown that illicit trade is one of the biggest

threats to stability and economic growth in South Africa, with the country losing R250 million a day."

To help raise awareness among consumers, Dr Dickson shares his top tips for ensuring the authenticity of the products they purchase:

Manufacturers and importers must have a Letter of Authority (LOA): No electrical goods can be sold legally in South Africa without a LOA from the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS). This ensures that they comply with internationally accepted standards for public health and safety as well as environmental protection. Regulated products must be approved before they enter the South African market and are subject to post-market inspections at manufacturers' premises, the country's ports of entry, and retailers. Any non-compliant products found could potentially be recalled, confiscated or destroyed.

Buy recognised brands from recognised establishments: According to the latest Survey on Electrical Counterfeiting in Africa, the majority of the continent's consumers purchase these products from street vendors. While this may be a more affordable avenue, it gives them little recourse should the product be faulty. Rather shop for products from well-known brands and from reputable wholesalers and retailers.

Use compliant and trustworthy contractors: Unscrupulous electricians are another common source of counterfeit electrical goods. However, in South Africa all low voltage electrical installations (which include circuit breakers, cables and earth leakage devices, amongst others) must – by law – comply with the requirements of SANS 10142 which

is the standard for the wiring of premises. A Certificate of Compliance (COC) verifies that an electrical installation is compliant, but if it is discovered that this was issued fraudulently, it may invalidate the consumer's insurance cover. So, for example, in the event of an electrical fire, the insurer can refuse to pay any claims.

If the price is too good to be true, it probably is: As the old adage goes, you get what you pay for. The problem with counterfeit goods is that shortcuts are taken so their quality is compromised. With electrical items like circuit breakers, for instance, most people don't understand the value and the protection these provide until they are in a situation where they need the products to operate. If a circuit breaker fails to operate, it places the electrical installation, and potentially appliances, at risk for damage, and in severe cases may result in a fire.

Should consumers discover that they have been the victim of counterfeiters, Dr Dickson advises that they approach consumer protection groups or organisations, which protects South African businesses and people from preventable harm caused by unsafe electrical products and services. "Alternatively, they could contact the NRCS' Electrotechnical business unit, the mandate of which is to protect the safety and health of consumers and the environment."

"While counterfeit products might be less expensive than the genuine article, is it really worth the risk? By being empowered with knowledge about these dangers, South Africans can make informed choices and protect themselves and their loved ones," he concludes.

Enquiries: www.cbi-lowvoltage.co.za

Lightning series 3: Lightning Protection System (LPS) installations

Richard Evert, National Director of the Earthing and Lightning Protection Association (ELPA) has provided Sparks Electrical News with a comprehensive series on lightning. The series will cover Risk Management; Lightning Protection Design; Lightning Protection System (LPS) Installations; Surge Protection Measures; Earthing and Resistance; and more. Be sure to catch all the articles over the next few months.

Effective lightning protection system (LPS) installation requires a suitable design plan, the materials to fulfil the design expectation and competent personnel to do the work.

Materials

The bill of materials may be dictated by the content of the design but the responsibility to install the correct materials rests with the company doing the installation work.

SANS 62561 gives direction on what materials are required for the different components of a lightning protection system starting at the top where lightning is expected to strike right down to the earth electrodes where the lightning current is expected to dissipate into the ground.

ELPA will be moving forward with training programmes and national supporting workshops to help facilitate a better understanding of what this actually means and why compliance is in the best interests of both the service provider and the vested property stakeholders.

Bonding continuity

The responsibility to achieve the correct measures of continuity between bonding points rests with the company doing the installation work.

The best practice in the management of electrical continuity of electrical conductors is to ensure good bonding at the time of construction.

- A suitable construction strategy must be in place to confirm that bonding of all conductors in the installation will not hamper the flow of lightning current when this lightning protection system is called upon to protect people and property from the lightning descending upon them
- An absolute guaranteed measure of assurance can be given by simply measuring that continuity as an ohmic value – measure the resistance.

A critical part of the lightning protection system that involves continuity is the conductive path that the lightning current will flow through from the top of the LPS at the Air-Termination System (ATS), through the Down-Conductor System (DCS) to the bottom into the Earth-Termination System (ETS).

- This path is so critical that the South African National Standard (SANS) SANS 62305-3 specifically mentions it and stipulates a maximum overall resistance of 0.2 Ohms.
- If a service provider deems it not practical to do continuity measurements, how can you trust them to adhere to an industry standard?

Earth resistance

Similarly, while the earth electrode resistance is a function of the soil resistivity and the earth electrode design, the company doing the installation work must provide numerical evidence of the final earth resistance value obtained.

If soil resistivity was not measured and the prevailing soil resistivity conditions were not integrated into the design, the probability that the earth electrode will exceed maximum design limits increases tremendously.

But who is responsible for amending the desired earth electrode design to achieve the target maximum resistance when this happens?

Why measure?

Thus, such a discussion will re-open the debate about doing measurements.

- The effectiveness of an earth electrode is determined when the electrode materials are installed in the ground.
- High soil resistivity will increase the resistance obtained from the same earth electrode used in soils with lower soil resistivity.

Who is going to pay?

If the design upon which the installer is constructing the LPS has not taken the soil conditions into account, the installer may be faced with some difficulties:

- Who is responsible for addressing higher electrode earth resistance values?
- Who understands why a high earth electrode resistance is very, very bad?
- Is the installer legally allowed to amend the design without approval from the designer?
- If the installer can make such changes, why is the designer required at all for earth electrode designs?

Obviously, some of these questions are asked with 'tongue-in-cheek':

- The designer remains responsible and liable.
- If the vested property stakeholder authorises an amendment by the installer, then the agreements with the designer are voided along with any liabilities of the designer for the design submitted by that designer.

A conundrum

Conundrum means "a confusing and difficult problem or question" and is often used when experts are scratching their heads. The conundrum here is that good earthing starts by understanding what soil exists at the location where the earth electrode will be required.

There is only one guaranteed method to ensure the design starts off on the best footing (excuse the pun) and that is with a soil resistivity measurement. In most building projects and/or civil works, lightning protection is only considered at an advanced

stage of the project and usually at a time where most contracted designers will not be afforded the opportunity (allocated time) to do soil resistivity measurements. There is a cost involved in securing reliable soil resistivity measurements:

- The equipment is exclusive.
- The number of service providers available to produce an accurate report are limited.
- The impact of measurements has historically not translated into any verifiable consequences to the project teams.
- Lower demand increase cost of services.
- Without soil resistivity measurements the designer will resort to soil type classifications.
- Since the soil resistivity is generally a misunderstood and abstract concept, designers are hesitant to jeopardise a potential source of revenue by demanding that the value of this parameter be determined as an essential part of the scope of work and thereby risk delays in the project plans.

Higher soil resistivity conditions will require more elaborate earth electrode designs to achieve the same maximum earth electrode resistance values and therefore will require more materials per electrode.

The final cost considerations are impacted by the amount of material required to construct an earth electrode. The larger the site, the more such design considerations will ramp up the volume of material and therefore the cost of the installation.

Therefore, this seemingly abstract concept of soil resistivity has a greater financial impact on projects than the project leaders can stomach. Inevitably, the soil resistivity reports will be ignored in too many cases. So, what happens?



SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE AS WELL AS THE FIRST TWO PARTS OF THE SERIES



Advanced cable tester

Teledyne LeCroy has announced the development of an automated advanced cable tester that meets the demanding production test requirements of USB Type-C®, HDMI® 2.1 and other cables with transfer rates up to 48 Gb/s. The new tester quickly performs all required electrical and signal integrity tests to ensure perfect cables every time, with low upfront capital equipment and operating costs.

The latest generation of cables must transfer signals that are two to four times faster and deliver four times more power

than previous-generation cables. The RapidWave4000 advanced cable tester meets the needs for comprehensive, fast and cost-effective automated production testing of USB Type-C, HDMI 2.1 and other high-speed cables. USB Type-C cables support data transfer via USB4®, USB 3.2, DisplayPort™ 2.0, Thunderbolt™ 3 and Thunderbolt 4 standards. The RapidWave4000's Production Module rapidly performs production

tests such as continuity, dc resistance (DCR), quiescent current and E-marker readout (for USB Type-C cables) as well as signal integrity insertion loss testing. The RapidWave4000's Advanced Signal Integrity Module tests impedance profile, intra-pair and inter-pair skew and crosstalk, as well as providing high-resolution insertion loss and eye diagrams.

Enquiries: www.teledynelecroy.com



A commitment to innovation in fibre optic cables

AM Hengtong Africa Telecoms, also known as AMHT, is a leading manufacturer of fibre optic cables in South Africa. Situated in Kempton Park, Johannesburg, AMHT specialises in providing innovative and customised solutions to meet the dynamic needs of the telecommunications market through its distribution channel of fibre distributors, ISP's, and Fibre Network Operators across Africa

AMHT was established in 2019 and is currently owned by Aberdare Cables, both of which are subsidiaries of the Hengtong Group of Companies with its headquarters in China. AMHT and Aberdare Cables jointly have over 80 years of combined experience in the telecommunications and power cables industries respectively. AMHT is widely recognised for its expertise in fibre optic cable manufacturing and its ODN range of accessories.

AMHT boasts an on-site laboratory and test facility that inspects all incoming raw materials and tests cables being manufactured at each stage of the manufacturing process.

"The telecommunications industry has become a crucial part of social, economic, and technological development," explains AMHT CEO, Dylan Liu. "Although the world is currently facing the threat of global economic recession, we are pleased to see that the economy of the African region has maintained steady growth, thanks to the high population growth and the leading demand and investment in the telecommunications market. As a member of the ICT enterprise, AMHT is committed to providing higher quality and more applicable optical communication products and services to the African market. Simultaneously implementing the ESG and Sustainable Development Report released by Hengtong Group globally, fulfilling corporate social responsibility, and developing together with the African telecommunications industry."

Overall, AM Hengtong Africa Telecoms is an excellent choice for the ICT sector looking for reliable telecommunications solutions that are innovative, customisable, sustainable, while being cost-effective. With its extensive management and staff experience, vast reach across the African continent backed by strong partnerships with global players, AMHT is well positioned to continue leading the way forward in this dynamic industry.

Enquiries: www.amhengtong.co.za

HellermannTyton
www.HellermannTyton.co.za

Insist on HellermannTyton Insulok Cable Ties



HellermannTyton Insulok Cable Ties are made locally



Only top-grade, 100% virgin nylon material used



All cable ties are produced in our IATF 16949 (ISO 9001) accredited factory



Trusted globally with more than 80 years of proven reliability

Johannesburg
Tel: (011) 879 6600

Cape Town
(021) 594 7100

Durban
(031) 492 0481

Gqeberha
(041) 408 2400





eurolux
GROUP

Eurolux is an importer and distributor of domestic and commercial lighting and electrical products.

Since our establishment in 1991, Eurolux has become a preferred brand for lighting and electrical solutions, with the largest distribution footprint in sub-Saharan Africa. With over 9,000 products across various categories, including indoor and outdoor lighting, electrical and project lighting, we strive to cater to the unique needs of our diverse market, continually sourcing more sustainable and aesthetically designed products.

We are committed to providing innovative lighting options, with a particular focus on energy-efficient products that offer excellent value. All imported products comply with the requirements set by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications, to ensure best quality and compliance standards for our customers.

Over the past 32 years, we have built strong relationships with our business partners, expanding our distribution beyond Africa and into the Middle East. With 319 dedicated staff members across Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban, we focus on supporting our customers with the technical expertise they require to make informed lighting choices.

Our Brands

eurolux
Lighting your way

Eurolux

Offering contemporary luminaires, decorative and functional lamps, and innovative solutions for the South African domestic market.

RADIANT
LIGHTING

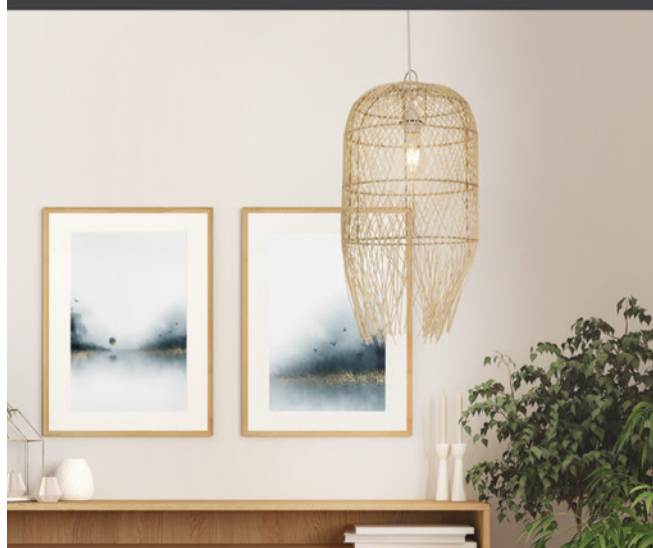
Radiant Lighting

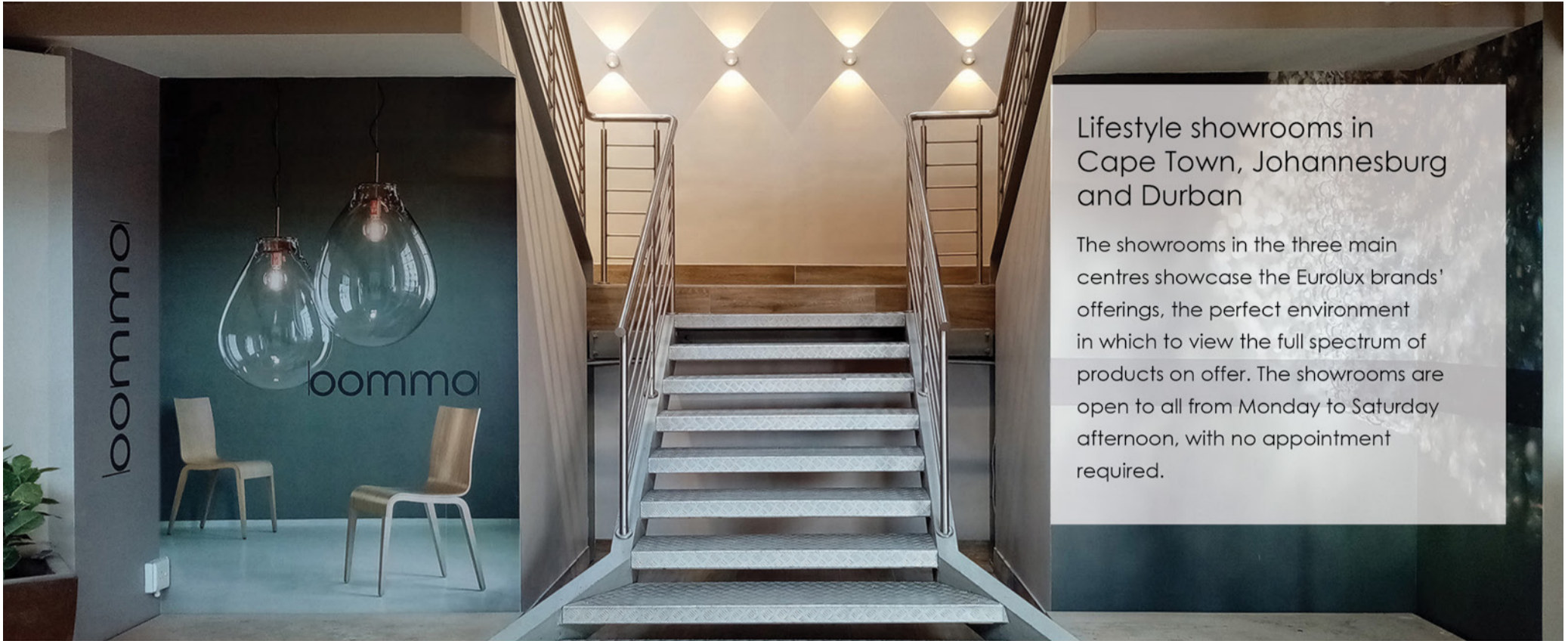
The Radiant range spans trusted, high-quality core and basic products catering for electricians, electrical engineers, developers, architects and DIYers.

**EURO
NOUVEAU**

Euro Nouveau

Euro Nouveau presents the work of 9 hand-selected European manufacturers, ranging from classics by Fontana Arte and Iris Cristal, stylish Bomma pendants, to the quirky pieces of modern Italian brand, Slamp.





Lifestyle showrooms in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban

The showrooms in the three main centres showcase the Eurolux brands' offerings, the perfect environment in which to view the full spectrum of products on offer. The showrooms are open to all from Monday to Saturday afternoon, with no appointment required.

Project Division

Since 2010, highly experienced Eurolux technicians have offered comprehensive solutions for commercial and industrial projects, including:

- Site inspections,
- Detailed lighting designs,
- 3D simulations,
- Energy efficiency reports,
- Cost of ownership and lifecycle cost analyses



319 staff employed - Highly experienced key staff members that are industry category champions.



30 Years of experience in the Lighting and Electrical industry, ensuring efficient and compliant sourcing of high quality products that offer exceptional value.



A unique lighting experience is offered via our Lifestyle Showrooms and Lighting Application Centres.



Service driven with a "can-do" approach to our customers.



9,000 Products: A comprehensive range of quality lamps, light fixtures and electrical accessories across indoor, outdoor, electrical and project lighting categories.



Three warehouses that extend over 24,000m², with a comprehensive logistics network, able to deliver across South Africa within 24 – 48 hours.



A qualified technical support network throughout South Africa, providing the best industry back-up service.

Eurolux leads in technical excellence through advanced hi-tech testing equipment that provides detailed light intensity, light distribution and luminous flux measurements uniquely required in light project planning.

The GO-2000 Goniophotometer (also known as a Horizontal Goniophotometer) is a supermatic test system for luminous intensity distribution and total luminous flux measurement of various types of luminaires and light bulbs, including indoor lights, streetlights and floodlights.

JOHANNESBURG

72, 5th Street, Wynberg, South Africa

DURBAN

Talksure House, 62 Umhlanga Ridge Boulevard, Parkside, Umhlanga, Durban, South Africa

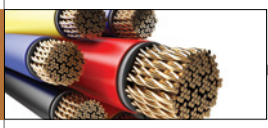
CAPE TOWN (Head Office)

9 Racecourse Road, Milnerton, South Africa
Tel: (021) 528 8400



www.eurolux.co.za





Corrosion-resistant flameproof junction box is a world first

Pratley, the renowned manufacturer of innovative electrical termination products, has developed and launched a groundbreaking new product, the Flameproof Ex d Envirobox®. This is the world's first polymeric, corrosion-resistant, direct-entry, flameproof junction box.

Its recent launch signals a major milestone in the electrical industry and has been confirmed by Pratley Electrical Research & Development Manager Sven Breedt as: "A new product unlike any other in the world and one of Pratley's most innovative electrical inventions."

Flameproof equipment is designed to prevent internal ignition within a flammable atmosphere from transmitting outside the protective enclosure. However, all traditional direct-entry flameproof junction boxes made from steel, cast iron or aluminium materials can be prone to corrosion over time and when used in very harsh environments. Special attention needs to be given not just to the overall climatic conditions of the area where the enclosures are installed, but also to the material and design of the equipment.

Pratley's new Flameproof Ex d Envirobox® junction box, made from a specially formulated, robust engineering polymer, is designed to withstand severe environmental conditions. This makes it ideal for use in areas with a high risk of corrosion, such as offshore oil platforms, underground mines, and petrochemical plants.

"The need for a lightweight and corrosion-resistant flameproof junction box is evident with the current, ever-changing mining environment," says Sven. "Over a decade's worth of research and development went into the design and development of this junction box."

The specially formulated, robust engineering polymer is unique to Pratley. The material has exceptional mechanical properties such as strength, stiffness, creep, dimensional stability and more. This ensures that the Flameproof Ex d Envirobox® can withstand 2x 20-joule impact tests in a staggering -40°C environment and has been third-party tested to a massive 4 000-kilopascal internal pressure.

Additionally, it is IP66/68 certified for continuous underwater depths of up to 300m, making it water, dust, and gastight.

The lid and base have an accurately machined flame path. "The flame path surface of traditional Ex d junction boxes is coated or greased to prevent corrosion. However, this is not a long-term solution as the coating can wear off and greases would need to be reapplied periodically," continues Sven.

The engineering polymer of the Envirobox® ensures that the flame path is completely corrosion resistant. The machined surface flame path renders the junction box safe, easy to use and maintenance-friendly in surface and underground mining applications. The lid is fastened down with eight stainless steel A2-70 Allen head screws, contributing to the corrosion resistance of the junction box, and it has Pratley's signature red Ex identification band for quick Ex equipment identification.

The junction box is supplied standard with 4 x M25 entries but can be supplied with M20 entries or smaller entries on request. The box can accommodate Pratley Ex d flameproof cable glands and accessories. The junction box is therefore exceptionally versatile. Each box is supplied as a standard two-way box with 2 x flameproof blanking plugs.

It can safely accommodate terminals, connectors, relays, and any other non-energy storing devices. The internal bosses are drilled and tapped to provide an earthing point for terminal mounting rails or earth lugs. These are electrically connected to the box entries providing complete earthing continuity.

Boxes can be fitted with an N35 terminal rail, a Pratley patented Cranked rail, an inverted Cranked rail, or Piggyback rails. Pratley Kwikblok® terminals and pre-cut lengths of cable with glands can also be factory fitted to customer requirements.

It has an optional external earthing point and is supplied with 4 x M6 Nuts and washers as well as a 1 x M6 Spring washer. The box has threaded mounting M5 holes and can accommodate an indexable mounting plate that can be



purchased separately if required.

The Flameproof Ex d Envirobox® is fully certified to SANS, EN and IECEx Standards for use on surface and underground mining applications (Ex db I/II B+H2 T6..T5 Mb Gb, Ex tb IIIC T85..T100 Db) in Zone 1, 2, 21 & 22 and an ambient temperature range of -40°C to +55°C.

Pratley's Flameproof Ex d Envirobox® is a revolutionary junction box that sets a new standard in the electrical industry.

"I am confident that what Pratley has produced is a product that not only complies with our policy statement of producing products that outperform all others on the world market but exceeds that policy. Our goal was to produce the only direct entry junction box that is corrosion resistant, and the launch of the Pratley Flameproof Ex d Envirobox® certainly achieves that goal. It is a world first, and I see it marking the future of electrical termination products for explosive atmospheres," concludes Sven.

Enquiries: sales@pratley.co.za

A specialised project cable distributor

Versalec Cables is one of the leading electrical cable distribution companies in South Africa with offices in Johannesburg and Cape Town. The company, having developed a strong partnership with the local manufacturers is able to supply a complete range of electrical cable from low voltage copper and aluminium PVC/XLPE insulated cables to PILC and XLPE (11kV-33kV) cable as well as aluminium overhead conductors for various line applications and service connection cables.

Versalec customers mainly consist of a select group of electrical contractors and consulting engineering firms involved in electrical reticulation projects and renewable energy projects. Versalec Cables is able to provide comprehensive commercial proposals with supporting technical data as appropriate, customised to the needs of each particular project. In addition, it can assist electrical engineering consultants with budgets related to forthcoming projects. Versalec offers the additional service of delivering cable to site with its own crane trucks, operated by trained personnel, ensuring that correct off-loading and handling techniques are adhered to, as required by the manufacturers.

General Manager Gary Venter has led the company for the past five years, and his 30 years' experience in the cable industry is driving Versalec Cables towards service excellence, empowering both customers and suppliers with confidence and trust. "We are 100% owned by Voltex who in turn are wholly owned by the Bidvest Group. We moved our operations two and a half years ago to the Voltex premises in Alberton,"

explains Venter. "So many synergies exist between the companies, and we have been able to leverage these to provide even better service to our customers."

Venter notes that the company prides itself on its service. "We have a very good relationship with the cable manufacturers. I believe that the value add that we offer our client base puts us above the rest; we are not a fly-by-night company, and we pride ourselves on our technical backup."

Versalec offers a quick service response time from most of its manufacturers, so if there's a cable concern or cable fault, the factories are immediately involved. They will go to site and do a full analysis of the cable and come back with a report, ensuring that delays are minimised. Furthermore, Versalec also has its own cutting facilities where it can cut cable to customer's requirements and deliver to site.

Supporting local manufacturers is imperative for Venter and Versalec. "We don't import any cable, rather, we ensure that the South African cabling industry is well represented in the projects we supply." While the company doesn't export as such, it works closely with a number of key electrical contractors who supply the mining industry in Africa with cables sourced from Versalec.



Marius Schreuder, Versale Sales Manager, and General Manager, Gary Venter.

While Venter does note that it is a very competitive market, especially with an economy that is shrinking, Versalec has been fortunate, due to its close working relationships and history of excellence, to have been involved recently with a number of substantial projects. "We are in the process of completing our cable supply to a R36 million project in Kriel and have been supplying cable to multiple phases of a large housing development in Carletonville for the past five years. A lot of our business is also indirectly with the utilities and Eskom, however, through our contractor base."

"We have been around for 40 years as a project division with a proven track record," concludes Venter, "And going forward, we see great opportunities with private developments and in the renewables sector."

Enquiries: www.versalec.co.za

Keeping solar PV technicians safe

Comtest, Fluke's local representative, offers the world's first CAT III 1500 V true-RMS solar clamp meter, the Fluke 393 FC to help keep PV solar installation and maintenance technicians safe.

The Fluke 393 FC helps to protect against the three main electrical hazards – shock or electrocution from energised conductors, arc faults that spark fires and explosions. Control measures and best practices that can mitigate these risks are different when working with PV working with any other kind of energy-generating resource. That's why it's important that multimeters, test leads and fuses are rated for the application being worked on.

Shock or electrocution from energised conductors can happen when current takes an unintended path through a human body, with lethal results from as little as 50 mA hitting the heart. Electrical shocks are typically caused by faulty insulation of cables and wiring, damaged insulation of safety covers or improper grounding.

The meter is designed specifically for use by PV installation technicians and maintenance specialists who work in high voltage dc environments. The clamp can measure up to 1500 V dc, 1000 V ac, dc power and current up to 999,9 A dc or ac through the thin jaw which is ideal for the kind of cramped spaces found in combiner boxes or inverters. Another key feature of the clamp is an audio polarity indicator that helps to ensure PV panels are installed correctly.

Enquiries: sales@comtest.co.za



Saving time and money with a wireless monitoring system

Wireless remote monitoring technology provides the most convenient and cost-effective method for plant and asset managers to monitor and manage all important system data across their sites, particularly over large areas. Here Ian Loudon, international sales manager at wireless telemetry specialist Omniflex, explains the benefits of using wireless technology that takes advantage of publicly available infrastructure to access your data easily, affordably and securely.

Wireless telemetry systems are becoming increasingly popular in a range of industrial sectors. In highly regulated industries, such as nuclear, petrochemical or oil and gas, laying cables for data monitoring applications is not always feasible because of strict regulations and the extensive planning permissions required. Here, wireless communication systems can help facility managers retrieve and manage critical data from the field wirelessly, safely and efficiently.

Wireless communication technology is also becoming increasingly beneficial for utility providers that connect to electrical, water and gas meters and gather data for billing and control purposes. And that is not the only way utilities providers are taking advantage of wireless systems, with them also making an impact in reservoir water pump monitoring and control applications where geographical considerations and prohibitive costs rule out wired monitoring and control systems.

In these applications, it is important to work with a reliable wireless telemetry systems partner with experience of dealing with the operational challenges and infrastructure of industrial plants. This ensures that factors like antenna selection, frequency choice and system interfaces are all the best option for the job.

For example, when dealing with radio-based telemetry systems, it is important to remember that radio transmission distance and bandwidth is finite. This is based on factors such as the power of the transmitter, the sensitivity of the receiver, the type of antenna you're using, the operational frequency and, even, weather conditions. These factors will determine whether you get a good signal or not.

It's important that the radio transmission is efficiently managed hence the term "managed wireless or radio transmission" which ensures that your devices "share" the spectrum and are "polite" at optimising the transmission of data.

It's important to note that in most countries around the world, to prevent interference between different users, the radio spectrum is regulated using licensed and unlicensed frequency bands. Space on licensed frequency bands is at a premium and, with more and more businesses setting up radio telemetry equipment, demand will only increase. For many plant managers, the need to pay a fee for exclusive transmission rights means operating on a licensed band is undesirable. Instead, many opt for license-free bands that are open to everyone.

However, regardless of which you're



using, the gain of your antenna cannot result in you exceeding the effective radiated power (ERP) allowed on that frequency band. On the 868 Mhz frequency, in the UK for example, the maximum ERP for short range devices and wideband devices is limited to 25 dBm with a duty cycle of 10 per cent. This puts the focus on a managed wireless protocol to use your allocation efficiently and effectively.

In other parts of the world, however, this can differ. For example, South Africa falls into the same EMEA zone and largely follows the same radio standards, although short range devices in the country must register type-approval for radio devices with the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA). At the same time, Australia, New Zealand and Asia are considered a separate region and have their

own standards. Omniflex provides approved wireless solutions into all the globally approved license free ISM bands.

For example, Omniflex's wireless modules use managed wireless techniques such as change of state operations where signals are only sent from modules to the supervisory system when there is a change that operators must be made aware of.

This is better than maintaining a constant polling signal between modules and the supervisory system that could overload the network with unnecessary traffic, or even timed updates that still involve sending unnecessary updates that compete for network traffic. Using a managed wireless system ensures that all traffic on the system is meaningful.

Enquiries:sales@omniflex.com

CCG wins contract to supply explosion proof cable glands for a massive Middle East oil field project

CCG has recently signed an additional two contracts to supply its unique range of UNITEx and VORTEX marine certified explosion proof glands to the massive Saudi Aramco Zuluf offshore oilfield expansion project in the Persian Gulf.

The Zuluf Field, a super-giant oil field located in the Arabian Gulf, approximately 40km off the north-east coast of Saudi Arabia, is undergoing expansion to increase its production capacity.

This fourth phase of the ongoing expansion project includes 12 oil-handling wellhead topsides, two oil tie-in platforms and one electrical distribution platform, while the fifth phase is made up of 12 additional oil-handling wellhead topsides, two oil tie-in platforms, as well as infield pipelines and cables.

The global offshore marine oil and gas industry requires electrical equipment that must not only perform its explosion proof functions but must be able to do so in extremely harsh conditions for the planned design life of the installation, which can be up to 30 years.

CCG's UNITEx gland and VORTEX® barrier range of explosion proof glands were selected by the project engineers because of the range was specifically designed

tested and independently certified for these harsh environments encountered in the offshore and marine oil and gas industry. In addition to the technical requirements CCG's Captive Component Gland® design allows for a much quicker and safer installation procedure whereby critical components such as explosion proof seals and armour locking components cannot be lost or left out during installation.

The VORTEX® Injection Resin Barrier Gland® allows for instant and accurate mixing and injection of a two-part quick setting resin into the bore of an explosion proof gland to seal off any potential explosive gasses from migrating down the interstices of electrical, control and instrumentation cables. An added feature is that the resin fill can be inspected after the termination of the gland onto the cable. This patented injection resin barrier gland design was a world first when first launched by CCG in 2013.

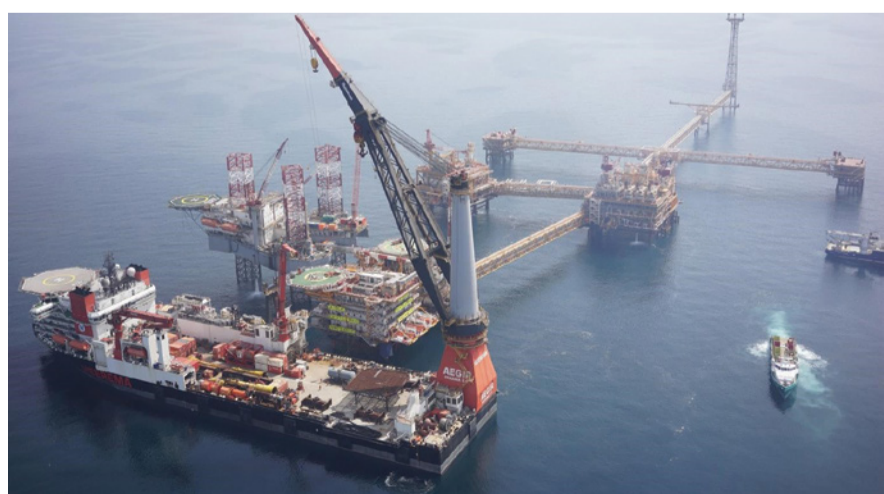
In addition to the stringent tests already required by the IECEx certification scheme, CCG could provide additional independent testing and certification for temperature ranges of -60 to

+160 degrees C, superior corrosion resistance of its unique electroless marine grade nickel plating, short circuit and continuous current withstand tests, EMC compatibility tests, deluge protection tests to Shell standard DTS-01, and an IP68 rating of up to 850 metres which allows for installation on submersible ROV's.

CCG's UNITEx and VORTEX® range of glands also recently received certification to Class NK Japanese Marine

standards which is in addition to the American Bureau of Shipping, Den Norske Veritas (Norway) and Germanische Lloyd (Germany) certification required by the offshore marine industry that CCG has held for many years.

Enquiries: info@ccgcablegland.co.za





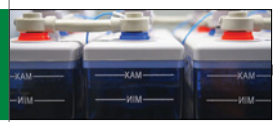

The worlds first Injection Resin Barrier Gland

- Quick Setting
- Accurate and Instant Mixing
- Fills all Voids and Interstices
- 100% Flame and Gas Blocking
- For Unfilled Hygroscopic Cable
- Ex db I/ IIC, Ex eb I/ IIC, Ex ta IIIC, Ex nR IIC

50 YEARS IN BUSINESS 1972 - 2022

011 3942020 info@ccgcablegland.co.za www.ccgcablegland.co.za



Battery energy storage to cut business energy costs by 30%

The Africa Energy Indaba – aimed at paving the way toward a more secure energy ecosystem – took place in March at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), amid concerns over unprecedented levels of loadshedding being implemented across South Africa over the coming months.

Mohamed Madhi, Country Director: South Africa at Yellow Door Energy spoke at the IPP & PPA conference, a side event of the Indaba, addressing delegates on the opportunities presented by Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). “A PPA enables companies to embark on an on-site power plant or to receive power from a wheeled off-site power plant with no capital outlay, while immediately benefitting from cheaper power,” explains Madhi.

He says in addition to the important role that PPAs play in facilitating the just transition to renewable energy, there is another solution that can address the more immediate crippling effects of loadshedding. “Businesses across the country are suffering significant financial losses due to the unexpected additional costs they incur when running diesel generators to mitigate business interruptions caused by loadshedding. This is a major concern, particularly with talks of

even higher levels of loadshedding becoming a reality in the near future,” he asserts.

“The decade of the battery has arrived,” says Madhi. “In under five years since 2020, battery energy storage (BES) costs would have reduced by over 40%, making this a feasible option.” He explains that BES is a sustainable long-term solution available in the short-term and offers significant cost savings, greater flexibility as well as a smooth transition of power. “BES will typically save businesses around 30% in energy costs compared to running a diesel generator. That’s a significant saving for a lot of companies.”

“The last decade was all about solar, and solar will continue, but the long-term solution is going to be a combination of solar, wind and battery storage, and Yellow Door Energy is among the first to offer it at scale to the private sector,” explains Madhi. He adds that companies can significantly reduce their dependency on the grid by installing solar and combining it with a battery energy storage solution.

Yellow Door Energy is the leading sustainable energy partner, serving businesses in the commercial and industrial sectors in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia. The company’s solar and energy



efficiency solutions enable businesses to reduce energy costs, improve power reliability and lower carbon emissions.

A new market entrant, Yellow Door Energy is already in the process of developing sites to wheel power across South Africa and is actively pursuing acquisition opportunities for new sites. The developer is currently in negotiations to sign agreements with several very large off-takers who will be the first to receive power from the sites they are developing.

Madhi says that Yellow Door Energy, is aiming to be one of the first developers to provide in excess of 1 gigawatt of power onto

the grid over the medium-term. “Because of our ecosystem of global suppliers, we are in a unique position to deploy a solution in a shorter timeframe than almost anybody else. And with plans to deploy over \$1 billion, we are fully funded and ready to execute sustainable energy solutions over the next five years,” he notes.

“Right now, we are focused on driving battery energy storage adoption to help alleviate the exorbitant energy costs associated with loadshedding,” concludes Madhi.

Enquiries: www.yellowdoorenergy.com

Good reasons behind growing popularity of modular substations

Modular substations are fast becoming the format of choice in many applications from industrial sites to data centres to mining and the oil and gas sector, delivering benefits such as quick deployment, lower installation costs and more flexibility.

“The trend towards modular substations is now well established in many sectors – and for good reason,” says Trafo Power Solutions Managing Director David Claassen. “There are many different options and designs, from shipping containers to larger or more purpose-designed E-houses.”

Standard shipping containers – in either 20 foot or 40 foot configurations – provide an economical and compliant format for substations that must be transported via land or by sea, he notes. The dimensions facilitate cost effective logistics, and generally ensure quicker availability of on-board space when arranging shipping on container vessels. Indeed, the containerised concept was where the modular idea originated, as it could be moved around easily.

“More recently, though, we have seen the concept develop into much larger substation sizes – but the benefits remain,” he says. “These can generally be constructed quite simply with structural steel with fire-rated insulation to enhance the safety rating of the installation.”

When compared to constructing a normal building on site, with all the related civils work, the modular option quickly shows a range of benefits. Especially in remote locations, any building work can become complex, costly and time consuming. These costs include transporting various building materials to site over long distances, as well as finding and employing scarce skills and supervision.

“This traditional route also involves taking all the electrical components to site – and then installing, testing and commissioning them in conditions that are often less than ideal,” he explains. “By contrast, a modular substation can be constructed for the most part in a fully-equipped factory, which is more conducive to quality and speed.”

Once shipped to site, there is minimal work to be done before the modular substation can be commissioned and put to work. Modular substations can also be designed with state-of-the-art technology for improved reliability, easier maintenance and reduced running costs.

He highlights that dry-type transformers add considerable value to the modular substation concept, as these can be installed inside a container or e-house. Claassen explains that the safety levels intrinsic to dry-type transformers mean that they do not need a separate enclosure outside the modular structure.

“Effectively, the dry-type transformer is just another aspect of the electrical arrangement in a substation that can be readily modularised,” he says. “For safety and other reasons, an oil-filled transformer would still need its own infrastructure due to the risk of fire, explosion or oil spills.”

He highlights that this is counter-productive to the modular philosophy which makes this format of substation so popular. By using a dry-type transformer instead, the installation can avoid having a separate transformer bay, fire protection and suppression facilities, and outside cabling. With a dry-type transformer inside the substation, there is also a reduction in the overall footprint size.

Enquiries: www.trafo.co.za

The answer to South Africa’s energy woes: Livoltek’s all-in-one energy storage system

South Africa is currently grappling with a severe energy crisis marked by an unreliable power supply and frequent, at times, daily load shedding. As a result, the pressing need for effective energy storage systems has become undeniable. In this challenging landscape, the Livoltek All-In-One Energy Storage System emerges as a beacon of hope, offering innovative features and remarkable benefits for businesses and households. The Livoltek system is poised to revolutionise the energy storage industry in South Africa, here’s why.

One of the standout features of the Livoltek All-In-One Energy Storage System is its impressive energy density. It can store a significant amount of energy within a relatively small space, making it an ideal solution for residential and commercial settings where space is limited. By maximising energy storage within a smaller footprint, Livoltek enables users to optimise their energy consumption without compromising valuable space requirements.

Flexibility is paramount in energy storage solutions, and the Livoltek system excels in this aspect with exceptional scalability. Users can expand the system through additional battery modules, tailoring the capacity to suit their specific energy requirements. Whether for a small home or a large-scale commercial operation, the Livoltek system seamlessly adapts to evolving needs, ensuring an uninterrupted power supply.

Safety is a fundamental concern for any energy storage system, and Livoltek addresses this crucial aspect with advanced safety features. The system is meticulously designed to protect against overcharging, over-discharging, and short-circuiting, ensuring the system’s and its users’ safety. With Livoltek’s unwavering commitment to safety, businesses and households can confidently rely on their energy storage system without compromising their peace of mind.

Livoltek empowers users to optimise their energy consumption by simplifying system

monitoring and control. Recognising the importance of a user-friendly interface, the Energy Storage System includes an the ability to monitor your system remotely through an off-site monitoring App as seen in the diagram.

Time and energy efficiency are key considerations in any energy storage system, and the Livoltek Energy Storage System excels in both areas. With high charging and discharging efficiency, the system ensures quick and efficient energy transfer, minimising downtime, and maximising stored energy utilisation.

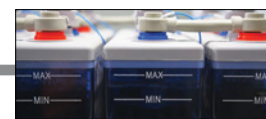
Versatility is another key advantage of the Livoltek All-In-One Energy Storage System, offering multiple operating modes to suit diverse needs. Whether requiring backup power, off-grid functionality, or peak-saving capabilities, the Livoltek system can be customised to meet specific requirements.

Investing in a system with a long lifespan is essential for businesses and households seeking cost-effective solutions. The Livoltek All-In-One Energy Storage System offers an impressive cycle life of over 6 000 cycles, guaranteeing long-term reliability and durability. With a lifespan crossing many years, the system significantly reduces the overall cost of ownership, making it a prudent and economically viable choice for energy storage needs.

Livoltek’s All-In-One Energy Storage System sets an exemplary standard as an environmentally friendly solution in an era increasingly focused on sustainability. Users can substantially reduce their carbon footprint by storing energy generated from renewable sources like solar power. Embracing this eco-friendly approach contributes to a cleaner and more sustainable country.

In the face of South Africa’s energy crisis, the Livoltek All-In-One Energy Storage System stands out as a transformative solution for businesses and households, offering a comprehensive and reliable energy storage solution.

Enquiries: www.valsa.co.za



How WEG VSD technology can help deal with load shedding

Variable speed drives (VSDs) are generally considered as vital contributors to energy efficiency, but they also have features that can reduce the operational disruptions caused by load shedding.

“Any industrial operation that relies on electric motors will face severe challenges to their continuous workflow when load shedding strikes,” says Pieter de Villiers, Gqeberha branch manager for Zest WEG. De Villiers was previously the VSD Service Manager at the company. “Much of the disruption is related to the process of starting machinery up again after a power loss, which often must be conducted as a series of sequential actions that an operator must oversee and implement.”

What many motor users are not aware of is the usefulness of WEG VSDs in automating and controlling this start-up, explains de Villiers. WEG VSDs can be programmed to initiate a sequence of actions, so that this does not have to be done manually by the operator. A simple example to illustrate his point is where water is being pumped through pipelines which drain out during load shedding. In most cases, the pumps cannot simply be started up again at full speed in a ‘dry’ condition without the risk of cavitation and other damage.

“In cases like this, the WEG VSD can be programmed to start the pump at a lower speed until the pipeline is full of water, after which it could resume full pumping duties,” he says. “Similarly, it is important for a siren to be sounded on a mining operation before a conveyor system is re-activated after the start of load shedding for safety reasons. The WEG VSD can also be programmed to automate the re-start process, and it initiates the siren to warn staff that the conveyor will be running again.”

He highlights that the full range of WEG VSDs have built-in PLC capability, allowing them to be programmed in this way – without the need for PLCs to be added to the system. Another function of VSDs that makes them valuable assets in times of load shedding is to prevent equipment from tripping out. This can happen when there is too much ‘dead time’ between grid power turning off and a back-up generator kicking in.

“If dead time lasts more than a few seconds, many motor-driven applications can trip out and require a re-start which can be time consuming and labour intensive. A common way that the VSD stays live during this dead time is through the stored energy in its capacitors, allowing it to then re-accelerate the motor when the generator kicks in,” he explains. “It is also possible to set up the drive to utilise the inertia from the load and therefore power from the motor itself – essentially using the motor briefly as a generator to keep the VSD alive.”

WEG VSDs also play a useful role when energy users want to harness renewable energy sources like solar power. In a hybrid power system where a motor is connected to

both the grid and to solar panels, a VSD can utilise the best source to feed the motor. If there is sufficient sunlight, the system will detect the power flowing in from the panels and optimise that power source.

“On the other hand, the VSD will switch to grid power at night or when it is cloudy,” says de Villiers. “This allows motors to be kept running while reducing the cost of energy, and also reducing the user’s carbon footprint.”

Enquiries: www.zestweg.com



A range of WEG Variable Speed Drives that can prevent equipment from tripping out during load shedding.

Motors | Automation | Transmission & Distribution | Energy Systems | Electrical Construction

GENERATOR & ENERGY SYSTEMS

Customised configurations to provide a tailor-made solution for your energy challenge

Zest WEG Generator Sets prides itself in solutions driven innovation through our engineering acumen. In addition to our stock availability which allows us to rapidly respond to our customers’ energy requirements, we have the ability to provide comprehensive after sales support to our customers across Africa.

Through our manufacturing facility located in Cape Town, we offer access to locally manufactured, fit-for-purpose generator sets; standard off-the-shelf diesel generator sets and custom built, application specific units; in either stationary or mobile configurations from 10 kVA up to 3350 kVA. Larger power generation requirements can be provided, through the synchronisation of multiple sets.

Driving efficiency and sustainability.

+27 (0) 21 507 7200 | 0861 009378
www.zestweg.com | gensets@zestweg.com



Pieter de Villiers, Gqeberha branch manager for Zest WEG.



The benefits of light fixtures with integrated USB ports

We live in the digital age, so it should come as little surprise that light fixtures with USB ports have become increasingly popular in the home. This is especially true for individuals who spend a significant amount of time working from home or who wish to stay connected to loved ones who live far away. These are just some of the benefits of these practical fixtures.

Charging convenience

The number one benefit of integrated USB fixtures is undoubtedly convenience. They eliminate the need to search for an available outlet when one needs to charge a phone, tablet or any other electronic device.

Space-saving

Fixtures with integrated USB ports are excellent for saving valuable space, especially in compact living environments or workspaces. They do away with the need for bulky charging adaptors and free up space, reducing clutter in the home or office.

Easy installation

Fixtures with integrated USB ports are generally easy to install, especially table lamps which can be moved from room to room as needed.



Multi-functional design

USB-integrated fixtures are available in an array of designs and serve as both a light source and a charging station. Some even have a built-in ledge to rest a phone, tablet or small electronic device on. This dual functionality enables users to streamline their living or workspace.

Streamlined design

Along with their multi-functional design, fixtures with integrated USB ports are also stylish. Often sleek and contemporary in appearance, they complement a variety of interior design styles. The Eurolux range of USB-integrated fixtures is available in a range of styles, sizes and finishes to suit multiple individual tastes and preferences.

Enquiries: www.eurolux.co.za

SHEDDING LIGHT WITH PHILIP HAMMOND

Lower lighting loads in times of load shedding

By the time that you read this article, we will already be in the second half of the year 2023.

We are all familiar with the expression "Time flies". I know that it is true, especially when one is busy and there are so many tasks to complete, from relatively trivial tasks to executing complex lighting designs and meeting delivery targets.

So, who was it that originated this expression? Well, it was none other than the bard himself, William Shakespeare, when he said: "The swiftest hours, as they flew" and that was followed by Alexander Pope, who stated: "Swift fly the years".

I have been an active member of a business club in Cape Town for 13 years. I am so grateful to have met a gentleman whose business is called Productivity Pitstop. He magically uncluttered my Inbox in MS Outlook. Email is now so easy to manage. No emails requiring answers go unanswered in the clutter. He also provided several other useful aids to better productivity and time management. If any of the readers would like to contact him, his name is Gerrit Cloete and his contact email is gerrit@prps.co.za or LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gerritcloete/>

We live in an age when customers, clients and friends alike expect instant replies whether it is email or WhatsApp. If one jumped at every WhatsApp message, email and spent time instantly responding throughout a day, we would all be hard

pressed to get real income generating work done. Living in a world that demands instant gratification adds another level of stress to businesspeople. It is so important to take a step back and prioritise emails and other messages in other systems. Using the tools at our disposal, plan your day, practise time management. For example, when you open your computer in the morning, establish a routine. Review incoming emails, answer those where no further action is first needed such as investigating why an item was short delivered. Then move on to other routine tasks. Once you have completed the routine tasks, move on to income generating tasks such as sales, marketing, and outstanding debtors.

Now on to the important content about lighting.

Be sure to register for our June Webinar. The topic is "Good lighting design optimises energy efficiency resulting in lower load on solar & inverter systems (CPD Activity)" Go to: <https://bhaschooloflighting.clickmeeting.com/episode-6-good-lighting-design-optimizes-energy-efficiency-resulting-lower-load-on-solar-inverter/register> to attend and learn more.

It is such an interesting and important topic particularly as we continue to live with blackouts. No matter how the power utility and authorities try to couch the issue in fancy terms or names, it remains

Community project provides a reliable solar lighting solution

BEKA Schröder has supplied the LED solar lighting highmast solution as part of a Seriti community solar lighting project to the Siyanqoba and Klarinet communities in Emalahleni, Mpumalanga province.

This project was sponsored by Seriti's Community Trust Fund, where Seriti is a broad-based, 91% black-owned and controlled South African mining company. The LED solar lighting highmast solution, the SOLARFLOOD, was chosen, so that the community has light even when there are power cuts, thus increasing safety and well-being for the community, and to prevent cable theft.

LED solar lighting highmast solution

The SOLARFLOOD is the solar lighting highmast solution for all area applications. BEKA Schröder's South-African designed and manufactured solar lighting highmast solution for outdoor open area and rural applications provides a high performing, robust option for off-grid solar lighting requirements. It comes with a warranty of up to 5 years (T's and C's apply).

BEKA Schröder's unique solution ensures that the corrosion-proof glass-reinforced polymer (GRP) box, which houses the energy source (Lithium) and other components, is permanently positioned in the shade, due to the Solar panel array being North facing. This ensures that high temperatures, which are the cause of premature battery ageing, are averted.

The SOLARFLOOD provides a reliable lighting solution with a high Ingress Protection level (IP 66) that withstands high ambient temperatures. It is a sustainable off-grid performer with



The SOLARFLOOD is the solar lighting highmast solution for all area applications.



The SOLARFLOOD was chosen so that the community has light even when there are power cuts.

a superior lumen/watt ratio. BEKA Schröder's high-performing optics allow for mounting of up to 20m, providing high-quality light where it is needed.

The photovoltaic energy conversion is optimized by highly efficient Monocrystalline solar module technology. This, in conjunction with our Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) charging

system and our lithium energy storage technology, provides a state-of-the-art quality system, offering the required system autonomy and providing a long-lasting solution to operate in any of our very challenging African environmental conditions.

BEKA Schröder develops and manufactures sustainable and energy-

efficient LED lighting products in South Africa, designed and suitable for local conditions.

The company is proud to be associated with Seriti and the Seriti community in providing a successful LED solar lighting highmast solution for this project.

Enquiries: za.schreder.com



The solar lighting highmast solution increases the safety and well-being for the community.



Some interesting novelties from NEKO

The Vanilla range from NEKO consists of a flexible 360-degree LED tube, which is IP65 with a CRI90.

As shown in the pictures, there are a lot of possibilities for residential and commercial projects. Finishes for the bases are white, black, chrome and gold.

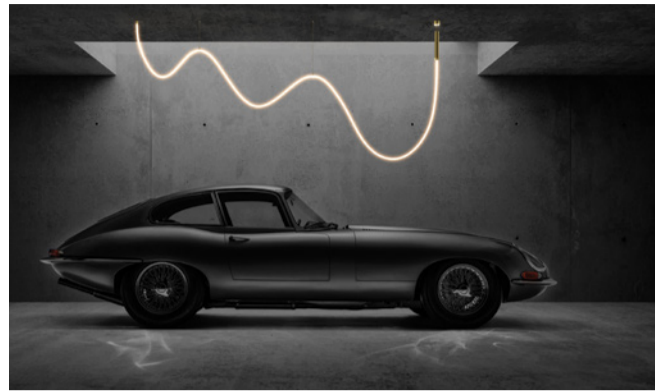
The Vibes series is a modular spotlight system for both recessed and surface mounting. The spotlights can be used to project magnificent light accents onto objects. In addition, the handling of the spotlights is extremely simple – they can be rotated by 360°, as well as swivelled 90° to flexibly adjust the lighting effect.

The mounting base is available in both a round and a square design and can be equipped with one or two LED spots. The driver is built into the mounting base, which is why the Vibes is also

suitable for installation on concrete ceilings.

The warm white COB LED in 2700 K or 3000 K are installed in a powder-coated die-cast aluminium housing. With a system power of 14 W per spotlight, the Vibes series offers a variety of solutions for different applications.

Enquiries: info@eldc.co.za



'blackouts', because for times there is no electricity. Those who can afford solar or inverter systems are very fortunate, but what about those millions of people so less fortunate than we are?

What will those with solar systems linked to inverters and those with inverter systems only do when blackouts last for longer than four hours? Will the batteries last out? How long will it take for the batteries to recover to full voltage?

The full implications of extended blackouts have even further implications such as not being able to access our bank accounts at ATMs to draw cash, or to shop online. We will be affected in so many other ways too. UPSs will not last, and business will come to a standstill except for those businesses with standby generators. However, they will be faced with the high operating and diesel costs which will no doubt be passed on to the already burdened consumers.

We have all read the articles in the media and watched discussions on TV about what can be expected at the height of winter. Now is the time to plan for the dark eventuality. If it does not materialise, at least we will not have been caught unprepared.

One last thought, rechargeable LED lamps are great, but keep good quality torches available, the type that run on replaceable batteries whether of the Duracell or Mercury battery type. When the rechargeable LED stops working, we will not be able to recharge them during extended blackouts.

Stay positive, do not panic, or get depressed. Be prepared. Continue to ignore the noise of politics and negative news events. Be positive and keep adventuring into new territories.

I am always available to answer any questions that you, the readers, may have.

Enquiries: phil@bhalighting.co.za



Telephone: (011) 704 1450
 Email: otto@giantlight.co.za // wolfgang@giantlight.co.za // glenn@giantlight.co.za // dereke@giantlight.co.za // ernest@giantlight.co.za
 Website: www.giantlight.co.za



Local Manufacturer 

Introducing ... completely Solar Powered Light, All Night, Every Night.

(Tc and C's apply)

Suncatcher



15/35/70 W Street / Flood light








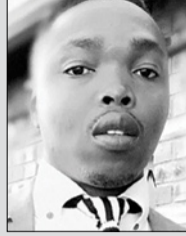
- No Cables
- Easy Installation
- Guaranteed Light



Suncatcher 2

Terms and Conditions:
 Light Fitting must receive at least 4 hours of direct sunlight per day OR 8 - 10 Hours of overcast light per day. Component failure is possible - fitting under 3 year guarantee.



<p>Consolidated Electrical Distributor</p>  <p>Rakshen Ramsamooch Internal sales</p>	<p>Rittal South Africa</p>  <p>Moja Skosana External Sales Representative</p>	<p>Major Tech</p>  <p>Meegan Govender Sales Representative</p>	<p>Major Tech</p>  <p>Andre Le Roux Sales Director</p>	<p>Major Tech</p>  <p>Kevin Arkley Sales Representative</p>	<p>Actom Protection & Control</p>  <p>Wesley Vorster Product Manager</p>	<p>Powermode</p>  <p>James Clarence Managing Director</p>	<p>Schneider Electric Hub</p>  <p>Mxolisi Ngcece Design Application Engineer</p>
---	--	---	--	--	---	--	---

SUBMIT your photos of new appointments and promotions to People on the Move at sparks@crowm.co.za. All photos must be in jpeg format and high resolution (at least 1 MB when attached).



Blu2Light

The Future of Light Management

Blu2Light Light Management - smart, open and based on Bluetooth®

Blu2Light is currently the only truly open system for IoT builders with future guarantee as all system parameters are provided via an open neutral interface on the gateway – not only for lighting but also for IoT building management system parameters.

It was never that easy to controll and dimm all your luminaires through an application on your smart device via Bluetooth®. Additional to this you can connect your DALI light controller wirelessly with our new sensors which automatically detects daylight and motion.

The LiNA Connect app is available for iOS and Android devices.

Advantages of VS's Blu2Light System

- ➔ Wireless connection to DALI drivers via Bluetooth®
- ➔ Reduce energy costs with our intelligent sensors
- ➔ Simple and user-friendly application
- ➔ Compatible with iOS and Android devices



WE THINK LIGHT FOR YOU

BRIGHT SPARK

A DEADLY DISH

Two men ordered dinner in a restaurant. They both ordered the same items from the menu. After they both tasted it, one of the men went outside the restaurant and shot himself. Why did he do so?

JUNE SOLUTION

Her two sons were part of a set of triplets (or quadruplets, etc.).

AUGUST 2023 FEATURES

- MCCs and motor protection
- Energy efficiency
- Lighting

SEPTEMBER 2023 FEATURES

- Earthing, lightning and surge protection
- DBs, switches, sockets and protection
- Lighting

Editor:
Gregg Cocking
082 870 6390
sparks@crowm.co.za

Advertising:
Carin Hannay
072 142 5330
carinh@crowm.co.za

Design:
Anoonashe Shumba

Publisher:
Karen Grant

Deputy publisher:
Wilhelm du Plessis


Published monthly by:
Crown Publications (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 140
Bedfordview, 2008
Tel: (011) 622-4770
Fax: (011) 615-6108

e-mail: sparks@crowm.co.za
Website: www.crown.co.za

Printed by: Tandym Print

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editor or the publisher.

This publication is distributed to electrical contractors, wholesalers, distributors, OEMs, panel builders, Eskom, mining electricians and consulting engineers (electrical) as well as libraries, members of IESSA and public utilities.

 Total 14 176 per month.