**PRESS RELEASE**

The importance of plastic pipes in future infrastructure projects

***03 September, 2014:*** *Plastic plays a vital role in all areas of modern life, including piping systems.The SAPPMA Pipes VIII conference aims to inform and educate the plastic pipe industry through a series of presentations conducted by local and international plastic pipe experts.*

DPI Plastics is a leading manufacturer of PVC and HDPE water reticulation and drainage pipe and fitting systems. The company is a founding member of the South African Plastic Pipe Manufacturers Association (SAPPMA), which aims to build trust and integrity within the plastic pipe industry.

SAPPMA is made up of numerous leading plastic piping companies and aims to promote consumer confidence within the plastic pipe industry and to promote the production and the use of high quality plastic pipes and pipe systems.

DPI Plastics sponsored and exhibited at the 2014 SAPPMA Pipes VIII conference, which took place on 2 September 2014 at the Bytes Conference Centre in Midrand. The theme for this year’s SAPPMA conference was ‘Plastic Pipe in Infrastructure’, with presentations and exhibits from a number of local and international manufacturers, as well as SAPPMA members.

DPI Plastics technical and product manager **Renier Snyman**will be presenting at the conference on field pressure testing. “When piping is installed, it is important that a field pressure test is conducted to ensure that the pipeline integrity is up to standard,” he states.

According to Snyman, who boasts 16 years of experience in this field, a major challenge with the field pressure test is that the standards are often misinterpreted, or there is a lack of information and understanding among engineers, installers and manufacturers.

“Common misunderstandings are encountered with regards to the correct pressure at which a pipeline should be tested, and the period of time that testing should last. These two points can affect the performance of the pipe, as well as the outcome of the test,” he adds.

Snyman reveals that the SAPPMA Pipes VIII conference is also the ideal platform to highlight the numerous benefits that plastic pipes boast over their concrete and steel counterparts. “Sceptical engineers will have the opportunity to learn first-hand how plastic is a lighter, more robust and environmentally-friendly alternative to older materials,” he continues.

The SAPPMA Pipes VIII conference featured a variety of local and international speakers covering various plastic pipe topics. The speakers represented various countries, including; Switzerland, Germany, the United Arab Emirates and the USA. They covered a variety of plastic pipe related issues, including; plastic pipe failures, field pressure testing, pipe fittings and infrastructure, modelling of operating conditions for gravity, and low pressure pipelines with factory tests.

For more information on the SAPPMA Pipes VIII conference, visit [www.sappma.co.za](http://www.sappma.co.za/)

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**Notes to the Editor**
There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit <http://media.ngage.co.za>and click the DPI Plastics link.

**About DPI Plastics**DPI Plastics (Pty) Ltd is a leading manufacturer of PVC and HDPE water reticulation and drainage pipe and fitting systems with two ISO 9001 certified South African factories based in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

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