

SAIA Annual Committee Lunch 2009: 13 November 2009

Speaker's notes: Ronnie Napier, Chairperson: SAIA Board

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen!

I would like to welcome you all to the Annual SAIA Committee Lunch 2009. The aim of this special occasion is to officially thank SAIA member companies and their representatives for their invaluable contributions towards helping SAIA achieve its goals and to recognize and reward extraordinary achievements.

As you know, the SAIA has a small staff complement that needs to address a huge variety of issues. Therefore, the success of SAIA's activities very much depends on the active participation and input of its committees and other members.

I am honoured to say that, in the past year, our member companies and their representatives to the various SAIA committees have yet again proven their worth by contributing in time, effort, support and passion. We heavily rely on the knowledge and skills of our committee members without which SAIA would not have been able to provide a service that our members can continue to be proud of.

Your hard work and passion do not go unnoticed and we truly appreciate the value you add to successfully addressing the industry issues at hand. If this support continues, the SAIA could only continue to reach bigger and better heights in future – the sky is the limit! I thank you.

The 2009 theme of SAIA is "Collaboration". SAIA has always approached all issues and topics of importance to the industry in a collaborative, cooperative and constructive manner.

In the most recent Annual Review we have used examples from nature on how working together brings mutual benefits to all parties involved and generally lead to success stories rather than failures. Take for instance wild geese. By flying formation a flock of wild geese collaborates to ensure that each trailing bird receives lift from the wingtip vortex of the bird in front of it, resulting in a reduction of wind resistance on each goose so they fly faster and with less individual effort.

In the same way, we believe that all our focus areas were positively targeted and influenced by our collaborative approach. No activities – new, current or continued – could be successful without the participation and support of SAIA's members and you, the representatives of those members. I am quite sure that the SAIA will always be able to count on your support!

Thank you and enjoy your lunch.

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