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February 2019

# Welcome to **ELPA** NEWS

We bring you the latest news and updates on events in the Earthing & Lightning Protection Industry.



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# Why join ELPA?

The Earthing and Lightning Protection Association (ELPA) has been formed to bring the industry together, to protect the consumer and to establish a uniform interpretation of the codes of practice by aligning the codes of practice in regulations, standards and legislation to effective protection of lives and property. To ensure that the industry has a recognisable framework within which to operate.

## We do...

- ✓ Form an important addition to the safety standard in the South African Lightning Protection Industry.
- ✓ Offer certification of qualified designers, installers and inspectors.
- ✓ Support tertiary education through coordination to develop training apprenticeship at all levels.
- ✓ Support Architects, Structural, Consulting and Electrical Engineers through their representative bodies.

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# Our Services



## CERTIFICATION

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- To Installers, Designers and Inspectors
- For SETA/SAQA/QCTO registration
- (New/Existing) Installations with the ISR and maintenance report (MC) as per SANS 10313 in support of SANS 10142



## RECORD KEEPING

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- All ELPA Member exams
- Free Industrial Safety Review formats for Installers and Designers
- Industrial Safety Reviews
- Drawings



## MEMBERSHIP

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- Five levels of Membership
- Reduced Training Fees
- Reduced Training Manual fees
- Newsletter
- Reduced Advertising rates in The Lightning Mag



## EVENTS

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No events at this time.

1

## LETTER FROM NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Greetings as we approach Christmas and the end of 2019.

[Read more](#)

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## AFRICA, A THUNDER AND LIGHTNING HOT SPOT, MAY SEE EVEN MORE STORMS

Africa is experiencing bigger and more frequent thunderstorms as global temperatures rise, according to researchers at Tel Aviv University.

[Read more](#)

3

## FLYBE PLANE TRAVELLING TO JERSEY HIT BY LIGHTNING

Passengers described hearing a “massive bang” and seeing a “bright flash” when a plane was struck by lightning.

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4

## VIDEO: LIGHTNING AND ASH: TIMELAPSE FOOTAGE SHOWS TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION

A video captured from a nearby home in Tagaytay City shows volcanic lightning and a thick ash column erupting from the Taal volcano in the Philippines.

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# FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Greetings as we approach Christmas day and the end of 2019.

This newsletter is taking time to settle as we in the Association are taking time to adapt to the new structures. It may seem incongruent to speak of the “new” structures when many members came on board as soon as the new structures were made official in February at the first ELPA AGM with the adoption of the new Constitution.

After 10 months we continue to increase our company membership and celebrate with 58 registered ELPA member companies. There are a further 35 companies with staff who successfully completed their ELPA installer examinations in 2017 and 2018, these companies are struggling to process the new structures of ELPA. In a previous publication we highlighted the urgency of company membership – *“Membership is compulsory for certifications to be valid”*. I will endeavour to work with each company to ensure that their needs are met. If certification is no longer required, the support will no longer be required.

Progress on the two major tasks highlighted in the last newsletter:

The certification task force met in October and identified the certification levels for installers, designers and inspectors.

**INSTALLER:** The most significant is that a second installer level will be implemented with a view on advanced expertise with the view to Quality Control Management, design interpretation, site supervision and ultimately “registration” to the level of a registered electrician. The person will have the capacity to perform site inspections and will be responsible for company due diligence of completed work. The person will have the competence to carry out site inspections and hence the name “LPS Inspector” has been proposed.

**DESIGNER:** The designer category will have 3 qualification levels, namely general design, specialised design (such as isolated systems) and advanced design (such as hazardous material handling).

**INSPECTOR:** The inspector category will at this stage have only one level and will be the highest level of inspectorate – namely will qualify as a recognized AIA level inspector. It must be understood that this person will need to achieve the “LPS Inspector” level before attempting the examinations and assignments for this competency.

All the above is the first pass outcomes of the task force. The competency testing will align with governance requirements



**Richard Evert**

including theoretical examinations (which is the only part we had before), practical examinations and field work experiential supervision. ELPA are working closely with all bodies in regulatory governance to ensure that the competent LPS systems practitioner will be recognised and his/her skills demanded in completed work across South Africa.

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