



SHUKELA TRAINING CENTRE DOES IT AGAIN!

Ray van Heerden

Once more the STC learner, Philile Jessica Mngadi, from Edison Power, won the Provincial leg of the WorldSkills Competition under the Electrical Installations Category. Philile's achievement follows that of another STC learner, Mthokozi Christopher Sanga, who went on to win the Nationals and represented South Africa in the WorldSkills Competition that took place in Abu Dhabi in November 2017 in the same category.

From 10 to 13 September 2018, Shukela Training Centre hosted the Provincial leg of the World Skills Competition in the Electrical Installations category. Ten learners, mostly from public TVET Colleges (South coast, North coast and inland) competed in this category with adjudicators drawn from various training providers being responsible for choosing the winner. The competition consists of a 20 hour task covering various wire ways, distribution board wiring and motors and starters.

Shukela Training Centre Management would like to congratulate Philile and Edison Power for this achievement and wishes Philile well as she progresses with the competition. One Technical Training Officer will be assigned the task of training and mentoring Philile.

Ray Van Heerden is Technical Training Manager at STC.

The candidates enter via the various TVETs and after a sifting process consisting of both theory and practical assessments done at the TVETs, the best candidates make it through to the provincial leg of the competition.

The national leg of the competition will be held at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre, Durban, in February 2019, and the international and final leg of the competition, the 45th WorldSkills Competition, will take place in Kazan, Russia, in August 2019.

The 45th WorldSkills Competition will bring together more than 1 300 competitors representing more than 70 countries who will compete in over 50 skills.

As Philile progresses with the competition she, together with other candidates from other provinces, will be trained on home automation and programmable logic controllers (PLC).

From left: Mthokozi Sanga (past winner); Ray van Heerden, Electrical Manager STC; and Philile Mngadi (2018 winner).



SASRI HOSTS OPEN DAY FOR NEW GROWERS

Michelle Binedell

On the 10 October, SASRI hosted an Open Day for all new growers and sugar industry members who wanted to hear more about what SASRI offers. The day attracted a little over 65 visitors who were treated to a number of presentations and demonstrations on some of the focus areas and services that SASRI has to offer.

The day started with an overview of SASRI's value-add to the industry, presented by SASRI's Director Dr Carolyn Baker. The visitors were then given a view of the newly updated website and to the capabilities and uses of the WeatherWeb.

During the in-field visit, three different areas of SASRI's business were highlighted – namely:

- Biosecurity and pest and disease research;
- The FAS analytical laboratory and soil science research; and
- Superior varieties and plant breeding.

The windy conditions were some relief to the incredibly hot morning and the visitors welcomed some relief in the shade over lunch. They were then free to browse the various "stalls" that were on display and chat with the staff who were on hand. The stalls included some of SASRI's services such as education courses, publications, the PurEst® mobile app, latest varieties, biosecurity and FAS.

Overall, it was a great day and one that we hope will grow in numbers each year.

Michelle Binedell is Knowledge Manager at SASRI