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Plastics firm sponsors first African Marine Waste Network event in PE

DPI Plastics will sponsor the inaugural African Marine Waste Network (AMWN) Conference in 2017 as its lead Corporate Social responsibility (CSR) project.

A leading manufacturer of PVC and HDPE water reticulation and drainage pipe and fitting systems, DPI Plastics is a key supporter of AMWN's activities related to reducing marine waste and debris threatening South Africa's coastlines and marine life.

The AMWN was launched in July 2016 by the Sustainable Seas Trust (SST), Plastics SA and other partners in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape. The network is the first dedicated approach to address marine waste at a pan-African level.

Plastics SA, of which DPI Plastics is a key member, represents all sectors of the South African plastics industry,

including polymer producers and importers, converters, machine suppliers, fabricators and recyclers. It plays an active role in growing the industry and addressing all plastics-related issues.

The 3 Rs

"Further to our conservation efforts, we are also looking internally at our products and how to reduce, reuse and recycle wherever possible," DPI Plastics Marketing Manager Martine Goodchild comments.

This resulted in the manufacturer's latest product innovation, Ultrapipe, in which the virgin inner core of a multilayer pipe is



Martine Goodchild

replaced with a recycled inner. "Ultrapipe is a more material, resource and energy-efficient product when compared to its SANS 1601 predecessor," Goodchild notes.

DPI Plastics produces more than 40 000 t of product a year for the plumbing, building, civil construction, mining and irrigation sectors. It is a member of the Southern African Plastic

Pipe Manufacturers Association (SAPPMA), the Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA) and is a SABI company member too.

"We are committed to best practice in terms of PVC use, with responsible recycling programmes and increased use of organic materials, in terms of which stringent targets are set and audited annually," Goodchild concludes.



Piet Cromhout, Owner of CSC Tactical (left) and Theunis Coetzer of SewTreat (right).

Security company all set to recycle 2,8 million litres of water a year

Earlier this year, Mpumalanga-based Security Company, CSC Tactical, committed to recycling 2.8 million litres of water per year. To help them reach their goal, SewTreat provided them with an innovative wastewater management solution.

CSC Tactical is a well-known security company with their head office based in Witbank and has recently moved to a new site. Piet Cromhout, owner of CSC Tactical, identified the need for recycled

water at the new site for irrigation and washing company vehicles. In addition, Cromhout says that they were concerned about the effect that the current drought would have on their operations as they are dependent on boreholes.

"Previously we had septic tanks installed but needed a solution that would allow us to recycle and reuse as much water as possible to alleviate the need we have for our borehole water.

SewTreat was the logical choice in providing us with this solution as their plants also ticked the boxes of low maintenance, low energy

consumption and having an installation that was aesthetically pleasing" says Cromhout.

Daily water consumption

SewTreat conducted a site visit at the CSC Tactical premises to determine what their daily water consumption is. They found that CSC Tactical's maximum water use is 7500 litres per day and proposed an underground 7500L plant from their DIY range. "This particular plant would be easy to install and maintain, uses minimal energy and provides recycled water that is safe to use for non-potable purposes,"

explains SewTreat spokesman, Theunis Coetzer.

In addition to this, says Coetzer, the plant is installed underground which means it can be covered with plants which some clients find is a more visually attractive option.

Coetzer says: "CSC Tactical is now able to recycle 2.8 million litres of water per year, which is commendable. They are truly environmentally responsible and an example to all local businesses of how they should take responsibility of their environmental footprint."