



Ecco Chamber

FORTNIGHTLY ITALIAN NEWS MADE IN
SOUTH AFRICA

**"Between a rock and a hard
place?"**

Chamber's Note

International Project Work

Upcoming Webinar: Biogas

New Members: SWP, Mega Pack, PKF O...gon



Between a Rock and a Hard Place?

There is a bleak dilemma at play in the country. Public discourse paints the picture as follows: does South Africa ease its lockdown to revive the economy or is the lockdown necessary to continue saving lives? The negative reel looks like this: does the country implicitly sanction the illness and death of several thousands of individuals, in order to rescue lives and livelihoods from the fate of poverty and hunger? Or does our government stick to the principle of saving lives of patients of Covid-19, at whatever cost?

As always the reality might be a little less bleak than the picture. The country has bought itself a significant head-start in its fight against the pandemic achieving feats such as securing 25 000 additional hospital beds to accommodate peak demand which is forecasted to be reached in June.

Moreover the Chamber praises the action of the Department of Trade and Industry in terms of the National Ventilator Project, which will ensure that the economic rewards owing to the demand for a forecasted peak total of 7000 ventilators are felt locally. Furthermore low cost ventilators have now been in production for the last month to satisfy the demands of many African countries who may not have the money for premium equipment. In a show of diplomatic kindness, the USA donated 1000 ventilators to the country and it is such acts of international collaboration that the Chamber welcomes most.

Many experts agree that the spread of the virus is inevitable. As we move forward, individuals and companies will need to adhere strictly to health and safety protocol in order to get us out of the gordian knot that is lives vs livelihoods. The good news is that this too will pass. As South Africa recorded its highest daily increase to date, Italy, once an epicentre of the virus, began reopening bars and cafes, owing to a continued decline in its rate of infections.

In the space between the rock and the hard place, Italcham continues to creatively find ways to grow and serve its members. We encourage members to take advantage in whatever way they can of the current constrained situation which will remain our context for the foreseeable future and contact us to discuss how we can collaborate our way out of this double bind.

GET A VIRTUAL INTERN FROM A TOP ITALIAN UNIVERSITY

THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



The new **International Project Work** of **Ca' Foscari University** gives the opportunity to South African companies to have access to **skilled interns** from one of the most renowned Italian Universities.

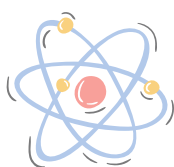
Given the current Covid-19 crisis, the program will be held remotely, and it is available immediately for the Patron Members of the Italian South African Chamber.



The internship program runs for 3 months, but different terms can be agreed with the student to accommodate Members' needs.

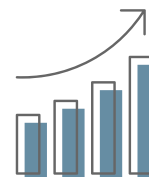
CA' FOSCARI STRENGTHS

Languages and Cultures,
particularly Asiatic languages



Science and Technology

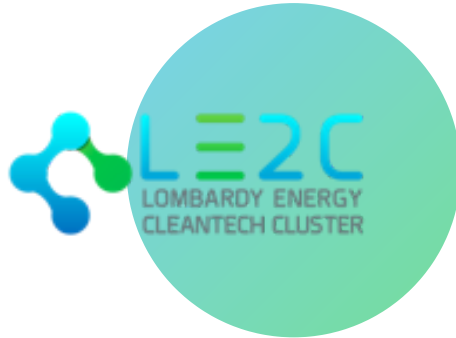
Economics and Management



For more information
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Opportunità in Sud Africa nel settore del biogas

Webinar

IN ITALIAN

10 JUNE 2020

TACKLING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ITALIAN BIOGAS COMPANIES IN
SOUTH AFRICA

Speakers



Pamina Bohrer -
Secretary General at
the Italian South
African Chamber of
Commerce and
Industry



Alberto Borello -
General
Secretary at SABIA



Luca Donelli -
President at Lo
mbardy Energy
Cleantech
Cluster (LE2C)



Carmen Disanto -
Cluster
Manager at Lomb
ardy Energy
Cleantech Cluster
(LE2C)



Silvia De Toni -
Deputy
Secretary at the
Italian South
African Chamber
of Commerce and
Industry

REGISTER HERE



Embassy of Italy
Pretoria



Welcoming our New Members



Safe Working Practice East Rand is part of an established Health and Safety consultancy known as Safe Working Practice that operates nationally throughout South Africa. Safe Working Practice East Rand operates in the East Rand of Johannesburg, Midrand and the Vaal triangle. The company provides amongst other items, advice and consultation with regard to the OHS Act and does Health and Safety Audits and site inspections as well as providing Health and Safety Management Systems and training.



Mega Pack Engineering (Pty)Ltd is a Company founded on established expertise in manufacturing and supply of wear and cutting parts with guaranteed quality for automatic machines in Pharmaceutical, Food and Beverage, Consumer Goods and other Industries.

Mega Pack is based in Johannesburg – South Africa, and capable of sharing more than 25 years of experience in this field matured between Italy, Japan and South Africa, working extensively with Independent and Multinationals Companies.



PKF Octagon believes that their job is to support your future, the future of your business and personal wealth. They work closely with you to evaluate your needs and craft an innovative financial solution to support you. The key to this strategy is partner-led relationships with you. PKF Octagon teams of professional, dynamic, effective and approachable individuals who are leaders in their field. Most importantly, they believe in the power of long-term relationships.

Welcome to Italcham!