

OBITUARY:

## **JOHN REID – SAPMA STALWART AND DOYEN OF PAINT TECHNOLOGY**



It is with an extremely heavy heart the directors, management and staff of SAPMA, announce the sad passing on June 5 of our highly valued tutor and doyen in paint technology, John Reid.

UK-born John, after completing his degree in Organic Chemistry at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, with first class honours, joined the paint industry in the UK in 1960. He started his SA career by joining Plascon Evans Paint in Durban in 1969 and moved to Johannesburg in 1983 to join AECI /Dulux in 1983, after spending 11 years with Fergusson's Paints in Durban.

John served on the SAPMA Technical Committee from 1986, as chairman until 2000 and then as a member until his death. He was also a valuable member of the SABS Technical Committee.

It was in 2000 that John became Senior Tutor for SAPITI and began training the Technology Programme for the development of paint chemists in South Africa all of whom would testify to his role in the development of their careers.

Deryck Spence, executive director of SAPMA, says: "John's reputation as a valued tutor and instructor is unequalled and countless SAPITI students have had the privilege of being instructed and introduced into the world of coatings world under John's caring guidance. He will be sorely missed not only as a valuable colleague, but a friend. *Hamba Kahle, John.*"

Aggie Argyrou, chairman of SAPMA, states: "The loss of one of the coatings industry's most skilled and dedicated tutors who has been teaching SAPITI students for decades is devastating. His passing has left a huge vacuum in SAPITI training resources."

Terry Ashmore, former chairman of SAPMA, adds: "I have known John for several decades, including my 13 years as chairman of SAPMA. He was a very gentle, courteous and extremely knowledgeable paint technician and in the early days of SAPMA always volunteered to contribute to the workings of the SAPMA Technical Committee. His dedication to training young chemists was selfless and he played an invaluable role in the introduction of SAPITI training courses which he continued to support for the rest of his life. John will be sorely missed by all who knew him: a true gentleman always. Thank you, John."

- Leon van den Berg, who as private consultant played an important role in the first phases of SAPMA's quest for accreditation by CHIETA, sadly also passed away this month. Leon paved the way for the contact and relationships SAPMA has had with the Training Authority and SAPMA also sends deep sympathy to his family.

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