PROGRAMME OF WORK

South African National Standards (SANS) and Normative Documents are developed, issued, maintained, amended or withdrawn according to a process set out in the SABS National Norm 2018: National Norm for the Development of South African National Standards and SATS 2:2012, The development of normative documents other than South African National Standards.

New proposals, including test methods, systematic reviews and revisions are received at stage 00. They are subjected to relevance, feasibility and impact assessment (including alignment to national priorities) at stage 20. Stage 10 reports are interrogated by, and if appropriate, approved for development by the Standards Approval Committee (SAC), hereafter they proceed to stage 20. With the assistance of technical experts, working groups comprising experts from industry, public sector, academia and civil society, develop a working draft.

The working draft is presented to the relevant Technical Committee. On acceptance the document is recognised as a committee draft at stage 30. The committee draft is then progressed to stage 40 where it is presented to all interested stakeholders in South Africa to give them an opportunity to submit their inputs and comments on the Draft South African Standard. Once all inputs and comments are finalised a final draft is presented to the Standards Approval Committee for approval at stage 50. If the document is approved it is published at stage 60, as a South African National Standard (SANS) or South African Technical Report (SATR) or South African Technical Specification (SATS).

The year-to-date Programme of Work is set out below:

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<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Preparatory</th>
<th>Committee Draft</th>
<th>Enquiry/DSS</th>
<th>Approval &amp; Publication</th>
<th>Review</th>
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Stage 00: New Proposals

As at the end of October 2018 a cumulative total of 156 new proposals were received.

Notably, SABS/TC 138/SC 07, proposed the adoption of ISO 30590, Non-sewered Sanitation Systems. The development of innovative sanitation solution standards is a national priority according to the Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP) and the National Development Plan (NDP). Non-sewered sanitation systems are included in the Water and Sanitation Master Plan. The urgency of addressing the issue of inadequate sanitation was highlighted by the former Public Protector following the untimely passing of Michael Komape, who drowned in a pit latrine, furthermore this was an issue of focus in the recent Medium Term Budget Policy Statement.

The importance of dignity is most discernible in the context of sanitation. The SABS is proud to be an integral part of initiatives aimed at delivering this basic human right to ordinary South Africans.

Stage 20: Preliminary Work Item (PWI)

A cumulative total of 156 PWIs have been assessed and recommended for approval. Stakeholders who are not members of TCs and SCs are also given access and opportunity to get involved in standards development through the publication of PWIs on the SABS website.
Stage 20: New Work Item Proposal (NWIP)

Year-to-date there are 67 NWIPs that have been approved for development. These include a project critical to water preservation strategies. The minimisation of water loss is critical towards preserving the scarce water resources which have been threatened by prevailing drought conditions in parts of the country. SANS 1732, Greywater Reuse Systems – General Requirements, a standard on alternative water saving solutions, is an urgently required standardisation solution.

South Africa adopted the ISO/IEC 17021 series of standards. These Standards have been incrementally undergoing a revision and review process internationally as well as in South Africa. SANS 17021-2:2018 Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 2: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of environmental management systems and SANS 17021-3:2018 Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 3: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of quality management systems will be published as national standards this financial year.

Stage 30: committee draft (CD)

There are 315 SABS Technical Committees and Sub-Committees. To date there have been 119 TC and SC meetings attended by 788 stakeholders. As a result, 33 technical documents have been completed as Committee Drafts. These include the much anticipated home-grown standard, SANS 3088, Water efficiency in buildings, which will have a significant impact on the National Building Regulations.

Stage 40: draft South African standard (DSS)

To date there are 115 draft standards that have been publicised through public enquiry fora. There are numerous home-grown standards on DSS including:

- SANS 1795 series on road traffic law enforcement which will ensure improved reliability of speed measuring equipment.
- SANS 10012, the use of light metals in hazardous locations at mines, will contribute towards improving the safety of people working in mines.

Stage 50 & 60: publication (SANS)

The SABS editing team produced 312 Master Copies. Master Copies are final draft standards that have been reviewed and confirmed for technical and language correctness.

South African National Standards are crucial to supporting the industrialisation goals of South Africa. Year-to-date 126 South African National Standards have been published and gazetted, 111 of these standards directly support IPAP sectors.

These include the revision of ISO/SANS 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories. This standard specifies the general requirements for the competence, impartiality and consistent operation of laboratories.

Stage 90: Systematic Reviews

South African National Standards are reviewed periodically to ensure that they remain relevant. The default review period is 5 years. There are currently 942 documents that are due for review out of a suite of more than 7 000 standards.

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