



9TH

SULPHUR AND SULPHURIC ACID

CONFERENCE | 2025

26 MAY 2025 - WORKSHOP
27-28 MAY 2025 - CONFERENCE
29 MAY 2025 - TECHNICAL VISIT

PROTEA HOTEL STELLENBOSCH AND
CONFERENCE CENTRE, STELLENBOSCH

Final Programme

Monday, 26 May 2025

Pre-Conference Workshop

**Workshop is separately bookable*

08:00-12:00 **Workshop 1 BASF: How to get the most out of your sulphuric acid catalyst**



Programme

- Introduction to BASF and BASF Catalysts and Adsorbents
- Sulphuric Acid – the largest commodity chemical
 - Chemistry of sulphuric acid making
 - Evolution of sulphuric acid plants
- The sulphuric acid catalyst
 - Catalytic mechanism of SO₂ oxidation
 - Catalytic composition
 - Catalyst shaping at BASF and shape geometry benefits
 - Catalysts for special tasks

Break

- BASF Sulphuric Acid Catalyst portfolio and use
- Maximising catalyst lifetime & performance
 - Performance optimisation during campaigns and in between shutdowns
 - Pressure drop increase and ways to reduce it
 - Catalyst poisons and the risk they pose to the campaign lifetime

• Q&A

12:00-13:00 **Lunch**

13:00-17:00 **Workshop 2 Topsoe: Wet Gas Sulphuric Acid (WSA) technology**
TOPSOE **TOPSOE**
Making Energy Transition

Programme

- Introduction Topsoe and agenda
- General introduction to WSA technology
 - Basic principles
 - History and development, e.g.

- From salt to gas/gas heat exchangers
- WSA Condenser
- Electrical acid mist control
- CleanSET™ for tail gas polishing
- Application/industries
- Achievable emission reduction and acid quality
- Plant availability

Break

- Focus on WSA in the metallurgical industry
 - Lay-out of WSA plant, flowsheet walkthrough
 - Equipment in WSA plants
 - Handling fluctuating flows and SO₂ content
 - Important considerations in operating a WSA plant
 - Lessons learnt from WSA plants in the metallurgical industry
 - Catalyst loading and screening, operator requirements, lab analysis

Break

- Project execution from Topsoe
 - Timeline, engineering and HW supply
 - Quality assurance of engineering and HW supply
 - Topsoe support during commissioning, start-up and GTR
- Topsoe support after start-up
 - Technical Service department
 - Digital services, ClearView™, supporting cooperation

17:00-19:00 **Welcome Networking Cocktail and Early Conference Registration**
(All delegates welcome)





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Conference Day 1 - Tuesday, 27 May 2025

- 08:30-09:00 **Registration and Early Morning Refreshments**
- 09:00-09:05 **Welcome and Opening Address**
T. Claassens, *Metso South Africa (Pty) Ltd, Conference Chairperson*
- 09:05-09:10 **Safety Briefing**
Venue Official
- 09:10-09:25 **SAIMM Presidential Address**
E. Matinde, *SAIMM President, South Africa*

Session 1:

- Session Chair:** T. Claassens, *Metso South Africa (Pty) Ltd*
- 09:25-09:55 **Keynote Address: Acid test: The future of sulphur and sulphuric acid**
F. Gordon, *Acuity Commodities, United Kingdom*
- 09:55-10:15 **Regional growth prospects for acid**
S. Sackett, *Southern African Perspectives, South Africa*
- 10:15-10:25 **Sponsor Presentation**
Begg Cousland  **World Class Filtration Solutions**
- 10:25-10:45 **Mid-Morning Refreshments**
- 10:45-10:55 **Sponsor Presentation**
WEIR 

Session 2:

- Session Chair:** J.E. Willersinn, *BASF, Germany*
- 10:55-11:15 **Extending campaign lifetime and converter reliability with BASF's cutting-edge sulphuric acid catalyst technologies**
J. Willersinn, *BASF, Germany*
- 11:15-11:35 **Capacity and uptime boost: Optimising sulphuric acid plant from 2200 to 3000 MTPD**
P. Foith, *CS Combustion Solutions GmbH, Austria*
- 11:35-11:55 **Sulphuric acid recovery using nanofiltration: Boosting efficiency, sustainability, and ESG alignment in hydrometallurgy**
T. Coetzee¹, Q. Vikisi², *Memcon, BME Metallurgy, South Africa*

- 11:55-12:05 **Sponsor Presentation**
HATCH 

12:05-13:05 **Lunch**

- 13:05-13:15 **Sponsor Presentation**
TOPSOE  Making Energy Transition

Session 3:

- Session Chair:** S. Sackett, *Southern African Perspectives, South Africa*
- 13:15-13:35 **Expanding the capacity of your sulphuric acid plant**
T. Vanderwalt, *Ellessent, South Africa*
- 13:35-13:55 **Challenges in sulphur melting and purification process for the sulphuric acid industry**
J. Hermans, *Sulphurnet, The Netherlands*
- 13:55-14:15 **Understanding the sulphuric acid catalyst properties and reaction resistances in the SO₂ oxidation – and their implications for catalyst design and selection**
C. Frandsen, *Topsoe, Denmark*
- 14:15-14:35 **Maintenance and servicing of LEWIS® pumps equipment**
I. Metin, *Weir Minerals, Turkey*
- 14:35-14:55 **Digital solutions for maximum efficiency**
T. Claassens, *Metso South Africa (Pty) Ltd, South Africa*
- 14:55-15:25 **Ice Breaker Quiz**
- 15:25-15:45 **Afternoon Refreshments**
- 15:45-17:00 **Time at Leisure**
- 17:00-17:30 **Buses to depart from conference centre to dinner venue**
- 18:00-21:00 **Conference Dinner**
(All delegates welcome)
- 21:00-21:30 **Buses Depart to Conference Venue**



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Conference Day 2 - Wednesday, 28 May 2025

08:30-09:00	Registration and Early Morning Refreshments	11:20-11:40	State-of-the-art sulphuric acid making – platinum promoted honeycomb ceramics on the way to opex and capex reduction P. Piantino, J. Hofer, A. Sigg, <i>P&P Industries AG, Austria</i>
09:00-09:05	Welcome and Opening Address T. Claassens, <i>Metso South Africa (Pty) Ltd, Conference Chairperson</i>		
09:05-09:10	Safety Briefing Venue Official		
Session 4:		Session 5:	
Session Chair: T. Vanderwalt, <i>Elessent, South Africa</i>		Session Chair: S. Colley, <i>BASF, South Africa</i>	
09:10-09:40	Keynote Address: Platinum Group Metals: A critical moment W. Thomas, <i>BASF Metals, UK</i> (Online Presentation)	11:40-12:00	Innovative energy recovery in existing sulphuric acid plants E. Almeida, <i>Clark Solutions, Brazil</i>
09:40-10:00	How to successfully run a four-year acid plant campaign B. Mumba, T. Mwanza, P. Ng'ambi, <i>Kansanshi Mining PLC, Zambia</i>	12:00-12:10	Sponsor Presentation Wylton (China) Chemical Co Ltd 
10:00-10:20	Zimplats SO₂ abatement plant design S. Matutu ¹ , J. Bezuidenhout ² , G. Erasmus ² , ¹ <i>Zimplats, Zimbabwe</i> , ² <i>Hatch, South Africa</i>	12:10-13:10	Lunch
10:20-10:40	Mid-Morning Refreshments	13:10-13:20	Sponsor Presentation  BASF
10:40-10:50	Sponsor Presentation Clark Solutions 	13:20-13:40	Highly sophisticated gas cleaning systems for roasting plants optimised with digital solutions K. Knabel, <i>Metso, Germany</i>
10:50-11:00	Sponsor Presentation Integrated Chemical Solutions 	13:40-14:00	A new era of alloy tower in the sulphuric acid industry T. Vanderwalt, <i>Elessent, South Africa</i>
11:00-11:20	Is an acid plant overdue in Namibia to cater for the envisaged demand from upcoming uranium projects? P. Aluvilu ¹ , H. Katty ² , D. Garrard ³ ¹ <i>Pamwe Royalties and Streaming (Pty) Limited, Namibia</i> , ² <i>Punto De Vue Holdings (Pty) Limited, South Africa</i> ³ <i>Pamwe Mining Fund (Pty) Limited, South Africa</i>	14:00-14:20	Conference Close and Afternoon Refreshments