

Celebrating...

WOMEN IN HVAC-R LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2026

EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF TRADE

"Leadership is not defined by the title you hold—it is reflected in the confidence you project, the respect you earn, and the impact you leave behind. When women own their voice, embrace their value, and lead with authenticity, they don't just change their careers—they transform the future of the HVAC-R industry."



SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBITION PROSPECTUS



28th / 29th October 2026



EMPERORS PALACE
Johannesburg



Ntokozi Dube:
Refrigeration Mechanic
Refrigeration Facilitator
& Assessor, Ekurhuleni
East Tvet College



Thandokazi Portia Mqwebedu: Senior
Commissioning Engineer
| ALEC Engineering &
Contracting LLC (Dubai)



Professor Edith Phaswana: (Acting)
Executive Dean: Thabo
Mbeki African School of
Public and International
Affairs UNISA



Jessica Mamutsi:
HVACR Technician,
Boleng Mechanical
Engineering Services
and Consulting



Phophi Matshaya:
Managing Director,
Mumy & Sons HVACR |
Project Management



Dr Lerato Makoro WITS:
Secretary General for
Women in Global Health
(WGH) South Africa



Margaret Molefe:
Director, Department of
Forestry, Fisheries, and
the Environment



Marilyn Morris:
Personal Brand Strategist |
International Professional
Image Association (IPIA)



Lisel Engelbrecht:
Executive Head: Data
Engineering, Analytics and
AI Standard bank SA



Ayanda Mona:
Refrigeration Mechanic,
COCA -COLA Beverages
SA



Sylvia Baloyi:
Industrial Psychologist,
Transition Coach and
Adjunct Academic



David Botha:
Executive Director,
SARACCA



Thobile Ndwandwe:
HOD Engineering
Lumacon



Andre van Der Merwe:
Managing Director,
Evapco



Eugene Le Roux: EAC
Project Management



Ria Ledwaba:
CEO Gree Products



Angelique Thompson:
Chief Operating Officer-
ERASE



Michele Hughes:
DAIKIN SA

WOMEN IN HVAC-R LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2026

Invitation

On behalf of Empire Conferencing & Training, it is our pleasure to invite your organisation to partner with us as a Sponsor and Exhibitor for our forthcoming industry conferences and technical summits scheduled for 2026.

Empire Conferences is a leading African-based conferencing and training organisation specialising in high-impact agricultural conferences, export development forums, technical capacity-building programmes, and investment summits across the agro-processing, packhouse, logistics, and food value chain sectors.

The Leadership Summit will bring together:

• HVACR Engineers • Mechanical Engineers • Facility Managers • Contractors • Manufacturers • Consultants • Technical College Students • University Students • Government Representatives • Industry Associations • Human Resource Professionals • Women Entrepreneurs • Young Professionals • Executive Leaders • Sustainability Professionals

These events are expected to attract delegates from across South Africa and neighbouring African countries, creating a strategic platform for networking, brand positioning, investment engagement, and industry collaboration.

We would be honoured to have your organisation participate as a sponsor and exhibitor. Sponsorship provides an exceptional opportunity to:

- Increase brand visibility among senior decision-makers and industry leaders
- Showcase products, technologies, and services to a targeted audience
- Position your organisation as a thought leader within the agricultural and export sector
- Generate valuable business leads and partnerships
- Engage directly with stakeholders across the value chain
- Strengthen your company's presence within regional and international markets

Our sponsorship packages include a range of branding and engagement opportunities, including:

- Exhibition space
- Speaking and presentation opportunities
- Digital and onsite branding
- Marketing and social media exposure
- Delegate networking opportunities
- Inclusion in conference material and promotional campaigns

We are confident that this partnership will provide meaningful value and visibility for your organisation while contributing towards the advancement of sustainable agricultural growth, export competitiveness, and regional economic development.

Please find the sponsorship prospectus attached for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss a customised sponsorship package aligned to your organisation's objectives.

We look forward to partnering with you.

EMPIRE CONFERENCING & TRAINING



TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A MORE **INCLUSIVE,**
INNOVATIVE & SUSTAINABLE HVACR INDUSTRY.



28th-29th October 2026 | Emperor's Palace | Johannesburg, South Africa

AGENDA: DAY ONE (28 TH OCTOBER 2026)	
08:30-09:00	Registration Meet and Greet /Morning Snacks
09:00-09:45	BREAKING BARRIERS: WOMEN REDEFINING LEADERSHIP IN HVACR <i>"From Apprentice to CEO" (SUCCESS STORY)</i> Phophi Matshaya: Managing Director, Mummy and Sons HVACR Project Management Vice Chair South African Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Contractors Association (SARACCA)
09:45-10:30	THE FUTURE OF WOMEN IN HVACR: Beyond the 3% Thandokazi Portia Mqwebedu: Senior Commissioning Engineer ALEC Engineering & Contracting LLC (Dubai) Stargate UAE 200MW Data Centre Cluster SAIRAC Associate Director, Women in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Alliance (WIRACA)
10:30-10:45	BREAK
10:45-11:30	Who Moved My Cheese Andre van Der Merwe: Managing Director, Evapco SAIRAC Member Served on SAIRAC JHB Committee for 14 years and a Past Centre Chairman and National President
11:30-12:15	CREATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS: Leading with Purpose: Inspiring Young Women towards a Career in HVAC-R Ayanda Mona: Refrigeration Mechanic, COCA-COLA Beverages SA
12:15 -13:00	Encouraging Women Engineers/Technicians on the Use of Natural Refrigerants Margaret Molefe: Director, Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment
13:00-14:00	LUNCH
14:00-14:45	MOTIVATIONAL ADDRESS: Inclusive Leadership in Technical Industries Professor Edith Phaswana: (Acting) Executive Dean: Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs UNISA
14:45 -15:00	BREAK
15:00-15:45	Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Solutions Ria Ledwaba: CEO, Gree Products SA -the only black Woman importer of Heating, Ventilation, and Air-conditioning (HVAC) in South Africa. South African businesswoman, football administrator, and philanthropist. Founder of the Premier Soccer League (PSL) club Ria Stars First female Vice-President of the South African Football Association (SAFA)
15:45-16:30	COOLING DOWN!! Mental wellness: Balancing ambition and wellbeing Sylvia Baloyi: an Industrial Psychologist , Transition Coach and Adjunct Academic on an exclusive session on Balancing Mental Health in the Workplace: Building Resilience, Well-being, and Creating High-Performing Teams
16:30 - 17:00	Shortage of Technicians in the Refrigeration and Air conditioning Industry: Eugene Le Roux: EAC Project Management
17:00-17:15	VIRTUAL SESSION: Promoting Workforce Diversity, Skilled Trades Advocacy, and Creating Career Opportunities for Women in HVAC Daphne A.I. Fayle: Founding Board Member, Women In HVACR Canada
17:15	END OF DAY ONE FOLLOWED BY COCKTAIL HOUR CELEBRATING WOMEN

AGENDA: DAY TWO (29 TH OCTOBER 2026)	
09:00-09:30	FROM FRONT DESK TO FRONTLINES: How Mentorship, Training and Opportunity Build HVAC-R Leaders" Angelique Thompson: Chief Operating Officer- ERASE
09:30-10:00	The Role of SARACCA: Driving Compliance, Professional Standards, and Excellence in the HVAC Industry David Botha: Executive Director - SARACCA
10:00-10:15	BREAK
10:15-11:00	How Daikin SA is Changing the Lives of Women: As a leader in the HVAC-R industry, Daikin is committed to advancing diversity and inclusion by creating pathways for women to excel, lead, and shape the future of the industry. Michele Hughes: DAIKIN SA
11:00-11:45	TOOLS TECH AND TRAILBLAZERS: Women Leading the AI Transformation in HVACR Lisel Engelbrecht: Executive Head: Data Engineering, Analytics and AI Standard Bank SA Global Top 100 Innovator in Data & Analytics 100 Influential Women in Tech Driving Data and AI Innovation & Data Literacy Across Africa CDAO at Women in AI Mentor BFSI Top50
11:45 -12:30	POWER SESSION: Own the Room: Professional Etiquette, Executive Presence & the Confidence to Lead Marilyn Morris: Personal Brand Strategist International Professional Image Association (IPIA) Personal Brand Coach Speaker Women Empowerment Corporate Brand Strategist Protocol & Etiquette Consultant Image Consultant Chamber Committee Chairperson: Services SETA
12:30-13:00	Women Leading the Future of Sustainable Cooling: Natural Refrigerants in HVACR Ntokoze Dube: Qualified refrigeration mechanic refrigeration facilitator and assessor and gas safe handling practitioner Ekurhuleni East Tvet College
13:00-14:00	LUNCH
14:00-14:30	Resilience in Leadership Dr Lerato Makoro WITS: Secretary General for Women in Global Health (WGH) South Africa
14:30-15:00	Closing the Skilled Trades Gap Through Inclusion Thobile Ndwandwe: HOD Engineering Lumacon
15:00-15:45	Women Driving Sustainability in HVACR Jessica Mamutsi: HVACR Technician Boleng Mechanical Engineering Services and Consulting
15:45-16:00	CLOSING REMARKS/VOTE OF THANKS END OF CONFERENCE

REGISTER NOW

Secure your place at the summit!

 Visit our website www.empiretraining.co.za

 Email us ryan@empiretraining.co.za

 Call or WhatsApp **083 300 4170**

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION



Book before
31 JULY 2026
and save!



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Why SPONSOR

- You can boost team morale and motivation by providing a shared experience and a sense of accomplishment.
- You will significantly boost visibility and brand recognition among potential clients and industry peers.
- You can position your company as an industry leader and thoughtprovoker.
- You can connect with other industry professionals, potential partners, and even competitors, fostering valuable industry relationships.
- There are opportunities that include speaking slots. This allows you to showcase your expertise, position your company as a thought leader, and build credibility within the industry.
- You can amplify your brand's reach through our social media platforms.
- You can help your team stay updated on the latest industry trends, network with other professionals, and develop new skills.

BE SURE TO BOOK SOON AS SPACES ARE LIMITED.

SPONSORS

BRONZE SPONSOR



EXHIBITORS



PARTICIPATING COMPANIES



environmental affairs
Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG



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Package COMPARISON

PACKAGES ➤	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	SUNDOWNERS	EXHIBITOR
Price excluding VAT	R70 000	R45 000	R35 000	R25 000	R40 000	R13 000
Complimentary tickets	6	4	3	2	3	1

PRE-SUMMIT RECOGNITION						
Company name, logo and link to website on Sponsor website page	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo in pre-Summit email blast	✓	✓				
Company overview on Sponsor website page	200 Words	150 Words	120 Words	100 Words	120 Words	
Social media posts per month	2	1	1	1	1	
Newsletter banner per month	1	1	1		1	
Dedicated Email Blast	✓	✓				
Logo in digital programme book	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo screened during morning, tea and lunch breaks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

EVENT SPONSORSHIP / EXHIBITION PACKAGES



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EMPERORS PALACE
Johannesburg

Registration Form

Should you wish to confirm sponsorship/exhibition, complete and return this form to: Ryan

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Position: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____

Province: _____

Postal code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

VAT Number: _____

Package: Platinum Gold Bronze Silver Summit Bags Exhibitor

Signature _____ Date: _____

