

Curriculum Vitae

Hendrik de Clercq PrEng, BSc, PhD

Hennie has a BSc (1968) and BSc(Hons) (1972) in Civil Engineering from the University of Pretoria and a MS (1973) and PhD (1975) from the University of California (Berkeley). He also completed the Advanced Management Programme of the University of South Africa (1982).

He spent 24 years of his career in consulting engineering (the majority as the director responsible for the offices in the Johannesburg region of the firm Van Wyk & Louw, subsequently renamed Africon, now Aurecon) and a large number of buildings, bridges and industrial projects were designed and built under his direct supervision and guidance, while departments dealing with social development, civil services, traffic engineering and assorted other subjects also reported to him.

For the rest of his career, from 2001 to 2013, he was CEO of the SA Institute of Steel Construction, guiding it towards being an organization internationally respected for its expertise and influence and a strong force in making the industry it serves stronger and better. He is the principal author of the updated SAISC Red Book, the Green Book and several other publications that are used on a daily basis by structural engineers. He is chairman of the SABS committee responsible for design codes for metal structures, principal author of SANS 10162-1, the South African design code for steel structures, and a member of the committee responsible for the updating of the Canadian steel design code S16.

He is a recipient of the President's Award of the SA Institution of Civil Engineers for service to the engineering profession and was awarded honorary life membership of the American Institute of Steel Construction in recognition of his service to the international steel construction industry, the first non-American so honoured. He had also received honorary life membership of the South African Institute of Steel Construction.

Since 2014 Hennie has been associated with the University of Stellenbosch, as Research Associate in the Department of Civil Engineering. In this capacity he has assumed responsibility for the annual post graduate course in the design of steel structures, research projects on the final year, MSc, and PhD levels in the fields of steel construction and fire engineering, the final year structural design project, and lectures to various audiences on the subject of innovation.