

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE **SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY OF DAIRY TECHNOLOGY?**

by **Christine Leighton**

In the changing consumer environment, where the origin, safety, sustainability, and quality of dairy products are often questioned, it is important that people working in the dairy industry unite to promote dairy from the farm to the fridge. The South African Society of Dairy Technology (SASDT) is a platform where role players in the industry can get together to share knowledge that promotes technological and scientific advancement in the dairy industry. The SASDT, therefore, provides an opportunity for those working in the dairy industry to interact and become ambassadors for dairy.

DAIRY NETWORK

The society was established in 1967, with Bruce Carte as the first national president. Over 50 years later, it was set up to serve as a communication network, and it is still the dairy industry's preferred hub for trusted information on product development. Members represent all business sectors involved in the dairy industry, including dairy processors, their producers, as well as the suppliers. The society is currently represented by approximately 180 members countrywide, with the diverse industry interests ensuring that the society remains an exciting and vibrant organisation.



Up to the end of 2019, successful communication was maintained through the annual national symposium, along with regular regional meetings held by each division. Even the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic have not deterred the society from serving its members. Since 2020, communication has been primarily online. Regular webinars, where relevant and thought-provoking ideas and information are shared, help to keep members up to date with the latest trends and technical developments in the dairy industry, both at home and abroad.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT


Because the SASDT is an organisation recognised by the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions, members can also earn continuing professional development (CPD) points by attending the webinars presented by the society.

ONLINE DIRECTORY

Product developers and technologists are continuously challenged to make use of better techniques and innovative product developments. To this end, the society's website, sasdt.org.za, hosts a directory that provides members with contact details of academic institutions, laboratory services, and ingredient suppliers, among others. If your organisation does not feature in this section, please submit your information to click sasdt.org.za/sasdt-directory/. Members can also find important notices about events and topical issues in the industry on the website.

SPONSORSHIP

To sustain the valuable industry communication network and finance the events offer, the SASDT relies on sponsors, and we encourage members to consider supporting the society in this way. To view the various sponsorship opportunities available, see sasdt.org.za/sponsors/.

Our members are the heart of the society and ensure that we remain a valuable, vibrant hub of information. If you are not a member of SASDT yet, you are missing out. Contact us to obtain a membership form. Visit the website and our Facebook page for notices about upcoming webinars, and follow us on [facebook.com/South-African-Society-of-Dairy-Technology-2487270157956900](https://www.facebook.com/South-African-Society-of-Dairy-Technology-2487270157956900). 



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