Aeronautics engineer's international horizon broadens further

CSIR principal engineer (aeronautics), Dr Arnaud Malan, has been appointed to serve on two international committees, adding more feathers in his cap.

Malan will be serving on the International Advisory Committee of the International Conference on Computational Methods for Thermal Problems to be held in Naples, Italy, in 2009; while he will also be rendering his services on the International Advisory Committee for the International Conference on Computational and Mathematical Biomedical Engineering to be held in Swansea in the United Kingdom early next year.



Dr Arnaud Malan

In addition, Malan serves on three other committees: he is the co-founder and co-chair of the first African Conference in Computational Mechanics - an International Conference to be held in Sun City next month, while he is vice president of the South African Association for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and an Editorial Advisory Panel member for the International Journal of Numerical Methods in Heat & Fluid Flow.

"The CSIR's representation on an international level in the field of advanced modelling and simulation across disciplines, ranging from aerospace to biomedical modelling, signifies that the organisation is recognised both locally and internationally to advise on state-of-the-art technology," he says. "It also means being in a position to establish international relationships with world leaders in this field."

Malan adds, "It is a feeling of great personal achievement to find myself among the best scientists and engineers in my field internationally. Science is not just about doing science, it's also about people, and if scientists or organisations in the research and development field want to prevail, they need to make sure that they value the people with whom they work," he said.

CSIR aeronautic systems competency manager, Des Barker, says, "We South Africans have much to offer the world; what we have to do is to demonstrate our intellectual capabilities through continual international participation and leading-edge research; it is the key to international acceptance and collaboration in using science to improve the quality of life for all."