



President's Prerogative Training



At the risk of seeming to repeat myself I must once again raise the issue of training within our industry.

I understand that we are once again being asked to return to the apprenticeship system having been told for a number of years that apprenticeships are "out" and learnerships are "in". I have no problem with returning to apprenticeships as long as bureaucracy doesn't stifle our business imperative to produce enough well trained people to meet the competitive challenges of doing business in South Africa.

The record shows that PIFSA and its predecessors have actively supported training for the last 90 years. Since the early 1990s we have assisted members and

non-members alike through the efforts of the Southern African Printing College (now known as the Cross Media Training Centre) which was set up as a non-profit company by PIFSA to meet the skills needs of our industry in a unique way.

One of the ways that we introduced in response to the needs of our many small and medium sized businesses was to recruit unemployed young people and give them all of the theoretical training (TT modules 1, 2, and 3) and part of the practical training (up to phase two level) needed to fast track the completion of their apprenticeships with employers once they obtained jobs in industry. The College has succeeded in placing approximately 75% of these young people in industry since the system was introduced.

Of course this is a system designed by industry, to meet the needs of industry –

not by bureaucrats, for bureaucrats. Since 1993 the lives of many hundreds of young people have been changed for the better, and employers have also benefited from this system. It was designed before the advent of "learnerships", and it worked admirably from the points of view of students and employers alike.

This system is now being questioned because it apparently doesn't fit into some neat "box". In other words it isn't a full learnership. If this attitude had prevailed 13 years ago there would be many young people who would not be enjoying the satisfying and rewarding careers in our industry that they are today.

PIFSA didn't design this system to meet the needs of anybody other than our industry. It has done so, and continues to do so.

Power Of Print Living

I have often heard the people in radio calling it the theatre of the mind. That can be absolutely true. I can remember way back when there was no TV and the whole of the country sat glued to the radio at 7.15 pm gripped by the serial "The Dark Stranger". Wow talk about theatre of the mind...that was for sure.

But think for a moment about the theatre that we in print are constantly involved in. As I write this article the various life theatres are being played out. The Zuma case. The Katrina disaster. The Pakistani earthquake disaster. The drama of the World Cricket Super Series disaster. Brought to you IN DEAPTH by print. Print goes way beyond the conjuring of the brain cells. It puts it right there before you

graphically and in detail. TV and radio can only give you the top line. Print goes deep. Print is the investigative medium that tells it ALL.

I was in London during the recent bombings and subsequent bomb scares. Yes breaking news came on the electronic media, but everyone had their noses in the newspapers to get to the bottom of the stories.

Graphic pictures, true to life experiences, expert prognosis and so on. In print for all to see and for all to return to if so needed. But the media are not the only place where print is a living vehicle.

Take for example the collection of old packs in the German coffee shop in Hazyview. They graphically depict the lifestyle of an era gone. Or go to any library or museum to see the stories and lifestyles of any era. All captured in print.

I vividly recall my lecturer during my 1st year apprentice as a comp./mono operator (yes that dates me) impregnating our minds with his definition of print. "The art preservative of all arts!" And he believed it. So too should we.

Print is actually a living organ. What we produce daily can and will be there for generations to come whilst at the same time is there for the current generation. Depicting our generation's way of life.

I bet you can not tell me about a day in your life when print did not play an intimate role. Try to think about it. If you can I would love to hear your story. We might even publish it. And who knows you might even win a prize. BUT you have to tell the truth. No fictions stories. Which reminds me, when last did you read a thriller? Wasn't it better in print than on TV, a movie, radio? Far more thought provoking and available when you need it!



CEO Corner

Print is far from dead!



This is the last edition of PRINtTalk for 2005 and I hope that your business is so busy that you don't have an opportunity to sit down and read it until mid-December!

Despite "just-in-time" production and the lower stock-level requirements of many of the printing and packaging industry's customers, it seems as if November continues to be a peak month for many in our industry. Long may it last!

I am currently reading a book recently written by Frank Cost, co-director of the Rochester Institute of Technology Printing Industry Centre, entitled *The New Medium of Print*. In it he makes the point (amongst many others) that for print, the real competition is not radio or television, but the internet. He says

"Even though the broadcast media of radio and television were seen at first as competition for print, they were never able to do what print could do. They could not carry the written word in its native format.

They were fleeting, not persistent. They were time specific or synchronous. They required electronic technology to be usable. Print transcends all of these shortcomings. It carries written language in a persistent, asynchronous format that does not require technology to be readable.

The Internet challenges print directly in three of these four dimensions. The Internet carries the written word, is persistent, and is asynchronous. The Internet is also electronically searchable. The only exclusive attribute left to print is the lack of need for electronic technology to decode it."

The New Medium of Print p.92

What he doesn't say (although I must confess that I haven't had the time to finish the book) is that the Internet has also led to information overload – how many of us go beyond the second or third page of the 3000 or so pages the Google or Yahoo search engines find for us each time we do a search? How many of us bless the inventors of the Internet each morning as

we scroll down through 100 unsolicited junk e-mails that have somehow escaped the net of the twenty different "Message Rules" that we have put in place to filter this rubbish?

He also makes the point that "Primary packaging represents the last opportunity to influence consumer buying decisions." And that print in packaging is often at the cutting edge of the technology because of the need to attract customers – think of metallic, pearlescent or fluorescent inks and the coming introduction of RFID tags into packaging.

The main point of Frank Cost's book is that print is far from dead and in fact will gain a new lease of life from digital technology provided that printers embrace the concept of cross-media use. New ways of thinking, a willingness to "think out of the box" and the use of multiple technologies will enable us to thrive and prosper.

As we enter 2006, I would like to wish all PIFSA members a prosperous and successful new year.



Central Chamber News

APPEAL HEARING - LOSE IT!

Many members of PIFSA have had a Disciplinary Code and Grievance Procedure which they inherited from the old National Industrial Council or one which was either negotiated with a union after the demise of the Council or was drafted for them by a well-meaning consultant or attorney. Whatever the case, many of these procedures, contain the right of an employee to lodge an Appeal against a Dismissal or, even worse, against any disciplinary action taken against him/her.

Members are advised to get rid of this provision at their earliest convenience. Practice has revealed that employees or their union representatives, who are bent on "working" the system will use every opportunity to tie management up in unnecessary administrative procedures. It is an undeniable fact that management already complain of an over-regulated labour system and yet are guilty of adherence to an out dated and unnecessary

step in the disciplinary process which only serves to further complicate matters.

The fact is that the law does not require that a Disciplinary Procedure has the right to an Appeal, either in the Statute or in Schedule 8 (Code of Good Practice). Secondly, the Law provides for an "Appeal Hearing" in the form of the existence of the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration - the C C M A. This body is the final arbitrator in terms of any labour dispute, whether it be an alleged Unfair Dismissal or simply an alleged Unfair Labour Practice, which is the heading under which any other disciplinary action may be appealed. It is also fact that any employee who has requested the right to Appeal has, by this action, given an indication that he/she will not accept any outcome which is not in their favour. This means that the step which follows an unsuccessful appeal is to refer the matter to the C C M A in any case.

The result is a cautionary note from PIFSA on the advice in of our attorneys, that management delete all references to an Appeal Hearing as soon as possible. It must be noted that this is not simply an administrative task, as a Disciplinary

Procedure is deemed to be a vital document in furtherance of labour peace. Consequently, there are procedures which have to be adhered to, before anything may be amended - particularly so if the workforce is unionised.

Management are advised to take advice before amending any Code or Procedure.

DESERTION DISMISSALS

Many employers do not understand steps which have to be taken if an employee "deserts" employment, and at what stage dismissal occurs. This uncertainty is not assisted by contradictory opinions in decisions coming from the C C M A and the Labour Court.

For many years, it was accepted that desertion of employment was not a dismissal and therefore outside the jurisdiction of the C C M A, which can only rule on "Unfair Dismissals" and "Unfair Labour Practices". However, recently, the Labour Appeal Court ruled that desertion was only a refusal to honour the employment contract and not a termination of that contract. The Court ruled that the employer was still required to dismiss the employee, thus giving the C C M A jurisdiction over this matter.

Recently, in the CCMA, an employer lost an Arbitration case, despite having sent the employee an ultimatum to return to work and, thereafter, a notice to attend a disciplinary hearing, by post and by hand Courier, to the last known address of that employee, as the Arbitrator ruled that the employer could not prove that the employee had actually received either the ultimatum or the notice of the disciplinary hearing personally.

This is contradicted by the recent Labour Court decision in SABC vs CCMA when the court ruled that it would be "silly" to require an employer to hold a hearing for an employee who had deserted and clearly

indicated that he had no intention to return. Our advice is therefore, to continue to send an ultimatum to return to work, addressed to the employee's last known address; If there is no response to this ultimatum, to send a notice of a disciplinary hearing to face an allegation of Desertion of Employment, also addressed to the employee's last known address; Hold a disciplinary hearing, with or without the presence of the employee and then issue a notice of dismissal. Should this matter have to be argued at the C C M A, in the closing argument, it must be pointed out that the rules of the Commission only require that a document, to be "served" on another party, may be

left at any address chosen by that person to receive service [Rule 5 (1) (b) (i)] or even affixed to the main door of the premises [Rule 5 (3) (a)] and that proof of delivery of such document can be by means of a statement signed by the person who delivered it, that it was, in fact, delivered [Rule 6 (1) (d) (ii)].

As it is easier and cheaper to have these matters halted in their tracks at the C C M A (or Statutory Council) than the Labour Court, employers should continue to make every effort to satisfy all of the requirements rather than to incur large legal bills having an award overturned by the Court.

Kwa-Zulu Natal Chamber News

Pinetown Printers – New Press Commissioned

KZN Chamber member Pinetown Printers formally commissioned their latest acquisition, a top of the range five-colour Komori Lithrone S40 press. A special function was held on 6 October 2005, and was attended by special guests, included customers, suppliers and other dignitaries.

Since 1994 the company has been growing its turnover by around 40% per annum. This has been with the help of more efficient production and the introduction of new equipment. Beginning with a staff of just 16, the company now employs some 90 people. With the additional capacity that the new press is expected to generate, another 30 employees are to be employed over the next two years.

Supplied by Kemtek Imaging Systems, the Komori Lithrone S40 B1 offset press is a state of the art five colour press complete with coater and IR drier. Pinetown Printers M.D. Rod Samouilhan is enthusiastic about the capability of this new press. Rod says that the new press will meet the most demanding print requirements with ease and that it is one of the most sophisticated presses in Southern Africa.

The S40 will allow for faster turn-around time. It takes approximately 10-15 minutes depended on job, stock size etc. to change over between jobs and has the ability to handle shorter runs. With speeds of up to 16000 sheets per hour and the ability to handle stock up to 1mm thick, this press will be able to handle long-run quantities on a wide range of work. Special colour work and demanding 300 Ipi (Spekta) printing are well within its capability.

The press is equipped with a pre-press CIP4 interface and PDC-S closed-loop scanning Spectrophotometer to provide the highest level of consistent colour control and accuracy. This high level of automation makes the system easy to use and allows full press make-readies in a matter of minutes.

The introduction of the new press is the culmination of an intensive upgrade phase over the last 18 months. Included in the upgrade has been the pre-press section with a CTP system, a Screen Trueflow PDF workflow management system, and a 24 station Kolbus perfect binder offering PUR glueing.

The company is extremely proud of its progress and is now set to offer customers a full in-house high quality prepress, print and finishing service across a broad range of print.



Present at the launch of the Komori Lithrone S40 B1 offset press, from left to right are: Ken Aranky, Haydn Mottram, Rod Samouilhan, Mark Samouilhan and Larry Faithful



A few of the delegates whom attended the recent BBEE workshop hosted by the Kwa-Zulu Natal Chamber from left to right are: Yousuf Moola Impress Web, Pat McLaverty Zululand Times, Ingrid Portman Prontaprint and James White Rapid Run

"FACTINATION... WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU REARRANGE THE LETTERS

- **DORMITORY**
When you rearrange the letters:
DIRTY ROOM
- **ASTRONOMER**
When you rearrange the letters:
MOON STARER
- **THE EYES**
When you rearrange the letters:
THEY SEE
- **GEORGE BUSH**
When you rearrange the letters:
HE BUGS GORE
- **THE MORSE CODE**
When you rearrange the letters:
HERE COME DOTS
- **SLOT MACHINES**
When you rearrange the letters:
CASH LOST IN ME
- **ANIMOSITY**
When you rearrange the letters:
IS NO AMITY
- **ELECTION RESULTS**
When you rearrange the letters:
LIES -- LET'S RECOUNT
- **SNOOZE ALARMS**
When you rearrange the letters:
ALAS! NO MORE Z'S
- **A DECIMAL POINT**
When you rearrange the letters:
IM A DOT IN PLACE
- **THE EARTHQUAKES**
When you rearrange the letters:
THAT QUEER SHAKE
- **ELEVEN PLUS TWO**
When you rearrange the letters:
TWELVE PLUS ONE

TYPOGLYCEMIA

Believe it or not, you can read it
I cduoht blveiee taht I cluod aulacly
uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg The
phaonmneal pweor of the hmuon mnd
Aoccdrnig to rscheearch taem at Cmabrigde
Unervtisy, it deosn't mttaer in waht oredr
the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt
tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in
the rghit plcae. The rset can be a taotl
msee and you can sitll raed it wouthit
a porbelm. Tihis is bcuseae the huamn
mnd deos not raed ervey lteter by
istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Such
a cdonition is arppoiatly claed
Typoglycemia:)

Amzanig huh? Yach and yuo awlyas
thought spleling was ipmorant.



Cape Chamber News



Callie de Wet
Managing Director of Paarl
Print

Paarl Print 1905 - 2005

The PIFSA Cape Chamber wishes to congratulate Paarl Print and Paarl Post on reaching their centenary year. This achievement bears testimony to the dedication of people over many generations to ensure the current and future success of the business.

Paarl Post

Die Afrikaanse Patriot newspaper was founded in 1876, but for Paarl Media Group, it all started a few years after electricity was first introduced to

Paarl in 1893 at the Patriot Building in Main Road. Die Afrikaanse Patriot newspaper was discontinued in December 1904 and on 14 January 1905, the first issue of the non-political bilingual Paarl Post newspaper was published.

The company was housed in the Patriot Building and moved to Lady Grey Street in 1923. In July 1932 the late Nico Retief accepted a position as accountant, company secretary and sports editor of the Paarl Post with Paarl Printing, which was then owned by Dr AL de Jager. Six years later the company had changed hands and passed into the ownership of the Retief family. The directors were Nico Retief, his father Niklaas and Roelof Malherbe, who was in charge of the newspaper.

Paarl Print and Paarl Web

By 1953 the company had outgrown its premises and moved to Upper New Street (the present Patriot Square Centre). Paarl Post was published here for nearly 30 years. Nico Retief's sons Nicol (1966) and Lambert (1978) later joined the company. At the end of 1981, Paarl Printing moved to a building on the eastern side of Jan van Riebeeck Drive. By 1988, it was decided that the newspaper should operate as a separate entity.

Nicol Retief and Lambert Retief became managing directors respectively of Paarl Printing, specialising in commercial printing, and Paarl Post, specialising in newspaper web printing and publisher of the Paarl Post newspaper. With the move of the newspaper staff and the web printing operation to its own building across the road in May 1988, Paarl Post had established its own separate identity. Again by 1992, the building erected in 1988 had become too small and the WPK building adjoining Paarl Printing was purchased. On 1 July 1993, the operations in the WPK building branched off from Paarl Post into a separate company, Paarl Post Web Printers, which today is Paarl Web. The newspaper section was dubbed Paarl Post Media in January 1995 when Nasionale Media obtained a 50% share of the business. The Retiefs retained management control.

Paarl Printing, today known as Paarl Print, moved to its current premises in Daljosafat in 1995. The Group acquired National Book Printers (NBP) in 2001, which was

incorporated into Paarl Print. Callie de Wet joined Paarl Print as Managing Director in 1997 shortly after the business exploded in 1993 with the introduction of Paarl Web. Callie is extremely proud of the tremendous investments their shareholders have made, especially over the past four years, in purchasing new presses and in upgrading their equipment. He believes that the company can be proud of its special people and their special relationships with clients. To Callie every day is a challenge to improve standards and he believes that Paarl Print will continue to meet these challenges over the next hundred years.

Printing Craftsmen Association News

Following another extremely successful Printers' Dinner held at the Grand West Casino on 26 August 2005, the Printing Craftsmen were able to donate handsomely to a number of their chosen charities. One such charity organisation was Autism Western Cape. At a recent Craftsmen's meeting Klaus Borgelt, the Honorary President of the Association, handed over a cheque to the value of R 40 000 to Dudley Flugel of Nedbank and representative of Autism Western Cape.



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YMP News

The YMP Charity Golf Day was held at De Zalze Winelands Golf Estate on Thursday 8 September 2005. The 136 players were treated to glorious spring weather and what must be one of the Cape's finest new Golf courses. The winners of the four ball alliance competition were Greg Glasby, David Glasby, Allan Mills and Gavin Gorman. Our special celebrity guest and Director of Autism Western Cape Ferdinand Rabie and Lydia Davids presented the Nampak Carton & Labels (Printpack Cape) floating trophy to the winners represented by Greg and David Glasby.

Pictured below, Steve Bailey of Geotek Engineering Solutions presents Lambert Retief, Executive Chairman of the Paarl Media Group, with a special YMP award for his outstanding achievements and contributions made to the Printing Industry. The day would not have been such a success should it not have been for the generosity of our many sponsors - below. The proceeds of the golf day were for the benefit of Autism Western Cape.



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Techno Chat Legal Deposit Act No. 54 of 1997

Printers may face additional costly administrative responsibilities.

This Act, which came into operation in July 1998, provides that publishers of "published documents" must supply, at their own cost, copies of such published documents to the five legal deposit libraries in South Africa. Most of the formal publishers are complying with this Act, but a large number of publications are not being supplied for various reasons, even though the Act makes provision for a fine not exceeding R20 000.

The Legal Deposit Committee, being concerned about the amount of material subject to legal deposit, which was not being received by legal deposit libraries, had proposed in 2004 that printers should also deposit copies, as this system worked well in other countries such as France.

In July 2004 PIFSA had made a written submission to the Legal Deposit Committee and had requested a meeting with them to clarify the intent of this proposal and to explain the definition and intended purpose of "published documents". Several exchanges of emails took place, but nothing was achieved. In September 2005 we finally met with the National Librarian John Tsebe and the newly appointed legal

deposit manager Alice Ramohlola, explaining the administrative difficulties and costs printers would face if they were to be included in the Act. I was invited to take part in a legal deposit workshop and to make representation to the legal deposit committee at their meeting in Pietermaritzburg at the end of September, where I explained the nature and size of our industry, highlighting the difficulty our industry would have in complying with the Act, as many printers had a very limited administrative capacity and such additional responsibilities would certainly add cost. Another difficulty printers may have, would be identifying the "owner" or publisher of materials they are requested to print, as orders often come through advertising agencies, designers, agents, brokers etc. and these materials do not actually belong to the printers.

It became very clear that no one within the library system had a good understanding of the possible implications if the definitions of the Act were taken literally, as legal deposit libraries would then be swamped with thousands of publications daily. In the Act definitions, "published" means "produced to be generally available in

multiple copies or locations to:- a) any member of the public, whether through purchase, hire, loan, subscription, licence or free distribution or b) the members of an association or a society, the membership of which is open to any qualifying member of the public." and "Document" means "any object which is intended to store or convey information in textual, graphic, visual, auditory or other intelligible format". This could mean literally anything produced by a printer, could be interpreted as a "published document" although presently the application of the Act is accepted by the librarians to be limited to books, magazines, newspapers, annual reports, certain posters, academic-, economic-, research or technical reports, some theses and dissertations.

I stressed the fact that these definitions had to be clearly defined in the Act and made the committee aware of the implications for our industry, if the Act were applied to us. The National Library and Legal Deposit Committee undertook to keep us informed of developments and to afford us the opportunity to provide input into the final draft recommendations to change the Act.

PrintSecure

PrintSecure is an accreditation body for the security printing sector under the auspices of the Printing Industries Federation of South Africa (PIFSA)

The Printing Industries Federation of South Africa is a Section 21 company and trade organisation representing printing companies within Southern Africa.

PrintSecure held its first consultative workshop on the 22 September 2005 at the Cross Media Training Centre in Honeydew. Erich Kühl, the Commercial and Technical Director of Printing Industries Federation of South Africa (PIFSA), explained the need for the establishment of security printing standards in our country to combat

fraud and counterfeiting. At present PIRA estimate that fraud and counterfeit account for almost 10 per cent of world trade, approximately US\$ 600 billion. Most of these proceeds are used to fund other illegal activities and terrorism.

Participants reflected a good cross section of the security chain from security material producers to government and educational manufacturers and users of security products; printers; distributors and enforcement agencies. The feedback from the floor was positive with at least fifteen people volunteering for the Steering Committee, which will address the rules, the standards required by end users, tier structures, fees, and the promotion of the scheme. The Steering Committee currently represents government

printing, suppliers, SAP document forensics, printers, distributors and the educational sector.

Co-operation from all sectors in the chain is essential to achieve and control security standards. It is important that end users are involved in the process from the beginning, that suppliers and printers of security products are properly accredited to minimise the chances of fraud and that constant monitoring takes place.

Anyone interested in taking part in this initiative is invited to contact Erich Kühl or Louise Moralee at Pifsa Head Office at the following:

Tel: +27 11 699 3000,

Fax: +27 11 699 3010

or via email at ekuhl@pifsa.org or lmoralee@pifsa.org



Profile

Louise Moralee



Johannesburg, 1951, Saunders, convent girl, matriculated in 1968, then Finnegan, and from 1991 Moralee. Always been Louise though.

When people ask what I do, my usual truthful answer is "Jack of all Trades". I can do a little (or a lot) of most everything, getting closer to master of somethings.

I started work in 1969 but my career in print began in 1976 when I joined Kearthland Press as a temporary costing NCR operator (big machine, part typewriter and part calculator, went from side to side, made a lot of noise, used before computers were available). Fortunately they decided to offer me a permanent position in

the accounts department and then in sales. The inhouse technical training I received at Kearthlands has stood me in good stead throughout my career. Nothing better than serving time in each department. After a period of about 4 years with Kearthlands, one of our estimators commented "Four years now my girl – you will be in the printing industry for life". Elaine Downard was not wrong – 25 years later and print still dominates my daily life.

My experience at Kearthlands, Golden Era, Cleggs and CTP Packaging was mainly in folding cartons, labels and point of sale products. I have moved through the departments from sales, administration, accounting, estimating to management. Each company I have worked for gave me the opportunity to develop my skills and for that I thank them all.

Since I joined the Printing Industries Federation of South Africa nine years ago in the Commercial and Technical Division, I have added other printing processes to my knowledge database along with some pre-press expertise, which enables me to create and produce

"Impressions" PIFSA's national newsletter. I enjoy learning and problem solving, which helps me in giving assistance and advice to many of our members.

My other interests also fall under the "Jack" category, from art, music, poetry, literature down to nature and SciFi. In 2000, I undertook a part time evening course for a year with ETG (Environmental Training Group) and am now an accredited FGASA (Field Guides Association of South Africa) and THETA Level 1 field guide with my main areas of interest being plants, insects and spiders. I do not get the chance to do much guiding so am constantly practicing on my colleagues. (OK, OK stop with the botany lessons now).

In 1991 I married Athol Moralee, who has been in print even longer than I have, after a long, long, ten year courtship. We met at Kearthlands – as I said printing dominates my daily life (granddaughter Hillary a close second). I am lucky that Athol and I share a common love of nature, and that we at least understand our "print tech" jargon even if his passion for poetry non-existent.



From the Desk of Nick Delpont Managing Director of Cross Media Training Centre

It is hard to believe that this is the last Printalk article for 2005.

Our training programme for the year has been quite a challenge. We have overcome many of these challenges and can report that the academic year was a resounding success. Our full time students have performed exceedingly well both in and out of lectures. We encourage our industry to take these young people on into their organisations. They will not disappoint you.

We are proud to be one of the few industries in this country which can boast of a large group of individuals ready to embark on a career in this industry after being put through their paces at a first-class industry facility. This year was also a landmark year for our first group of Management students who have completed their third phase of Management Training. It has been noteworthy to see that the majority of these students were full-time students at the College at some time in the past and that they have really developed well in this industry.

We continue to enjoy valuable industry support, both from

member printing and packaging companies and from suppliers to the industry. Your commitment to training has assisted many young individuals in realising their dreams and has given them the tools to embark on a career in print.

The Cross Media Training Centre Cape Town branch in Montague Gardens has developed very well and is now offering full-time training in Electronic Origination, all Technical Theoretical Modules and a wide range of short courses.

Readers are welcome to visit our website at www.crossmedia.co.za for dates and prices of our courses especially the Technical Theoretical Modules which have extended dates for 2006 (see also the September and October issues of Printalk).

Many readers of Graphix are still not aware of our Conference Centre at the Honeydew Campus. This year has again seen many successful conferences being held on this site and has assisted us in offering training at affordable prices.

Companies are welcome to

From the Editors Desk

Years ago there was a memorable advertising campaign in the USA for Virginia Slims cigarettes which had a headline "You've come a long way baby". It is your Editors hope that this is how PIFSA members feel about the communication between the organisation and the membership thanks to Printalk.

We set out to make it a vehicle that not only informed all about what's going on in the industry but also to contribute to the greater knowledge and empowerment of industry members and their associates.

We would love to hear from you as to how you feel about Printalk. What additional information would you like to be included to ensure that Printalk is the most valuable tool to you as members of PIFSA, as businesses associated with the print industry.

Over the months we have written about the many values of print. How else can we help you uplift your business, uplift those around

you, uphold the status and the standing of print...the original Information Technology?

As we close this the first chapter of Printalk, we look to the future. 2006 is upon us. We see more of the same for Printalk. And more than that is up to your needs. Communicate them to us at graleen@icon.co.za.

As your Editor I cannot close 2005 without thanking the many contributors to the various editions to date. From the President and CEO, through the Chamber Directors, Technical Directors and College Directors, I am most grateful for their diligence. And finally to my right hand the man who has the pressure of putting it all together when it is here...none other than Chris Mason. He has been a tower of strength and always positive no matter the circumstances. "Thank you all for your involvement". In closing, may you and yours enjoy a blessed festive season, and may 2006 be among the best ever.

contact us to discuss their next function, launch or even a team building get-together. We will gladly tailor-make your event to meet your needs.

Finally I wish all our dedicated readers and supporters a blessed

Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

May 2006 continue to be a great year for Skills Development in our industry.



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