



## MEDIA RELEASE

### WasteCon 2016 to unveil newly 'changed face' of waste management

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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*Waste-wise organisations cannot afford to miss out on Africa's largest and most prestigious waste management conference - WasteCon 2016. As the Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa's (IWMSA) flagship biennial conference, it will set the stage for insightful debate and idea sharing between like-minded individuals within Africa's waste sector and work towards improving waste management on the continent.*

"The IWMSA's 23<sup>rd</sup> biennial conference is one of the most important events on southern Africa's environmental calendar for the year," says Jonathan Shamrock, Chairman of the WasteCon 2016 Organising Committee. This year's theme, 'The Changing Face of Waste Management' will highlight the recent waste management policy and legislative changes in South Africa where delegates can look forward to a fantastic line-up of speakers. The event will take place from 17 to 21 October 2016 at Emperors Palace, Johannesburg.

Some of the esteemed speakers and their riveting topics include: Managing Director of WastePlan, Bertie Lourens will conduct the plenary address on the economic future of employees in the waste management industry; and Western Cape Industrial Symbiosis Programme Manager at GreenCape, Sarah O'Carroll will unpack the role of Industrial Symbiosis in South Africa.

"This year's conference will have three main parallel sessions that will cover the streams of recycling, waste management and landfill engineering. Special focus will be on municipal waste management, recycling and alternatives to landfilling," says Shamrock. WasteCon 2016 will offer delegates an e-waste workshop, a landfill capping and rehabilitation workshop as well as a special workshop hosted by the Department of Environmental Affairs on industry waste management plans.

"Changes in legislation emphasise the need to divert waste away from landfill sites and opens the door for new innovative waste solutions. Waste-to-Energy technology is currently getting a lot of attention as an alternative to landfill and will be a definite talking point at the conference," says Shamrock. "The conference should also shed some light on the environmental and economic viability of this technology."

'Closing the loop' of product lifecycles through implementing greater recycling and re-usable waste initiatives will be beneficial from both an environmental and the economic perspective, adds

Shamrock. The role of waste in the circular economy, cleaner production and industrial re-use waste programmes will also be highlighted at this year's event.

Other interesting topics that will be discussed at the conference include: the risks of health care waste; the integration of waste management plans; innovative waste collection and transport systems; and innovations in leachate treatment, to name a few.

The conference will provide an invaluable opportunity for exhibitors to showcase their brands to public, educational and governmental delegates. The social programme will also allow networking with other key players and provide the opportunity to discuss the latest industry developments and trends from both South Africa and abroad.

“As the premier waste management conference in southern Africa, WasteCon attracts the most influential and active companies in the field,” says Shamrock. “WasteCon 2016 is not to be missed as it provides a good focus point for exhibitors and delegates to meet and interact with key players in the waste management industry.”

For more information about WasteCon2016 and to register, please visit [www.wastecon.co.za](http://www.wastecon.co.za). To view the provisional programme, please [click here](#).

For more information about the IWMSA, visit [www.iwmsa.co.za](http://www.iwmsa.co.za). IWMSA is also on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/iwmsa](http://www.facebook.com/iwmsa)) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/IWMSA>).

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Released by Reputation Matters  
Media contact:  
Winet Fourie  
Mobile Number: 081 412 5680  
[winet@reputationmatters.co.za](mailto:winet@reputationmatters.co.za)