

Wednesday, 18 March 2015

**MEIBC CIRCULAR**

We refer to NEASA Industry Alert circular dated the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 and titled “*Metal Industry Crunch Time*”

In this circular NEASA made unsubstantiated and unfounded allegations against both the Council and the General Secretary. The MEIBC legal representatives on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015 wrote a letter to the NEASA legal representatives that NEASA provide relevant details and evidence to support these false allegations or retract those statements. On the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015 NEASA legal representatives advised that they will not retract those statements or issue an apology. In addition NEASA failed to substantiate the allegations made in their circular.

These are some of the unfounded allegations that were made in the circular:

- a. *“ The MEIBC has no regard for legal-constitutional and governance requirements”*
- b. *“.....legal and constitutional compliance is becoming dangerous task in the MEIBC as there are forces at work that protects the status-quo, an environment that suits them but severely prejudices SMME’s”*
- c. *“Challenging this illegal and unconstitutional conduct, insisting on transparency from the general secretary has become a dangerous task. NEASA’s insistence on the rectification of these issues has led to the MEIBC’s appointing guards, armed with automatic assault rifles at the last meeting of the MEIBC’s management committee”*
- d. *“This actions by the MEIBC creates the impression that anyone who challenges illegalities will be eliminated or what would be the purpose of an automatic assault rifle at a meeting?”*
- e. *“at what stage will Nazi-style tactics be used to remove delegates”*

We consider these allegations to have NO substance and are ill motivated.

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NEASA is determined to create confusion and a culture of uncertainty in the industry. These misleading and false allegations are designed to harness support against the Council and the General Secretary. Such false allegations are in essence sensationalising events to destabilise and create mistrust within the industry.

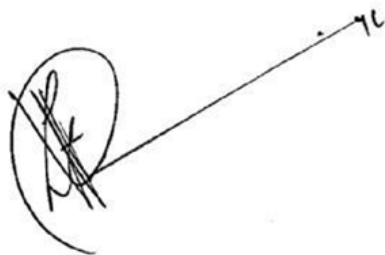
In NEASA Industry Alert circular dated the 7th October 2014 and titled “Open *letter to SEIFSA leadership*” disclosed its motives clearly:

*“The MEIBC stands in the way of everything that is important for this Industry. It might service the interest of a particular employer or group of employers and of cause radical trade unions , and especially those with socialist agenda, but not the interest of employers and the Industry as a whole, and therefore not the interest of South Africa”*

The Council and the General Secretary is committed to create a culture of normality and mutual respect and understanding between the parties. As a Council we are determined to ensure that a culture is created where parties engage in a respectful and open environment. We encourage all parties to refrain from personal attacks and making irresponsible public statements which are harmful to stability of the Council and the Industry.

We respect NEASA as a party to the Council and request them to act responsible. We however cannot support any motive to destroy or destabilize the Council.

We call on all the parties and the Industry as a whole to drop their guards and utilise the processes within the Council to find solutions to the challenges presented.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'T' followed by a surname, all enclosed within a circular scribble. A long, thin line extends from the right side of the signature towards the top right of the page.

Thulani Mthiyane  
**General Secretary**