



1ST Announcement and Call for Papers

East London
Mpekweni Beach Resort
04 - 06 November 2009

The Rapid Product Development Association Of South Africa (RAPDASA)

Proudly Announces its 10th Annual International Conference

On Innovative Rapid Product Development

presented by [Walter Sisulu University](#)

Endorsed by GARPA
(Global Alliance of Rapid Prototyping Association)



Rapid prototyping, Rapid manufacturing and associated technology is advancing at an impressive pace in South Africa. This can be attributed to the affordability of these machines particularly 3D printers as well as the role played by Rapid Product Development Association of South Africa (founded in November 2000 at its first RAPDASA conference).

There is a general increase in the machines ownership by industry when compared to acquisitions by academic institutions. This trend is an encouraging indicator which shows that industry is steadily buying into the use of these technologies. It is noted as well that the 3D printer sales continue to show steady increase when compared to other machines.

Another contributing factor is South Africa's national R&D strategy, which attempts to draw SMME's (small, medium, and micro enterprises) into the country's innovative network.

RAPDASA represents important academic and industrial organizations, and strives to bring Additive Fabrication (AF) industry together in a collaborative network. The primary focus at this year's conference will be "The use and impact of Rapid prototyping and Rapid manufacturing in the innovation chain."

Keynote presentations will be given by leading international and national experts in the field of Additive Fabrication and Rapid Manufacturing.

The following areas could serve as guidelines for topics:

- | The role of RP in product development
- | Tooling design
- | Architectural applications
- | Medical/Biomedical Modeling
- | Cultural/Craft Industry support

The conference will present an ideal opportunity for industry and academia to interact and exchange valuable information from the theoretical, practical and experimental perspective.



[Walter Sisulu University](#) is strategically located within the Eastern Cape, WSU campuses traddles a vast spectrum of the urban and rural divide of the region. The Mechanical Engineering department staff members are active participants in the RAPDASA activities.

Presentations are invited from industry and other institutions that are involved in product development activities.

RAPDASA 2009 is intended to be a research and product development conference that will be arranged as from 04th to 06th November 2009. Delegates are all welcomed to attend the entire conference.

Who should attend

The organizing Committee, on behalf of RAPDASA, invites participants from the international product development communities and academia, as well as national R&D and educational institutions, product designers, toolmakers and manufacturers, technical directors, managers from industry involved in the design and manufacturing of products and components to attend the conference.

Submissions

Authors are invited to submit 250 word abstracts by e-mail in English to the [Secretariat](#) including full names, contact details, and topic by 14 August 2009. Details for final papers will be forwarded to authors.

Registration Fees

A full conference package (including accommodation at Mpekweni Beach Resort) is available @ R 5800 and is payable by 30 September 2009 (includes full conference participation, proceedings, lunches and refreshments, reception and conference dinners and transfers to and from the venue)

Important dates

Submission of abstracts : 14 August 2009.

Abstract acceptance notification : 31 August 2009

Submission of camera ready papers : 30 September 2009.

Registration Deadline : 16 October 2009.

Venue

Mpekweni Beach Resort , the resort is situated in the heart of the Sunshine Coast on the R72 coastal road 90 km from East London airport.

Organising Committee

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[T.Matross](#)
[K.Newey](#)
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Registration Form



About [Mpekweni Beach Resort](#):

The resort is situated in the heart of the Sunshine Coast on the R72 coastal road 90 km from East London airport. The resort is on the waters edge and is surrounded by white sand dunes, an endless unspoilt secluded beach and tranquil lagoon, offering the perfect beach resort getaway.

Mpekweni Beach Resort is mere 4-minute drive away from a Gary Player designed 18-hole golf course and is nestled between numerous privately

owned Game reserves.

Comprehensive information for the tourist, such as accommodation, places of interest, city of East London maps and brochures is available at [Eastern Cape tourism Board Office](#), Corner Longfellow & Fitzpatrick Road, Quingney.

Tel : +27 43 701 9600
email : info@ectourism.co.za
Website : www.ectourism.co.za



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