

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Surcotec showcases its thermal spray capabilities at CorriSA Mini Expo

The CorriSA Mini Expo held in Cape Town on 21 September 2017 presented the ideal platform for Surcotec to showcase its thermal spray coating capabilities to Western Cape industries.

This was the first time that Surcotec has exhibited (figure 1), at CorriSA (Corrosion Institute of South Africa) and Sales and Marketing Manager of Surcotec, Ian Walsh, labels their participation a success. "Most of the approximately 20 exhibitors who participated in the Expo were from painting-type companies located in Cape Town. Surcotec, along with one of our suppliers, were the only thermal spray companies to exhibit," says Walsh adding that they were pleased to see that the Thermal Spray Association of Southern Africa was present.

"While visitors were mainly from companies and departments that historically would use the painting option of corrosion control, we generated eight solid leads from the petrochemical, power generation and general engineering sectors as well as local government."

SURCOTEC (PTY) Ltd

T +27 (21) 959 8217  
F +27 (86) 767 2374  
www.surcotec.co.za



Physical Address:  
c/o Kasselsvlei & Peter Barlow  
Drive, Bellville South, Cape Town  
South Africa

Postal Address:  
PO Box 456, Kasselsvlei, 7533,  
Cape Town, South Africa

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*Figure 1: Surcotec stand at the CorriSA Expo*

Surcotec, in partnership with Thermaspray, offers a range of high quality thermal spray coating solutions that serve as corrosion preventative measures, providing long-term protection that extend equipment lifespan and reduce total life cost.

Corrosion and the accompanying cost implications present a massive headache for coastal-based industries and the marine industry is certainly no exception. Walsh explains that many components installed on ships such as power plants, pumping systems and environment control systems are designed for optimum performance in a land-based environment. “The harsh environment experienced at sea often puts these systems outside their designed capabilities, reducing lifespan.”

The application of specialised coatings presents an extremely cost-effective solution; by providing a protective barrier to the corrosive attack these coatings help to extend the lifespan of equipment, parts and components.

The range of coating technologies applied by Surcotec to protect parts against corrosion include thermal spraying, Plasma, HVOF (High Velocity Oxy-Fuel) and Arc Wire Spraying (figure 2).



*Figure 2: Arc Wire Spraying*

Thermal spray coating technology is an effective corrosion preventative measure that provides long-term protection against corrosion on coastal infrastructures such as port facilities, bridges, pipelines, and highways.

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Plasma offers a full range of ceramic coatings including hard wearing, insulation type and chemical attack-preventative coatings, which are used extensively as a corrosion barrier. HVOF applications are used on critical valve and wear parts while arc sprayed coatings are recommended as the optimum repair solution for worn parts.

While these coatings are effectively applied by Surcotec to protect new parts Walsh explains that most of the work comprises repairs to worn components such as shafts, impellers, volutes (pumps), spindles, gates, balls, casings and seats (valves), cylinder heads, pistons, water jackets, governor parts, fuel pump, turbo parts (engines), tail shafts, bow thruster parts (propulsion) as well as hydraulic motors and rods.

Walsh firmly believes that Surcotec as the oldest established thermal spray coating company in the Western Cape, should continue to support these types of Expo's. "The networking that took place amongst the exhibitors at CorriSA was most useful and I have already received enquiries for arc spraying as a direct result of our participation."

The Expo is hosted by the Corrosion Institute of South Africa (CorriSA) which serves a broad spectrum of stakeholders with an interest in controlling the impact of corrosion on asset lifecycles, productivity and human life.

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