

RPMASA Reprocessor Membership Status



Following the agreed change of name from RCMASA to RPMASA in May 2009, the Board advised to :

- improve members commitment,
- save admin time chasing monthly members for payment ,
- ensure that members remain in good Standing with the Association as required under the Procedures and Functions and for voting on any issue, and
- stop freeloaders abusing the Association name and logo!

That **Membership certificates would be issued Annually to members in good standing only**, and that the Certificates would state membership status in order to encourage compliance with

- the RPMASA Guiding Principles
- the RPMASA Codes of Practice and
- UN, IMDG and National Regulations

to give users of re-used packaging confidence in the capability and compliance of their service provider to produce safe packaging for re-use with chemical or non chemical products.

All members were notified of this and issued with a new Certificate showing the new RPMASA logo, membership number and membership status re Audit and compliance status in May 2009 stating valid till annual renewal date.

The levels of membership for Reprocessors and Reconditioners of drum and IBC are clearly stated on the Certificates as

Member – not yet Audited

Member – Audited, refer Audit report, and

Member – Audited and compliant

Suspended member – not in good standing or other non compliance

Members who are Audited by a registered Auditor, using the RPMASA Assessment and Audit Protocol AND found to be compliant for specific categories of packaging, will be entitled to be registered and issued with a “unique” identification to apply to each unit of that packaging reprocessed, as required by the UN Model Regulations and IMDG. This unique mark for the reprocessor, includes the letters R & L denoting reconditioned and leakproof tested, year of reconditioning, and number of times reconditioned.

NB All Members are issued with a Members Manual of Key Elements, Guidelines, Management Checklists and Codes of International Best Practice to assist them run their business in a professional and compliant manner.

SANS 10406 – reprocessing of previously certified packaging was first published and launched by the Dept of Transport and the SABS in May 2004, to assist reprocessors and reconditioners comply with UN and National packaging requirements for safe transport of dangerous goods in re-used packaging.

Site visits and Regional workshops have included explanation and information on compliance to raise awareness of service providers and users since the 2004 launch.

RPMASA Training courses have been made available since 2007 in the regions to help build capacity **NB** only drums and IBC’s bearing these registered marks are legal for shipping under the UN Model Regulations and IMDG codes. Participants who pass the training and have sufficient audit hours are entitled to apply for Auditor registration with the RPMASA and with SAATCA in terms of SAATCA Scheme CRT 6.6 for Auditors of reprocessors of previously certified packaging.

Reprocessors are encouraged to be audited to establish their baseline and complete their improvement plan to become compliant so they can register to be issued with their mark to apply to each unit reprocessed drums and IBC’s for legal re-use with chemicals.

Users are encouraged to assist their service providers to become compliant as used drums and IBC’s are a resource too good to waste which can be re-used safely several times if correctly reprocessed in compliance with the RPMASA Codes of Best Practice and SANS 10406.

RPMASA Board
May 2010