

2005-11-17

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Peter Smith

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1. 1. Cost of range inspections

The industry is happy that there has been a reduction in costs (now looking like R3500), now that the SABS has taken over the inspections directly. They have 4 people employed for range inspections.

A previous impact assessment indicated that the service fee of doing inspections should be set at R4400. The firearms industry (within SABS) has been subsidised by other industries in the past. The total cost of maintaining the service for 550 ranges is R1.8M, giving R3273 per range.

Industry requested the SABS to optimise their efficiency, specifically with regard to travelling to other centres, thus saving costs and reducing the service fee for range inspections.

The SABS advised that inspections are scheduled, and the SABS has a fixed travelling budget. They proposed that a schedule be set up and industry advised when specific areas are to be visited.

The SABS will advise shooting ranges well in advance of their certification expiry, and schedule areas accordingly.

The SABS undertook not to de-register any range simply because their certificate has expired where the range has paid its dues for annual inspection and where the inspection has not yet been done.

2. 2. A standardized Checklist will be made available to the range before inspection.

SABS has compiled a checklist that will be supplied to the working group for comment before finalisation and publication.

3. 3. A communication channel to discuss concerns and problems in a positive, constructive and developmental manner.

The SABS welcomes complaints – in writing, as necessary, such as when inspectors require things more onerous than the compulsory specification

requires. The SABS can only react to written complaints directed to Simon Odendaal at the contact details above.

General queries can be directed to Danie van den Berg, as has been the case so far.

The meeting agreed to continue with regular work sessions / forums on a quarterly or trimester basis. Other official institutions, like the SAPS, would be included. This would not exclude any individual contacts with SABS.

4. 4. Range requirements for other ranges (shooting sports) that do not provide training.

A proposal was made to process these ranges in an appropriate way, such as a registration period followed by a compliance period.

Simon Odendaal expressed concern that police officers were shutting down ranges that are not covered by the FCA (ie those not used for training).

What is a shooting range? The SABS proposed to draft a definition of a shooting range.