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technicians, also conducted us on the tour where we were informed about the water treatment process, the use of analytical instrumentation, the various sources of raw water and the role of the Wiggins Waterworks in the KZN region. Raw water is gravitated from Inanda Dam and during periods of peak demand is also pumped from Nagel Dam. At the Wiggins Waterworks the raw water is treated to potable before being supplied to the EThekweni Municipality.

After the site walk the group was taken to the control room which houses a scada system that communicates with the various PLCs distributed throughout the plant; the visit was then concluded with a discussion of the

challenges faced by Umgeni Water going forward. The SAIMC committee would like to thank Sean Bouverie and Umgeni Water management for facilitating this interesting tour.

## **SCHNEIDER SPONSORS TEKMATIION TRAINING**

Schneider Electric has come out in support of an initiative undertaken by TEKmation to provide P1 and P2 training to students at its Jacobs campus in Durban. The PLCs and equipment donated by Schneider will be installed on campus and used to supplement the students' theoretical tutoring with practical experience. The initiative is being undertaken in partnership with DUT and industry as part

of an effort to grow the local process automation skills base.

## **RICHARDS BAY**

Thunis Kruger, development director at DesSoft gave an interesting presentation in both Durban and Richards Bay on the necessity of plant documentation (company standards, reducing plant downtime, etc.) as well as maintaining plant documents (redlining, ownership). Thunis explained how software, locally developed within the company, simplifies the process of getting from P&ID data into electrical and instrumentation systems making it an integrated solution. 🔄

Vinesh Maharaj, Chairman.