

# PARAGON ANGOLA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS IN JANUARY

8 Jan Doug Innes

## WELCOME TO PARAGON ANGOLA

### AN EXCITING OUTLOOK FOR 2009

Happy New Year from all the team at Paragon Angola – Luanda. In 2009 Paragon Angola is planning further significant growth to the operations here in Luanda and plans are already in place to recruit additional personnel and upgrade our infrastructure.

Securing work from a wider range of clients and projects is one of the key objectives for the Paragon Angola office and discussions are in place to ensure there is a sustainable workload to allow the operation to continue to grow.



### SPOTLIGHT

Each month the Paragon Angola newsletter will spotlight one of our employees. This month we spoke with Manuel Dambi one of our Piping Design Team trainees.

**Name:** Manuel Dambi  
**Job Description:** Piping Designer  
**Nationality:** Angolan  
**Qualifications:** National Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (South Africa)

**How long have you worked at Paragon Angola?**  
*6 months.*

#### Describe a typical working day in Luanda

I am involved in helping the team with mechanical equipment design and all of the related engineering calculations. I am also learning about the oil and gas industry overall.

Our mornings are spent in the classroom learning about the multi-disciplined parts of a typical 'brownfield' project.

#### What is the biggest challenge of working in Luanda?

The biggest challenge of working in Angola is the traffic, no doubt!!

#### What do you most enjoy about working at Paragon Angola?



I really enjoy working in the oil and gas industry with experienced engineers and designers of different cultures.

#### What are your hopes for the future?

I would like to continue my studies in Mechanical Engineering and make a brilliant career for myself within Paragon Angola.



**TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Basic training courses for engineering and design trainees have now been completed as an introduction to design in the Oil and Gas Industry. The training will now focus on more advanced aspects of design and will be specifically tailored to individual disciplines.

Plans are in place for Paragon Angola trainees to visit a local refinery to allow them to see at first hand how a live plant operates. In addition input to the training schedule will be provided by our Construction Manager on constructability issues related to design.

Annual Personnel Development Reviews (PDRs) are being conducted for all Paragon Angola expatriate and Angolan personnel with a target to have these completed by the end of January. In addition to reviewing performance in 2008, the PDRs will set all staff challenging objectives for 2009.



Sherif Waly, Manager for Safety and Human Factors with AMEC Paragon visited Paragon Angola and gave a presentation on AMECs safety initiative entitled 'The Six Safety Essentials'. This outlined AMECs commitment to safety in the work environment and laid out the framework enabling us to achieve our goals in the coming year in a safe and professional manner.

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*"Everyone is a leader in safety"*



**Follow the Rules**

**Safety procedures are designed to stop you from getting hurt**

**Ignoring them is unacceptable**

**If a procedure is unclear or unworkable, then you must inform the necessary personnel**

**Are our rules and procedures communicated well?**

**What encourages people to respect workplace rules?**

**Can you think of any examples of rules which could be unclear or confusing?**

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Hardware has arrived in Luanda to allow the computer server to be upgraded and a further twelve engineering and PDMS workstations to be installed in the office. IT support technicians will mobilise in January to install this equipment. Once installed Paragon Angola will retain an IT technician to support the operation on a permanent basis and will recruit an Angolan IT trainee.



*John Davies—AMEC IT Technician working in Luanda to bring the Paragon Angola computer systems in line with current Global IT specifications.*

Paragon Angola have taken additional space within the Prodoil Offices on Ilha de Luanda to support arrival of additional personnel and these areas are presently being furnished.

Approval has been received to enhance security access systems within the Paragon Angola security offices. This will include the

installation of a Security pass operated turnstile and biometric door entry systems. Safety in the office will be further enhanced by the installation of emergency exit doors and proposals are to be reviewed for the installation of escape lighting and fire alarm systems.

**COMMUNITY**

A number of initiatives for involvement with the Angolan community in Luanda are under consideration for 2009.

Sports equipment will be donated to the primary school adjacent to the office when the new term starts in February.



*Paragon Angola donated beds to the Padre Oracio orphanage on 20th August 2008.*



*Ongoing throughout 2008 were visits for our trainees to offshore and onshore facilities.*



*Dr Suresh Khator of the University of Houston and Reitor João Teta, Universidade Agostinho Neto sign the Memorandum of Understanding on 14th November 2008.*

**A Brief Recap of 2008**

As we look to the new challenges brought by a new year let's look back at some of our successes in 2008

**WE ARE ON THE WEB:  
WWW.AMEC.COM**