



*Willingness to be puzzled is a valuable trait to cultivate, from childhood to advanced inquiry*  
- Noam Chomsky

**When considering a puzzle, the first comforting truth that may occur is that puzzles do have solutions.**



As we move from a new normal to the ever perplexing next normal, all the pieces of life's puzzle are scattered like a kaleidoscope of colours. As curious thinkers, seeking out intrigue and solutions to our challenges we also recognize another truth as put by Noam Chomsky: "The willingness to be puzzled is a valuable trait to cultivate, from childhood to advanced inquiry".

With a Venn diagram of overlapping puzzle pieces, the **Southern African Institute for Industrial Engineering (SAIIE)**, the **International Council on System Engineering (INCOSE)** and the **Graduate School of Technology Management (GSTM) at the University of Pretoria** are thrilled to invite you to the combined **ISEM2023** conference to cultivate your willingness to be puzzled!

Take up the piece in front of you, and then the next! Find the pattern, connect it, and come share with your fellow puzzlers! Soon, and perhaps surprisingly so, you will find that you become the piece that someone needs. Take up your place, *be the piece*, fill the empty spaces and be part of the solution to the bigger picture!

*We encourage academia and industry, the puzzlers and puzzled* – everyone who is enthusiastic about sharing and learning – to contribute to the conference with a full paper or presentation only track.

We look forward to accepting papers related to industrial engineering, systems engineering & engineering management





**Authors are invited to submit an abstract on one of the following tracks: the full paper track or the abstract-only track.**

Abstracts on the full paper track will require the submission of an abstract that will, if accepted, be followed by the submission of a full paper subject to a peer-review process. Papers that pass the peer review process will be published in the conference proceedings. Conference proceedings are loaded to and indexed on Proceedings.com.

The best papers will be reviewed and published as full journal papers in a special edition of the ISI-listed South African Journal of Industrial Engineering (SAJIE), without further reviewing.

Abstracts on the abstract-only track will require only the submission of an abstract. The abstract-only track has been a proven path for industry to meaningfully engage and share knowledge at the conference, and we strongly encourage practitioners to explore this option.

Accepted abstracts from both tracks will involve either a presentation with a panel discussion session, or authors can also select to only participate in the highly interactive poster session. Papers presented in the discussion session or at the poster session will be eligible to be published in the Conference Proceedings, with the best papers being selected for the special edition of SAJIE.

## IMPORTANT SUBMISSION DATES

Abstract and full submissions open date	1 January 2023
Abstracts for full paper submission track deadline*	24 February 2023
Full paper deadline**	12 June 2023
Final camera-ready papers deadline	21 August 2023
Abstracts for presentation only track deadline	14 August 2023

\*Abstracts should be no more than 150 words and should provide an overview of the full paper that will be submitted.

\*\*Please respect our deadlines as they have an impact on the quality of work that we collectively produce.

**To submit an abstract, please upload using the EasyChair platform:  
For more information email: [conference@saie.co.za](mailto:conference@saie.co.za)**

**EasyChair link:** <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=isem2023>

## ISEM Conference

**Date:** 2-4 October 2023

**Venue:** Lord Charles Hotel,  
Somerset West, South Africa

## ISEM

**International Conference  
on Industrial Engineering,  
Systems Engineering and  
Engineering Management**

