



## SAIMENA (Cape Town Branch)

### SITE VISIT TO VEECRAFT MARINE

On 22 April 2010 a group of SAIMENA members and guests visited the premises of Veecraft Marine at Paarden Island.

Veecraft Marine specialize in the construction of aluminium boats and also construct and repair steel vessels, building for both the local and overseas markets.

Our host Mr Jack Rivers gave us a brief introduction on their company's activities and thereafter we proceeded to the workshop for a short tour. Currently under construction they have two vessels: an aluminium catamaran which will be used for shark cage diving and whale watching in Gansbaai and a yacht which is to operate in Antarctic waters.



Several technical discussions took place regarding the types of welding, cathodic protection, propulsion types and repair methods used in this boatyard. Of particular interest was to see Triclad, an imported product which is used to join steel to aluminium.

It was also explained to us how aluminium sheets are cut to shape using router technology so that the material is not heated and we learned many other interesting details about this unique operation.

After the tour, our group was treated to tea and biscuits in their boardroom, where we also viewed a fantastic collection of photographs of some vessels they had constructed over the past few years.

All in all - a very pleasant visit, many thanks to Veecraft.

