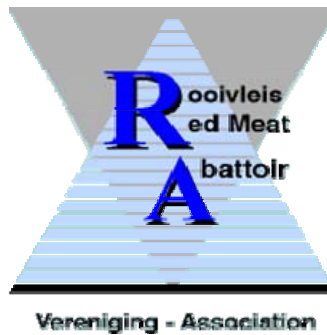


RED MEAT ABATTOIR ASSOCIATION





1. RMAA BACKGROUND

The RMAA (Red Meat Abattoir Association) is a representative forum for abattoir owners in South Africa. The abattoir industry is responsible for the conversion of livestock to meat. This process remains critical to ensure a safe and wholesome product to consumers. The Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act no. 40 of 2000) addresses measures to promote the safety of meat and animal products and to establish and maintain Essential National Standards in respect of abattoirs.

The RMAA is an independent membership-based organisation, which was formed in February 1991. Prior to the deregulation process, the abattoir industry comprised mainly of larger abattoirs with high throughput. The deregulation process accomplished an increase in the number of abattoirs to over 470. Vast numbers of smaller E-grade abattoirs with a low throughput are included in this number. Not only the A grade abattoirs, but also B and C grade abattoirs now contribute significantly to slaughtering in South Africa.

2. MISSION

We serve abattoir owners by:

- providing specialised training and technical support,
- distributing relevant information and
- representing owner's interest

to secure standards of meat safety and quality to the benefit of the red meat industry and the consumer.

3. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Promote meat safety and essential national standards as provided for in the Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act no. 40 of 2000).
- Provide applicable training to ensure the highest standards of animal handling and meat safety and quality.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of hygiene management programs in abattoirs.
- Participate actively in the establishment of the skills development framework in the meat industry.
- Represent the interests of members on forums relating to the abattoir industry.
- Assist in the enhancement of meat hygiene awareness in rural communities.
- Create an environment conducive to the continuing education of abattoir personnel.

Liaise with governmental and private stakeholders in the interest of common goals.

