

## **Nomination for SARL Amateur Radio Hall of Fame: Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP**

### **Brief Biography of Nominee**

Hannes Coetzee ZS6BZP was born in 1965 and licenced in 1981. He works as an RF design and development engineer for a military communications system provider near Pretoria.

### **Nominee's Contribution to Amateur Radio**

Hannes's primary strength is his technical acumen. However, he has not simply pursued his own technical interests, but has published a series of tutorials, construction projects and information bulletins that have benefited other amateurs.

Hannes has been an active member of SA Amsat, regularly presenting papers at their annual conference. His first contributions were to BACAR. He was on the team that developed the amateur payload for Sumbandilasat, specifically working to reconfigure the secondary VHF and UHF telemetry links for use as beacons, or as a simple transponder between amateur bands, or as a parrot-like audio store-and-forward system. The system provided numerous opportunities for South African schools to get involved in satellite technology. Starting in 2011, Hannes has been instrumental in the development of Kletskous, a 1U Cubesat slated to fly late in 2016 or perhaps in 2017. Kletskous is to include a 20 kHz linear transponder for amateur use.

For more than a decade, Hannes has contributed regular weekly propagation bulletins to SARL broadcasts. Hannes's Master's degree dissertation dealt with HF propagation, and he works in the development of professional HF communications and direction finding systems. His depth of insight and access to information stand the amateur community in good stead.

Hannes has published numerous articles, often aimed at introducing the layman to topics in modern communications systems. His articles have appeared in magazines in South Africa (RadioZS), the USA (QST, QEX) and Britain (Practical Wireless) as well as on the Internet.

In the days when South Africa's VHF-only licencees could gain access to HF by several means, there was a strong demand for kits that a relative newcomer could construct to meet the entry requirements. Hannes produced a transceiver for the 7 MHz band that enabled many amateurs to gain access to HF. He also co-designed a binaural transceiver covering 7 and 14 MHz, which again put many South Africans on the HF bands.

Hannes is a trustee of the Southern African Amateur Radio Development Trust. Apart from his activities in supporting the Trust, he was also the public face of the Trust's recent Innovation in Radio initiative. He has also featured on the Amateur Radio in Action programme.

### **Nominee's Other Achievements**

Hannes has a degree in Electronic Engineering and a Master's degree in Space Physics. He is enrolled as a PhD student in HF radio propagation at the University of Pretoria.

## Word Count

419

## Links to Source Material

<http://qrz.com/db/3DA0HC>

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/d1005250>

## Details of Proposer

Chris R. Burger, ZS6EZ.

I am a member of the SARL in good standing since 1979.

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Seconded by Nico van Rensburg ZS6QL.