

## To our Clients

Thank you for your partnership and continued confidence in our services.

We look forward to assisting you in 2026.

*Wishing you a blessed Christmas & prosperous New Year!*

## SHUT DOWN CHECK LIST the importance of safety



As December arrives, many South African businesses prepare for the annual shutdown period. While this break offers employees a much-needed chance to rest and recharge, it is also important to ensure that all safety measures are firmly in place before operations pause for the holidays. With year-end pressures running high, giving attention to safety can help prevent accidents and ensure a smooth start to the new year.

Carrying out a comprehensive safety audit before shutdown is essential, inspecting all areas of the facility to pinpoint potential hazards, such as:

- **Faulty electrical wiring:** frayed wires or overloaded outlets can lead to fires.
- **Blocked emergency exits:** ensure all exits are clear and accessible.
- **Inadequate fire safety measures:** check fire extinguishers and alarms are functional and easily reachable.
- **Unsecured equipment:** ensure machines and tools are stored safely to prevent hazards.

Locking all doors and windows, setting alarms and ensuring that all equipment is turned off or stored properly is a crucial part of preparing for shutdown and can greatly enhance safety.

If your business deals with hazardous materials, special precautions are necessary prior to shutdown. Make sure all hazardous materials are properly labelled, stored in secure containers or disposed of according to regulations.

Creating a checklist and working with a team to thoroughly address safety measures before shutdown is an essential tool that promotes accountability and ensures that nothing is missed.

By conducting a comprehensive safety audit, clearly communicating protocols, securing your premises and addressing hazardous materials you can enjoy the holiday season with the satisfaction that comes from having taken the necessary steps to ensure safety.

<https://www.jcmsafety.com/post/essential-safety-checklist-for-december-shutdown-in-south-africa>

**SAFETECH WILL BE CLOSED**

from  
Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

until  
Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### CONTACT US TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES FOR YOUR BUSINESS:

- Occupational Hygiene Surveys
- EHS Risk Assessments
- Ergonomics Risk Assessments
- EHS Management System Development and Implementation
- Environmental Monitoring
- Identification of EHS Legal Requirements and Compliance Audits
- Internal Auditor Training
- Specialised EHS Training



Department of Employment  
and Labour Approved  
Inspection Authority  
(OH0049-CI-09)



OH0049



OHAIA-A 005 (2025)



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Refer to [www.sanas.co.za](http://www.sanas.co.za)  
for Scope of Accreditation

World Soil Day is held annually on 5 December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources. Our planet's survival depends on the precious link with soil.

But when we think about soil, we almost always associate it with the countryside and nature. We rarely stop to consider that urban soil is also fundamental.

This World Soil Day 2025 focuses on urban landscapes with the theme "**Healthy Soils for Healthy Cities.**" Beneath asphalt, buildings and streets lies soil that, if permeable and vegetated, helps absorb rainwater, regulate temperature, store carbon and improve air quality. But when it is sealed with cement, it loses these functions, making cities more vulnerable to flooding, overheating and pollution.

## WORLD SOIL DAY

5TH DECEMBER  **United Nations**



## SOIL POLLUTION FROM INDUSTRIAL WASTE



#### A FEW SOURCES OF POLLUTION ■■■

- improper storage of hazardous raw materials or waste in unsealed containers;
- discharge of untreated or partially-treated effluents;
- corroded underground tanks or ruptured pipelines;
- stack emissions or exhaust systems deposit heavy metals or particulate matter on surrounding land;
- accidental spills during handling, maintenance or transportation.

Soil pollution from industrial waste is one of the biggest environmental challenges facing urban and industrial areas today.

Industrial activities often involve the use, storage and disposal of harmful chemicals, heavy metals and toxic substances which can seep into the soil through improper disposal practices, accidental spills or inadequate containment systems and remain for decades, affecting not only the soil but can also spread, through groundwater, to nearby agricultural land.

Addressing soil pollution requires a comprehensive approach that combines prevention, treatment, as well as long-term environmental monitoring. Proactive prevention approaches may include closed-loop systems that minimise waste generation and ensure that unavoidable waste is treated before disposal; advanced wastewater treatment systems to ensure removal of heavy metals and chemical contaminants before discharge; secure containment systems for handling toxic materials e.g. lined storage areas, double-walled tanks and leak detection systems to prevent accidental releases.

Regular monitoring and maintenance of these systems help identify potential problems before they lead to soil contamination.



**STAY COMPLIANT** with the South African Norms and Standards under the National Environmental Management: Waste Act for the remediation of contaminated soil. **Safetech** provides professional **soil sampling services** to help ensure that your company meets all legislative requirements following an environmental incident.