



# SAIMAS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1/2020

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At SAIMAS we normally publish four newsletters each year. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we cannot claim “business as usual” as we have not been able to publish the June 2020 SAIMAS Journal. However, the SAIMAS Council members had discussions via email and a decision was taken that a newsletter be sent out to our members to bring you up speed on how SAIMAS business will be managed until South Africa is back to normal again.

The President has written a short letter to SAIMAS members explaining membership matters and how planned annual SAIMAS events will be managed. Included in this newsletter we have sourced an article by NVNT, a service provider, that was introduced to the editorial

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*The Southern Africa Institute of Management Services*

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team, by Cobus Terblanche, (via Microsoft Teams), on how to manage COVID -19 to provide guidance to organisations on how to manage the pandemic successfully. Please note that the June Journal will still be published and circulated once printing services are opened.

Keep Safe

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Opinions expressed in articles in this journal does not necessarily reflect the views of the South African Institute of Management Services

## MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT

Dear fellow SAIMAS Members,

I trust that you and your families are well. To date, Covid-19 has become a global pandemic continuing to spread across the globe. For most of us the outbreak is a symbol of how vulnerable and unpredictable our lives are.

Covid-19 has changed the way in which most of us live and go about our daily activities. The impact thereof is being experienced at various levels of our lives, requiring the corporate sector to go beyond the traditional way of thinking, in order to cope with the challenge. Some of these changes is a change in mindset and to have an empathetic and supportive approach towards employees, including inducing flexibility in ways of working, understanding challenges of remote working, utilising digital platforms to stay connected and to ensure effective communication. The debate surrounding the future of work is familiar, who works where and how do they work amidst concerns such as healthcare, job losses, etc., Covid-19 has shifted this discussion to the present. New classifications of essential services and working from home are forcing organisations to undertake workplace realignment, to enhance employees' digital skills and to ensure safety of staff.

The national lockdown impacted on the planned and arranged activities of SAIMAS, requiring us to adapt to current regulations restrictions and uncertainty when lockdown will come to an end. Therefor the Executive Management of SAIMAS took the following decisions regarding the way forward for SAIMAS activities:

- To issue an electronic newsletter to inform our members of decisions regarding amendments to the SAIMAS events schedule and other matters,
- To publish the next SAIMAS Journal as soon as printing companies are operational,
- To postpone the following events to next year:
  - The Annual General Meeting which was scheduled for 5 May 2020;

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- The Council meeting and strategic planning session that were scheduled for 11 May 2020;
- The workshop planned for the second half of 2020 (if the situation changes regarding opening of more sectors this might be held towards the end of this year); and
- The Annual Conference, planned for October 2020.
- Individuals / Organisations that paid membership fees for this financial year (2020/2021) will be exempted from paying membership fees for the 2021/22 financial year.

These are challenging times for all of us, requiring flexibility in our way of living and working, whilst taking the necessary precautions to safeguard our health. The lockdown made us realise the importance of appreciating things and people we take for granted, the spirit of togetherness, coming to terms with restrictions and to make the best of a worst-case scenario.

Stay safe and keep well.

Ria Loubser

## **Covid-19 – What now?**

By Louis Herman and Elouise Beukes

Covid-19 has forced fundamental changes on a global front. Our lives have been suddenly and unexpectedly disrupted and changed forever. This pandemic will be one of the most significant change drivers that the world has ever experienced and it will also be one of the largest crises that we will overcome.

NVNT recognises that the landscape has changed forever in ways that none of us fully understand as yet. We are not looking for ways to adapt to a “new normal”; instead, we are developing solutions to assist clients in establishing their organisations to be renewed, resilient and relevant. NVNT is there to help organisations find their own signal in the noise.

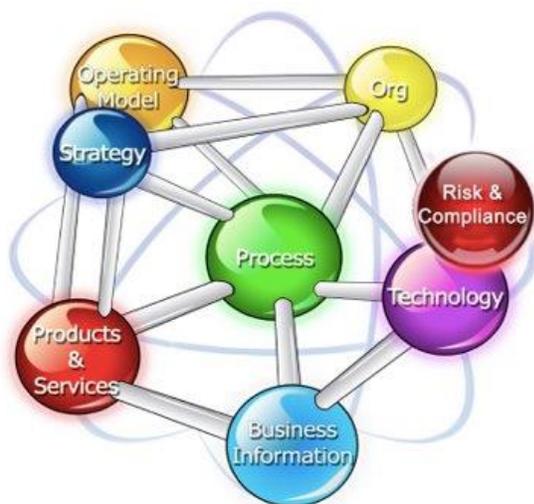
NVNT has developed a framework to identify both the immediate and longer-term issues that debilitate organisations with guided response plans and roadmaps to leverage organisations most significant assets as a springboard for success in the new environment. A “Core Risk Analysis and Response Plan” focuses the attention on what matters most in the immediate context, with optimised processes to obtain sustainable relevance in this uncharted landscape.

The following main areas have been identified to form part of a Core Risk Analysis and Response Plan, but every organisation will require its own specific fit-for-purpose plan and roadmap:



**Figure 1: Scope of the NVNT Risk Analysis and Response Offering**

These areas form part of the Enterprise Dependency Model, which is a graphical illustration of the interdependent domains that are part of the organisation. It is almost impossible to effect change in one specific area, without the ripple effects spreading to the other domains of the organisation. Knowing the impact of a particular change on the other organisational domains allow for pre-emptive risk mitigation.



**Figure 2: Enterprise Dependency Model**

Immediate impact measures are identified by pinpointing steps today to regain income, stem costs, improve profits, and redesign effective policies, while sustaining business-critical services. Discussions are led across human capital, finances, technology, security, compliance and logistics. Each of these aspects are considered for risks and potential response strategies, which could have a positive impact on business continuity and sustainability.

These areas set the foundation for operational models that help embrace successful navigation through the crisis and transformation into the post-pandemic era. Armed with the strategic direction required and assisted by a council of experts within the NVNT consulting team, clients can protect their investment and clear the way towards a more confident, resilient future.

The NVNT team consists of custom-selected subject matter experts with the ability to design and support organisations to implement a detailed framework that will enable them to achieve the following:

- Regain income and profitability
- Optimise costs in line with redefined processes
- Comfort over compliance and assurance measurements and reporting
- Protected assets
  - o Human
  - o Technology
  - o IP
- A plan (roadmap to survive and thrive)

### **The process:**

The typical process consists of a 30-minute meeting to introduce the NVNT capabilities and team and to determine the client organisation's immediate risks and concerns. Following the initial step is a 1 to 2-hour session to obtain a deeper understanding of the immediate, short-term and long-term needs of the organisation. The data collected during this follow-up meeting serves as input to start formulating a holistic view of the strengths within the organisation and to develop fit-for-purpose solutions.

Depending on the specific requirements, a response will then be scoped to address the immediate and most pressing constraints, as well as medium to long-term strategies and roadmaps for the organisation to become more resilient and relevant for a sustainable future.

### **About NVNT**

NVNT is a boutique consulting company using intelligence-driven processes based on actual data to give unique insights into current business situations. NVNT has the ability to identify and then focus on the intersection of the most relevant data points to unlock the real value in a business and keep to keep the organisation on a trajectory for sustained future success. The members of the NVNT team have all worked in executive positions in large organisations and have many years of hard-won commercial operational experience, giving them a clear understanding of the key variables needed to build genuine and predictable business success. NVNT collaborate closely with clients, passing on the skills they need to continue to succeed. They assist clients to put operational elements together which are dynamically adaptable, so that the organisation can face future challenges and remain fully competitive in the data-driven digital world. For more information go to [www.nvnt.website](http://www.nvnt.website) or contact [louis@nvnt.online](mailto:louis@nvnt.online) or [elouise@nvnt.online](mailto:elouise@nvnt.online)