


Winner of the SASOM 2023 Annual Author Prize

We are pleased to announce that Mr Ludwick Lebeka is the winner of the South African Society of Occupational Medicine (SASOM) Annual Author Prize for 2023. He published the following paper in the first issue of *Occupational Health Southern Africa* in 2023:

Lebaka L, Manyike-Modau A, Brouwer D. Effectiveness of retrofitted diesel particulate filters on diesel particulate emissions: a small-scale intervention study. *Occup Health Southern Afr. 2023; 29(1):6-12.*

On behalf of *Occupational Health Southern Africa*, SASOM encourages researchers working in the field of occupational health in Africa to publish their research findings. SASOM provides a cash award to a novice author who is the first author of the best paper published in *Occupational Health Southern Africa* in a calendar year, as judged by the Editorial Advisory Panel. Eligibility for the prize is limited to researchers who have not previously published a paper in *Occupational Health Southern Africa*, or any other accredited academic journal. Membership of SASOM is not a criterion.

Ludwick is a seasoned occupational hygiene professional working for Sibanye Stillwater as an occupational hygiene superintendent. He holds a Master of Science in Medicine: Exposure Science degree from the University of the Witwatersrand. His extensive work experience in occupational hygiene spans 11 years, as he has worked for prominent organisations, including the Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa and, more recently, Anglo American Platinum. 



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Submitted manuscripts are most often delayed due to the difficulties in finding reviewers. This causes frustration for authors and the editorial team alike. Authors can wait months for reviewers' comments. The editors spend hours identifying potential reviewers, following up when they promise but don't deliver, and seeking new reviewers when those invited decline or, worse, don't respond at all. We are therefore looking to create a pool of committed reviewers for all aspects of occupational health. If you are interested in joining this pool, please send your details in the link on the website:

<https://occhealth.co.za/index.php?p=reviewers> 