

# ICFF Weekly

## Connect



*By Ingrid Du Buisson, CEO – ICFF*

## Appointment of Devlyn Naidoo as Chairman of the ICFF Board



**The Institute of Customs and Freight Forwarding (ICFF) is pleased to announce the appointment of Devlyn Naidoo as the new Chairman of the ICFF Board.**

Devlyn brings extensive expertise in customs operations, freight forwarding, and international trade facilitation. He has served on the Executive Committee of the ICFF, and his leadership and vision will be instrumental in strengthening the Institute's role as a key driver of professional excellence and industry development within South Africa and beyond.

The Board expresses its sincere appreciation to the outgoing Chairperson, Yolandi Dercksen for her dedicated service and contributions during her tenure, although she will remain as a member of the Board. With Devlyn's industry expertise and in partnership with the CEO, Ingrid Du Buisson, the ICFF will continue to advance its mission of promoting innovation, best practices, fostering collaboration, and supporting the growth of the customs, freight forwarding and supply chain profession.

We invite all members and stakeholders to join us in welcoming Devlyn to his new role and in supporting him and the Board in leading the ICFF into this exciting new chapter.

## From Vision to Growth: Reflecting on the Journey of Building the ICFF

Over the past few years, I have had the incredible privilege of serving as the Chairperson of the Institute of Customs and Freight Forwarding (ICFF). As I reflect on this journey, I am reminded that while many people see the visible outcomes of a professional body, very few truly see the countless hours, meetings, challenges, strategic discussions, and behind-the-scenes dedication required to build and grow an organisation of this nature.



The ICFF journey has been one of passion, persistence, collaboration, and belief in the future of our industry. When I joined the Board during 2023, the ICFF was navigating uncertain times. There were limited structures in place, no permanent operational foundation, and a great deal of work needed to establish the governance, policies, processes, and strategic direction required for a recognised professional body aligned to industry and SAQA requirements.

What many may not realise is that building a professional body is not simply about membership numbers or events. It is about creating credibility, governance, ethics, standards, professional designations, committee structures, industry recognition, and sustainable systems that can support the future growth of an entire profession.

I would personally like to recognise and sincerely thank Lerato Mapheto and Ingrid du Buisson for their hard work, dedication, long hours, and unwavering commitment to the ICFF. The reality is that much of the work that happens within an organisation like the ICFF takes place quietly behind office doors, after hours, during continuous planning sessions, and through persistent engagement with industry stakeholders. Their commitment and support have played a significant role in the growth and operational progress of the Institute.

The continuous meetings with freight forwarders, customs professionals, training providers, industry leaders, and stakeholders across the sector have truly reaped the benefits. Through awareness initiatives, roadshows, industry engagements, governance development, and relationship building, the ICFF has grown from a small membership base of only 28 members in 2023 to over 200 members in 2026 — and we continue to grow rapidly.

This growth is not simply a number. It represents an industry beginning to believe in professionalisation, standards, ethics, Continuous Professional Development (CPD), and the value of recognising experienced professionals within customs and freight forwarding.

It has been an absolute honour and pleasure to serve and support the ICFF as Chairperson during this foundational phase of growth and development. I remain incredibly proud of what has been achieved collectively by the Board, committees, operational team, and industry supporters who have believed in the vision of the ICFF.

As I step into the next chapter, I do so with full confidence and faith in our newly appointed Chairperson, Devlyn Naidoo. I absolutely believe that Devlyn brings valuable leadership, insight, and strategic direction to the role, and I look forward to seeing the ICFF continue to evolve and strengthen under his guidance and leadership at the steering wheel.

The future of the ICFF is exciting, and I have no doubt that the work we have collectively invested into building the foundations of this professional body will continue to create long-term impact for the customs and freight forwarding profession in South Africa.

Thank you to every member, stakeholder, volunteer, committee member, and industry professional who has supported this journey. The work continues, the vision grows stronger, and the future of our profession remains bright.

**- Yolandi Dercksen**



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Institute of Customs & Freight Forwarding

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## Annual Roadshow 2026 in Gauteng – A Resounding Success!

On **14 May 2026**, the Institute of Customs and Freight Forwarding proudly hosted its **Annual Roadshow** in Sandton, bringing together industry leaders, professionals, and stakeholders from across the freight and logistics sector. The event was a remarkable success, showcasing innovation, collaboration, and the future of customs, freight forwarding and supply chain management professionalisation.

The ICFF hosted some very engaging keynote sessions that were led by distinguished experts in the field of customs, freight forwarding and international trade facilitation. The networking opportunities connected professionals, strategic partners and corporate associates.

This leads to strengthened collaboration between colleagues in the industry, shared best practices on trade efficiencies and compliance. Emphasis was also placed on the management leadership development of the industry's talent pipeline which the ICFF facilitates through various partnerships.



*(ICFF attendees from Industry, CIPS, CILTSA, SAQA and SAEPA and SAAFF)*

## ICFF announces launch of Supply Chain Designations

The ICFF announced the launch of professional designations in Supply Chain Management, which will complement the already existing designations in Customs and Freight Forwarding. This was a strategic move to ensure that ICFF designations address a large portion of proficiency skills required across the logistics value chain. The Supply Chain designations will focus on professionalising individuals working in warehousing, planning and logistics within the supply chain.



All ICFF designations will be recognised by SAQA on 2 June 2026. SAQA's attendance at this roadshow signifies their support of the ICFF as a Professional Body.



The Annual Roadshow reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to advancing the freight forwarding, customs and supply chain professions and supporting the growth of international trade.

We extend our gratitude to all participants, partners, and ABSA our sponsors, who made this event possible.



*(Ingrid Du Buisson, CEO & Japie Nel, Senior Manager: Recognition & Registration SAQA)*

## Introducing the ICFF Board

The Board of the ICFF appointed Devlyn Naidoo as the Chairman of the Board. This team is diverse in their expertise and will guide the ICFF to the next level. The ICFF is not just a Professional Body; it's the cornerstone of excellence. Our mandate is to deliver proficiency excellence to this sector and ensure we lift expertise and credibility of an industry that plays a strategic role in SA's international trade facilitation.



*(Lebogang Letsoalo - Vice Chair, Ingrid Du Buisson - CEO, Yolandi Dercksen - Director, Strini Reddy - Director, Tuelo Mogashoa - Director and Devlyn Naidoo - Chairman)*



## ICFF Roadshow coming to Durban

We look forward to building on this momentum and welcoming you to next year's edition! This Annual Roadshow is making its way to Durban on 11th June 2026.

We will see you there!



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## Institute of Customs and Freight Forwarding Launches Supply Chain Management Professional Designations

The Institute of Customs and Freight Forwarding proudly announces the launch of its new professional designations in **Supply Chain Management**, expanding its suite of industry-recognized designations.

This strategic addition complements the ICFF's existing designations in **Customs** and **Freight Forwarding**, reinforcing its role as a leader in professional development for trade and logistics practitioners, the only soon to be SAQA recognised Professional Body in Supply Chain Management and Logistics.

### Advancing Professional Excellence

The new designations reflect the growing importance of integrated supply chain strategies in today's global economy. It equips professionals with advanced skills planning, warehousing, distribution, and risk management, ensuring they are prepared to meet the challenges of modern commerce.



**Supply Chain Expert Practitioner (SCEP) - Level 4**



**Supply Chain Management Practitioner (SCMP) - Level 3**



**Supply Chain Senior Practitioner (SCSP) - Level 2**

- Logistics
- Planning
- Warehousing



**Supply Chain Junior Practitioner (SCJP) - Level 1**

- Logistics
- Planning
- Warehousing

### Building on Strong Foundations

- The **Customs designations** continues to provide expertise in regulatory compliance and border management.
- The **Freight Forwarding** designations strengthens knowledge in transport logistics and international trade facilitation.
- The new **Supply Chain Management** designations now complete the professional pathway, emphasizing end-to-end operational excellence.

## Industry Impact

By broadening its credential offerings, the ICFF empowers practitioners to:

- Enhance efficiency across supply chains.
- Strengthen compliance and risk management.
- Drive innovation in logistics and trade facilitation.

This initiative positions the ICFF as a cornerstone of professional excellence in Southern Africa's trade and logistics ecosystem.



# ICFF ROADSHOW DURBAN

*“Empowering Logistics,  
Enabling Growth”*  
– by Driving Efficiency, and  
Connecting People

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 Date & Time:  
**11 June 2026**  
Registration at 09:00 for 10:00 - 13:00

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 Location:  
**Umhlanga**  
ABSA Ridgeside Office Park, Floor 4  
33 Richefond Circle,  
Ridgeside, Umhlanga, 4319

 RSVP by 6 June 2026,  
limited seats available:  
[Imapheto@icff.co.za](mailto:Imapheto@icff.co.za)

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 **ICFF**   
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