



Competent Person (CP) Requirements

Clause 7 of the SAMREC Code notes that *“Documentation detailing Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves from which a Public Report is prepared must be prepared by, or under the direction of, and signed by a Competent Person (CP).”* Similar clauses are found in the SAMVAL and SAMOG Codes, for a Competent Valuer (CV) and Qualified Reserves Evaluator (QRE), respectively.

The definition of a CP is one of the standard definitions contained in the CRIRSCO template. In terms of the SAMREC Code, a CP is defined in terms of registration and experience.

Registration: a CP needs to be registered with SACNASP (PrSciNat), ECSA (PrEng) or SAGC (Professional Surveyor), or be a Member/Fellow of the SAIMM, the GSSA (Chartered Status), IMSSA or a Recognised Professional Organisation (RPO). A complete list of RPOs can be found on the SAMCODES website ([SAMCODES - RPOs](#)). In South Africa, all practicing geoscientists are required by law to be registered with SACNASP, but local, regional and international members of the GSSA wishing to use their GSSA membership to sign-off on Public Reports must apply for Chartered Status ([Chartered Status – GSSA](#)). South African engineers are not currently required to be registered with ECSA – consequently any individual wishing to use their SAIMM membership to sign-off on Public Reports must complete the SAIMM peer-review process ([SAMCODES - Registration](#)).

Experience: A Competent Person must have a minimum of five years relevant experience in the style of mineralisation or type of deposit under consideration and in the activity which that person is undertaking (Definitions for experience required for CVs and QREs differ in detail – please refer to the SAMCODES website for specifics). For example, a CP signing off on Mineral Resources would need to have experience in Mineral Resource estimation – simply logging boreholes or processing soil samples is not sufficient.

Competency: There are no “competency exams” to become a CP. The SSC (or any of the SAMREC, SAMVAL, SAMOG Code Committees) does not confer competence on anyone. There is also no “list” of approved Competent Persons held by the SSC, the professional or statutory bodies or the JSE. Just completing a SAMCODES workshop/course does not confer competency. Competency is claimed by the author (based on their registration and experience), who must be clearly satisfied in their own minds that they are able to face their peers and demonstrate competence in the commodity, type of deposit and situation under consideration.