

General News

Preparing Team SA Africa for 2008 Beijing Olympics

The CSIR is currently working with the University of Pretoria to prepare Team South Africa for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. The project is funded through a Lotto grant of R1 million awarded to the CSIR.



"We are aligning our efforts with those of the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC)," says CSIR sports technology manager, Dr Tony Kirkbride. SASCOC has decided to focus the CSIR's technology-rich offerings on rowing, swimming and athletics when preparing Team South Africa for Beijing. From a historical perspective, these teams have the best chances of success - they are most likely to contribute to the medal tally.

A needs analysis is currently in progress to identify the requirements from each sporting code. The CSIR will use specialised analysis personnel and software to give coaches feedback on the performance of their athletes and teams. "The R1 million grant from the Lotto is a real highlight - it's a first in our group's history," says Kirkbride.

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