

AlumniMag

Excellence Through Education!

2025-2026 CIPS Graduates!

*They came, they saw,
they conquered!*



From Intuition to Strategy

Kaylyn Botha's Journey to MCIPS Excellence - "I treated study time as a non-negotiable appointment..."



A FIRST CLASS EDUCATION **UNLOCKS DREAMS...**



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A foreword from the *Campus Manager*

Alumni Student Magazine

magazine serves as a testament to the determination, resilience, and commitment that define our alumni, and it is my pleasure to introduce a publication that not only celebrates their achievements but also inspires current and future students to reach new heights.

The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) qualifications are recognised globally as a benchmark of excellence in procurement and supply chain management. Achieving them requires not only academic proficiency but also practical skills, dedication, and an unwavering passion for the profession. At Amilak Training Center, we are committed to providing world-class education, guidance, and support to every student who walks through our doors. Our alumni exemplify the spirit of this commitment, demonstrating the transformative power of education and the impact it can have on their personal and professional lives.

Throughout this magazine, you will find inspiring stories and testimonials from graduates who have successfully completed their CIPS studies. Their experiences range from overcoming personal challenges to making significant contributions in their workplaces and communities. Each story is a powerful reminder of the potential within every student, and the doors that open when one pursues excellence with determination and purpose. These testimonials are not merely recollections of academic achievement; they are reflections of growth, leadership, and the ability to adapt and innovate in an ever-changing world.

As you read the accounts of our alumni, I encourage you to take note of the common thread that runs through each narrative: a belief in the value of education and the importance of perseverance. Our graduates have gone on to distinguish themselves in a variety of sectors, including public administration, corporate procurement, logistics, and entrepreneurship.

The stories featured here also highlight the supportive environment fostered at Amilak Training Center. Our faculty and staff are dedicated to nurturing talent and providing guidance every step of the way. This culture of encouragement and collaboration forms the foundation upon which our students build their success. The relationships formed within our classrooms often continue well beyond graduation, creating a vibrant and engaged alumni community that supports one another and shares wisdom and opportunities.

I am deeply grateful to all the alumni who have contributed to this magazine, sharing their experiences and insights for the benefit of others. Your voices serve as a beacon for those who are just beginning their CIPS journey, and your accomplishments remind us all of what is possible with hard work and determination. To prospective and current students, I hope these stories inspire you to pursue your goals with confidence and to make the most of all that Amilak Training Center has to offer.

In closing, I extend my warmest congratulations to all our graduates and thank them for continuing to uphold the values of excellence, integrity, and leadership.

With best wishes,

CAMPUS MANAGER | Ireen Kalima

It is with immense joy and enthusiasm that I welcome you to the latest edition of the Amilak Training Center Student Alumni Magazine. As the Campus Manager, I have the unique privilege of witnessing first-hand the remarkable journeys of our students as they embark upon, and ultimately complete, the highly respected CIPS qualifications. This



Legacy Leaders: **Erika Le Roux's** *Vision for the* **Agile Professional**

Lecturer (Levels 2 – 6) | Tenure: Since 2018



"Procurement professionals need to be agile, becoming more proactive and focusing on risk management to ensure a competitive advantage.."

Erika Le Roux MCIPS

*Since joining Amilak Training Centre in 2018, Erika le Roux has become a cornerstone of the CIPS faculty. Having guided countless cohorts through the rigorous journey from Level 2 to the strategic heights of Level 6, Erika has a bird's-eye view of how the industry—and its students—have evolved. In this edition's **Legacy Leaders spotlight**, she shares her philosophy on teaching, agility, and the "Amilak Spirit."*

The Digital Evolution

Erika has witnessed a significant shift in how education is delivered. **"A big one is moving from the physical classroom to teaching both online and in person,"** she notes. **"Amilak is truly moving in pace with digital development."**

Despite the change in medium, Erika observes that the core drive remains the same: students are as eager as ever, though she is particularly pleased to see more candidates entering the supply chain career path at earlier levels than before.

Teaching Beyond the Textbook

To Erika, CIPS isn't just about passing an exam; it's about mastering a global standard that changes daily. **"Exams cover not only the book but general knowledge of the subject matter,"** she explains. To ensure her students stay ahead of the curve, Erika immerses herself in CIPS webinars and industry updates, bringing real-world examples into every lecture to make complex theory "palatable."

The Power of Agility

When asked about the biggest shift in the modern supply chain, Erika's answer is clear: Agility. *"The ever-changing landscape of market conditions requires a focus on risk management and proactiveness,"* she says. She constantly emphasises to her students how their individual actions in procurement can directly increase a company's competitive advantage in a customer-focused world.

Mentorship and Full-Circle Moments

The most rewarding part of the job for Erika? Watching students grow in both career height and personal confidence. In a true testament to her impact, she notes that many of her former students have now returned to Amilak—*this time as fellow lecturers.*

When students hit the inevitable "roadblock" of a demanding syllabus, Erika's advice is practical and grounded: *"Put an hour aside daily—perhaps early morning before 'life happens.' And always read the questions repeatedly to ensure you don't misunderstand the requirement."*

"Please give back to others in the supply chain community; share your knowledge, experiences, lessons learned, and wisdom."

"Plan for your studies by putting an hour aside daily—early in the morning before 'life happens.'"



Erika's "Golden Rules" for the Industry:

- **Commit to the Goal:** Become an MCIPS and, more importantly, keep that knowledge relevant.
- **Build Your Circle:** Network with other supply chain professionals to stay informed.
- **Pay It Forward:** Erika's plea to Alumni in leadership roles is simple: *"Please give back to others in the community; share your knowledge, experiences, and lessons learned."*

Talk to us about qualifications

Become the best you can be

MCIPS professional licence

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procurement and supply

Advanced diploma in
procurement and supply

Diploma in procurement
and supply

Advanced certificate in
procurement and supply operations

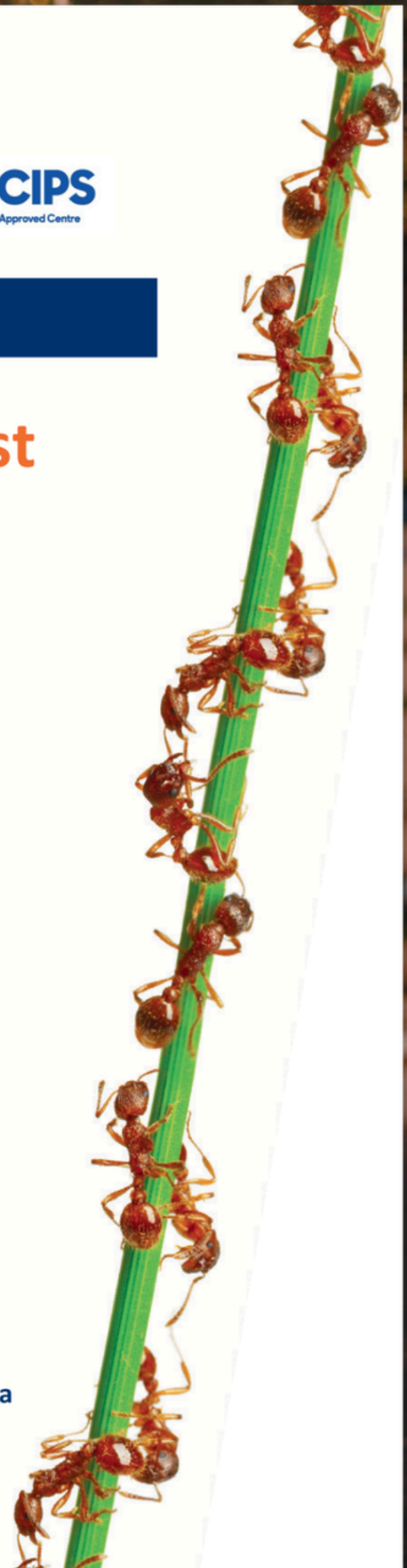
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- Advanced Certificate in Procurement & Supply Operations
- Diploma in Procurement & Supply
- Advanced Diploma in Procurement & Supply
- Professional Diploma in Procurement & Supply

QCTO – SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

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- Supply and Distribution Manager (NQF Level 07 | SAQA ID: 93544)

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The Power of Intentionality

From Local Beginnings to a Global Career in Canada

Cebile Nomqashiya Dube **MCIPS**

*For many, the CIPS journey is a path to a better job. For **Cebile Nomqashiya Dube**, it was a **promise made to herself and a lesson in perseverance for her children**. Now based in Orangeville, Ontario, Cebile's **completion of her MCIPS in January 2026** marks the culmination of a journey that began with a simple suggestion from a lecturer and grew into a global professional standard.*

A Global Standard for a Global Move

Cebile's motivation was rooted in the prestige of the qualification.

"I pursued CIPS because it is globally recognised as the leading professional standard in procurement," she explains.

This global recognition has proven vital as she navigates her career from a new home in Canada, reinforcing her credibility and opening doors to more meaningful engagement in industry discussions and decision-making.



🎓 The Amilak Experience: Beyond the Classroom

During her time at Amilak Training Center, Cebile found an environment that went beyond textbook theory. She describes her experience as professional and highly engaging, noting that the team encouraged open debates and the sharing of diverse industry experiences.

"One moment that truly stood out was working with a lecturer who encouraged critical thinking and genuine dialogue," Cebile recalls. "They connected the material to real-life scenarios, which made the learning feel relevant and allowed me to see its practical application beyond the classroom."

🕒 Success Built in Silence

Balancing a career, a move across continents, and a demanding qualification requires a specific kind of mental toughness. Cebile's strategy was one of intentionality. She made a conscious effort to protect her personal time to avoid burnout—a discipline that allowed her to stay focused on the long-term value of the course.

"Success is built in silence," she says, quoting Derick Grant. "Nothing is wasted in your journey. Pace yourself, and avoid comparing your race to someone else's."

💡 Leading by Example

While professional growth was a key driver, Cebile's deepest motivation was personal. She wanted to be a role model for her children. ***"I wanted them to see that learning never stops and that commitment and perseverance matter, no matter how challenging the journey becomes."***

This mindset helped her embrace every challenge as a growth opportunity. If she could give her younger self one tip, it would be to embrace the emotions and the obstacles alike: ***"Every challenge played a role in shaping my growth, and each experience had value."***

Connect with Cebile:

Cebile is open to connecting with fellow students and alumni. You can reach her at cebiledube65@gmail.com to discuss international procurement and the CIPS journey.

🚀 A Future Defined by Credibility

With her MCIPS qualification now complete, Cebile has noticed a significant shift in how she is perceived within the industry.

The accreditation has validated her expertise and provided a solid foundation for her professional development in the Canadian supply chain sector. For Cebile, CIPS wasn't just a course; it was a journey of self-discovery and professional validation.

"I wanted my children to see that learning never stops and that commitment matters."

Show up for yourself, pace your own journey, and never compare your race to someone else's."





“Marathon Mindset”

Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Bespoke Practice

**Colbert Dzunisani
Makhubele *MCIPS***

"Studying is like running a marathon. You feel the pain, but you keep going until you cross the finish line. If I could emerge victorious through Level 4, 5, and 6, you can too."

For many procurement professionals, academic theory can sometimes feel worlds apart from the daily grind of supply chain bottlenecks.

For **Colbert Dzunisani Makhubele**, a Midrand-based logistics expert, the journey to achieving his MCIPS in January 2026 was about finding the "bespoke" reference guides he needed to transform his organisation.

Beyond the Postgrad: Finding the Missing Link

Despite holding a Postgraduate degree in Logistics Supply Chain Management, Colbert felt there was still a gap in his professional toolkit. ***"I lacked the reference guides to align my processes with bespoke industry standards,"*** he says.

He found that CIPS provided the necessary bridge, offering the skills required to navigate real-world situations and lead organizational transformation.



A Home Away From Home

Colbert credits much of his academic success to the unique environment at Amilak Training Center. Describing it as a *"home away from home,"* he highlights the close-knit community of like-minded peers and the dedicated staff who walk the journey with every student.

"The support from the admin office—even something as simple as a congratulatory message after exam results—refuelled my energy to keep pushing when the going got tough on Level 6," Colbert recalls. In fact, these messages became such a vital source of motivation that he famously followed up with the office in July 2025 just to ensure the tradition continued.

The 21km Discipline: Studying Like an Athlete

Managing full-time work and a rigorous study schedule required the discipline of a long-distance runner. With bills to pay and work to prioritize, Colbert's study windows were strictly limited to late nights and weekends.

"Studying is like sports; you have to keep going no matter what," Colbert explains, drawing a parallel to the Comrades Marathon. *"I tested this with a 21km half marathon—you feel the pain, but you keep running. I applied that same mindset to my studies, come rain or shine, through Levels 4, 5, and 6."*



From Curiosity to Trusted Expertise

What started as a curiosity for the engaging CIPS content soon turned into a "trusted expert" status at his workplace.

Since completing his qualification, Colbert has noticed a significant broadening of his scope of influence.

"I have always been at the forefront of stakeholder collaboration, but the level of my advisory has improved. I am now using techniques backed by extensive research and CIPS materials. My employer now relies on these skills to move the team and the organization forward."

At the time of print, he had just been appointed to **Manager: Governance Risk & Compliance at SARS!**

"...all thanks to CIPS and everyone at Amilak who contributed to my study journey to make it of success."

A Message to the Next Wave

Looking back at his three-year journey of bi-monthly exams, Colbert's advice to those starting out is simple: don't let the scale of the task intimidate you.

"It only looks scary because you have not started," he says. "It is not as hard as you think once you find your rhythm."

Connect with Colbert:

Colbert is eager to collaborate and tackle industry challenges with fellow professionals. You can connect with him on [LinkedIn](#) or reach out via email at dz.makhubele@gmail.com.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PRACTITIONER

NQF LEVEL 5
SAQA ID: 99714

This qualification prepares learners to manage occupational health and safety (OHS) in the workplace by enforcing safety protocols, evaluating risks, and advising both employees and management on legal and procedural compliance.

✓ **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**
Grade 12

✓ **DURATION**
15–18 months

✓ **MODULES INCLUDE:**

- Fundamentals of OHS
- Workplace Risk Assessments
- OHS Communication and Consultation
- Legal Registers and Incident Reporting
- Emergency Preparedness and Safety Systems

✓ **CAREER & JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

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***From Intuition to Strategy — Kaylyn's
Journey to MCIPS Excellence***

*Kaylyn Botha **MCIPS** | Class of 2025 | Benoni*

For many procurement professionals, years of hands-on experience provide a solid foundation. But for Kaylyn Botha, "practical intuition" was only the beginning. Seeking to transform her operational expertise into a strategic powerhouse, Kaylyn turned to Amilak Training Center to pursue her CIPS qualification. Today, as a proud MCIPS member and Procurement Manager, she shares her roadmap from the warehouse floor to the boardroom.

Formalising the Passion

While Kaylyn already understood the day-to-day realities of buying, she felt the pull toward something more significant. *"I wanted to grow beyond operational buying into strategic procurement,"* Kaylyn explains. *"CIPS gave me the structured frameworks, terminology, and best-practice tools that helped me make better, more strategic decisions."*

For Kaylyn, the qualification wasn't just about a certificate; it was about future-proofing her career. She notes that as the industry becomes increasingly data-driven, CIPS ensures her skills remain relevant in areas like risk management, sustainability, and value creation.

The Amilak Experience

Choosing the right study centre is crucial for a journey as rigorous as CIPS. Kaylyn found her home at Amilak. *"It was a very supportive and inclusive journey,"* she recalls. *"The facilitators were knowledgeable and approachable, and the learning environment encouraged engagement and confidence."*

It wasn't just the teaching that stood out, but the administrative support that kept her on track. *"I would especially like to commend the support and administrative staff. Their efficient support made the entire learning journey smoother and far less stressful."*

17 The Art of the "Non-Negotiable" Appointment

Balancing a career in procurement with high-level studies is a challenge that defeats many. Kaylyn's secret? Intentionality.

"I treated study time as a non-negotiable appointment," she says. By breaking the syllabus into manageable sections and maintaining a consistent weekly schedule, she avoided the dreaded "burnout" while ensuring her family and workplace were kept in the loop regarding deadlines. Her advice to those starting today is simple:

"Start early with consistent, small study sessions. Discipline makes the journey much smoother."



Kaylyn's "Golden Rules" for Success:

- ✓ **Stay Organised:** Set clear goals from day one.
- ✓ **Bridge the Gap:** Apply CIPS concepts to your real-world work immediately.
- ✓ **Seek Support:** Don't struggle in silence—use the resources and mentors available at Amilak.
- ✓ **Celebrate Wins:** Acknowledge the small milestones to keep your motivation high.

A Strategic New Horizon

Since achieving her MCIPS status in 2025, the doors haven't just opened—they've swung wide. Kaylyn has progressed from an operations specialist into a Procurement Manager role at a reputable organisation.

"When I started, I saw procurement mainly as an operational role. Now, I view it as a strategic function that drives value and manages risk," Kaylyn says.

With her new mindset and professional credibility, she is now contributing at a value-driven level that once felt out of reach.

Connect with Kaylyn

- **Email:** Kaylynbotha87@gmail.com
- **LinkedIn:** [Kaylyn Botha MCIPS](#)



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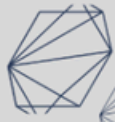
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PROJECT MANAGER (NQF LEVEL 05 – SAQA ID: 101869)

This qualification equips learners with the knowledge and skills to manage projects across various sectors. It is aligned with globally recognised standards such as PMBOK® and PRINCE2®, and focuses on planning, execution, control, and completion of projects that deliver value.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?
Professionals who want to lead projects in construction, IT, HR, marketing, public service, or community development.

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Never Leave Momentum to Chance

- the Power of an International Qualification

Most professionals see their qualification as a finish line. For Robert Pinter, achieving MCIPS was about setting a new gold standard. Drawing a bold parallel between procurement excellence and the accounting profession's highest benchmarks, Robert shares how he balanced a demanding career in global manufacturing with a drive to reach the top of his field.

In the world of global manufacturing, staying ahead is a necessity. For Robert Pinter, a Senior Buyer at Rheinmetall Denel Munition in Cape Town, achieving the MCIPS designation in January 2026 was driven by a desire for international excellence and professional "future-proofing."

A Global Lens on Local Procurement

While many in the South African market focus purely on local supply chain offerings, Robert sought a broader perspective.

"I appreciated the fact that CIPS is an internationally recognised qualification," Robert explains. "In South Africa, we are generally only exposed to a local offering of knowledge, but CIPS allows you to get involved in the strategies and approaches conducted around the world."

For Robert, MCIPS is more than just a designation; it is a professional standard - CIPS has become a benchmark for expertise that defines the supply chain profession.

Robert Pinter *MCIPS*

**Going for the Global
Standard!**

The Amilak Experience: Flexibility and Rigour

Managing the procurement needs of a leading global ammunition manufacturer requires a learning partner that understands the pressures of a corporate role. Robert found that balance at Amilak Training Center.

"It has been a smooth and pleasant experience," says Robert. "The online classes are at convenient times, the assignments offer further insights, and the mock exams help you prepare for various situations."

"In South Africa, we are often only exposed to local knowledge. CIPS allows you to engage with the strategies and approaches conducted around the world." – Robert Pinter

The Discipline of a Professional

Robert's approach to his studies mirrors the precision required in his professional role. His secret to balancing a career at Rheinmetall Denel Munition with high-level studies was a rigid schedule and temporary sacrifice.

"I like to dedicate the first hour of each morning to revising my work; this keeps the memory as fresh as possible. You also have to sacrifice your personal life in order to succeed. You can party after you win."

Advice for the Next Cohort

For those currently navigating the rigours of their CIPS levels, Robert offers a message of resilience: ***"Never give up. As hard and difficult as it may seem, it will help you grow into a better version of yourself. All of us struggle and fail at some point; the key is to keep going."***

Looking back, his top tip for new students is to maintain momentum. ***"Do all three levels in one go and not in gaps. Not every company will provide a bursary for you to study further—it is best to use the opportunity to grow when you are working for the ones that do."***

Looking Ahead

As the procurement profession evolves, Robert remains committed to staying at the forefront of new developments. With his MCIPS qualification now complete, he continues to manage complex categories involving negotiation, contract management, and supplier on-boarding at a global standard.



Connect with Robert:

Amilak students and fellow alumni can connect with Robert Pinter via LinkedIn to discuss procurement trends and professional growth.



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