

# SAACE GLENRAND MIB ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2007

The South African Association of Consulting Engineer's (SAACE) Engineering Excellence Awards is a celebration of innovation, quality, outstanding workmanship and professionalism.

The Association hosts this annual event as a platform to showcase the outstanding achievements of its member organisations.

## Category:

Engineering Excellence – value greater than R5 M

### Winner

#### Goba Consulting Engineers for the Durban harbour tunnel for the eThekweni Water and Sanitation Department

The R210 M Durban harbour tunnel project involved the construction of a new tunnel under the Durban harbour mouth and the installation of a variety of bulk services in the tunnel. The project was undertaken in order to replace an existing services tunnel constructed some 50 years ago. The tunnel is a first-of-its-kind 'soft ground' tunnel in South Africa.

### Commendation

#### Nimham Shand for the Maguga regulating weir and hydro power station foundations and superstructure

In 2004 the Swaziland Electricity Board secured funding for the development of the hydropower scheme at Maguga. This included the design and construction of a regulating weir some 2,7 km downstream from the dam, the construction of a 1,35 km of access road, the concrete foundations for the mechanical equipment, the building work for the power station, cable trenches and the steel superstructure at the power station.

#### Other nominees were:

- Africon Engineering for the Pinnacle Point Beach and Golf Resort situated outside Mossel Bay in the Eastern Cape
- Arcus Gibb for the feasibility, assessment, planning, procurement and implementation of the Gautrain Rapid Link project
- Bigen Africa for the OR Thambo International Airport – international terminal A departure upgrade
- HBS Africa Consulting Engineers for the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture at the University of Johannesburg
- Kwezi V3 for the indoor parachute training facility
- UWP Consulting Engineers for the Snap Lake and Victor diamond recovery plants for De Beers, Canada

## Category:

Engineering Excellence – value less than R5 M

### Winner

#### Jeffares & Green for Mkomaas River pedestrian bridge situated in the Sisonke District Municipality for the KwaZulu Natal Department of Transport

Jeffares & Green were tasked to design and monitor the construction of a pedestrian bridge over the Mkomaas River. As the client was experiencing problems with resonating cable supported pedestrian bridges, the consulting engineer proposed a pre-stressed concrete ribbon bridge for the site. The Mkomaas River pedestrian bridge is the first pre-stressed concrete ribbon bridge built in Africa.

### Commendation

#### Vela VKE for the Plettenberg Bay pedestrian bridge

The South African National Roads Agency, in conjunction with the Bitou local municipality, took steps in 2004 to improve the public safety of commuters crossing the N2 highway to the west of Plettenberg Bay.

The development of a pedestrian bridge, together with a formalised drop-off and collection zone, was proposed. The resulting bridge sets itself apart from more conventional pedestrian bridge designs with its innovative structural system, its unique geometry and its overall aesthetic impact.

#### Other nominees were:

- Stemele Bosch Africa for the Mimosa Street Blue Horizon Bay storm-water outfall situated at Nelson Mandela Bay
- UWP Consulting Engineers for the Chilubi Island pontoon bridge for the Road Development Agency in Zambia

## Category:

Business Excellence

### Winner

#### Goba Consulting Engineers

Goba is a leading firm of South African multi-disciplinary consulting engineers and project managers, with branches countrywide and with strong links to firms in the rest of Africa and globally. Goba is a family of people – its current total staff component is nearly 300 strong. In all endeavours that Goba undertake, they strive for quality, integrity and respect.

## Category:

Young Company of the Year

### Commendation

#### Usizo Engineering

There was only one submission in this category and commendation went to Usizo Engineering, a black-owned South African company established in 1999 to offer consulting engineering, design and project management services. In a few short years Usizo Engineering has grown from one person to 20 people.

## Category:

Visionary Client of the Year

#### Gautrain Project

The Association would like to give recognition to the Gauteng Department of Public Transport and Works for the Gautrain project as one of the most significant engineering projects undertaken in Africa to date. It is also the second biggest project of its kind in the world and one of the most significant 'green fields' rapid rail engineering projects in the world today.

## Category:

Young Engineer of the Year

### Winner

#### Dr Michelle Kruger from Goba Consulting Engineers.

#### Other nominees were:

- Ian Pollard from Bigen Africa
- Jaco Human from Kwezi V3
- Shian Saroop from Kwezi V3
- Vusi Lukhele from Usizo Engineering

SAACE thanks SEW Eurodrive who will once again sponsor the Young Engineer of the Year Award, enabling the winner to attend the FIDIC convention being held in Singapore during September this year.