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FROM THE DESK *of the president*



John Matthews
President, Master Builders South
Africa

NOWHERE NEAR NEW NORMAL

Leadership is under the microscope in South Africa. When suddenly nothing is the same anymore, it's those who hold leading roles that find themselves most hard-pressed for solutions.

The question is, can current leaders find a way back to near normality, or didn't anyone sign up for the role of redressing this particular disaster. Is there someone to put the train back on track? Perhaps that's expecting too much. Maybe, under present conditions, the conventional solutions may not even exist.

In fact, solutions might not be what we're looking for. Solutions imply making what's wrong, right again. But as so many before us have found, disasters sometimes have long tails, and as human beings we start to live our lives differently, to accommodate the continued presence of something we have no control over. It may at first not be normal, and may never be, but it does provoke one of the most human of conditions – acceptance. And that may be a good thing if it translates to action.

It's not as fundamental as "making do" like the old folks used to say, but instead "making the best" of the situation, rather than railing against fate, angry at the cards or the roll of the dice, and blaming others' shortcomings.

There is, justifiably, much talk of the ruined economy and how things could have been done so much better here in South Africa, but to be honest, there's nowhere in the world that is going to come out of this unscathed

and the true test of leadership is going to be how we take what we have and begin to rebuild from a different base. A base that demands more care, more vigilance, more protection, more equality, better guidance of the young, greater expectations of loyalty, adherence to protocols and plain downright honesty. An opportunity for real change, in other words.

Leadership doesn't rely on the random criticism of officialdom, but our own courage to adhere to an unswerving set of principles to which we hold them and all others accountable. Whereas people will criticise their heads of state, or anyone in a position of authority, almost off-handedly, during what we now have come to consider "ordinary" times, it's now, when leadership can make the difference between order and chaos that a sharp eye and the steady hand of those of us at the coalface of our economy must hold "power" to book. It is also definitively time to walk the talk.

The trouble is that sometimes we cannot make a definitive call as to whether a leader is truly bad, or perhaps only under pressure to satisfy the apparently nefarious dictates of others in their power group. We might need to consider carefully, whether, if allowed to follow their own instincts and experience, leaders might well be more effective, fair and intelligent than we give them credit for.

Irrespective - to save the economy and our people, it is action that's needed now. Words do not put food on the table. ■





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The official journal of Master Builders South Africa

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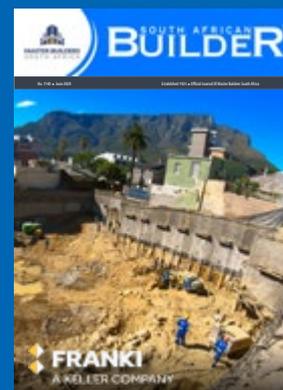
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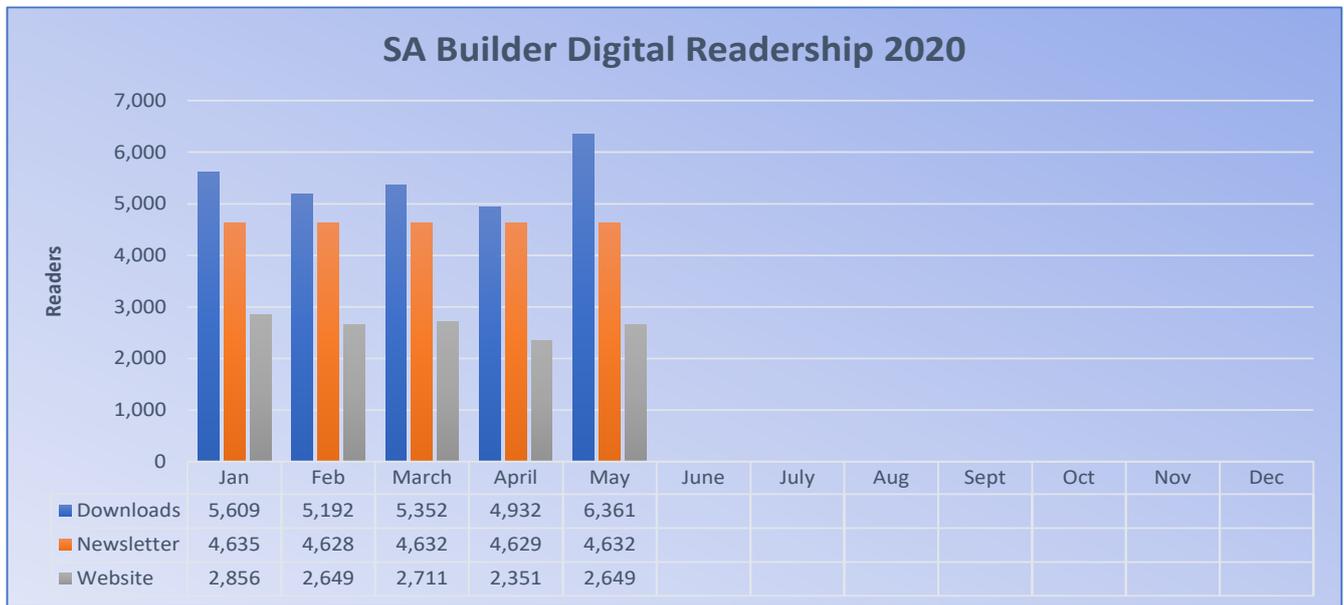
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Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal

Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal held its 119th Annual General meeting on 30 June 2020 via the Microsoft Teams platform, which saw Bhekisisa Samson Ngcongco of Dambuza Community Development Trust elected to a second term as President of the Association. In his address, he stated that the Association would vigorously pursue the relevant strategies to build a sustainable and conducive business environment and was resolute in its efforts to effect a positive change.

Congratulations to the Executive Council for the next term of office:

- Bhekisisa Samson Ngcongco, Dambuza Community Development Trust
- Joyce Dolly Tembe, Sakhisizwe Development Training
- Vic Naidoo, 2C Projects CC (Pty) Limited
- Patricia Moodley, Globacon (Pty) Limited
- Lance Ridl, Ridl Construction
- Marcus Gonzalves, FS Gonzalves Construction
- Moegamat Behardien, MET Developments
- Thys Blom, Plankonsult
- John Dorning, Stefanutti Stocks Building KZN
- Craig Gainsford, GVK-Siya Zama Building Contractors (Pty) Limited
- Francois Louw, MET Builders
- Thobekile Ndlovu, Thobethulani Trading CC



Bhekisisa Samson Ngcongco, President, Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal

- Ash Sewraj, Deck, Steel and Concrete CC
- Nelson Rodrigues, Grinaker-LTA



Vikashnee Harbhajan, Executive Director, Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal

The KwaZulu-Natal based Association presents itself as a one-stop business hub and offers a comprehensive membership service which includes occupational health and safety, building and contractual advice, labour relations and training and skills development.

This is complemented by a wide range of commercial offerings such as Occupational Health and Safety Consulting, Training Academy, Print Studio, Occupational Health Clinics, Conference facilities, Café Indaba and Recruitment Agency - which are designed to assist members with their business operations at preferential rates.

Notwithstanding a severely constrained economy, the Association closed the last financial year with 757 members on its membership roll and once again obtained an unqualified audit.

As part of our ongoing efforts to promote our members, the Association embarked on an exciting member promotion campaign, which included advertising segments on East Coast Radio and the launch of the Master Builders KZN App. The App connects members of the Association to the world of work and complements the Association's online Find-a-Builder and Find-a-Supplier directories. These initiatives enable clients and the public to easily access their members. The App is available from the Apple Store and Google Play Store.



The Association prioritises transformation in the construction industry and continued to run their special projects – the Vuka Makhi programme, Bursary Fund and Emerging Contractor programme. It has been five years since the inception of the Vuka Makhi Programme, which is designed to groom identified learners from school to employment. Tuition is offered to grade 11 and 12 learners in several subjects with about 120 learners enrolled to date. Their 2019 matriculants achieved a 100% pass rate in the 2019 matric examination, with 40 distinctions between them.

To date, the Bursary Fund has supported 121 construction industry aspirants. In 2020, 15 bursaries have been approved comprising qualifications in Construction Management, Quantity Surveying and Supervision of Construction Processes.

The Emerging Contractor Programme has, over the past seven years, contributed to the business and construction management skills of 202 small businesses. The Programme consists of training, mentorship and the Adopt-a-Company phase.

The Association is also the registered Administrator of the KwaZulu-Natal Provident Fund, KwaZulu-Natal Retirement Fund and Midlands Building industry Retirement Fund and also administers the Holiday Pay Stamp Scheme. The Funds recently launched its official website www.kznretirementfunding.co.za

Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal recognised that rising material costs, onerous clauses in contracts, site interruptions, reduced contract periods, increased competition, shrinking profit margins, the impact of load shedding, low investor confidence, ratings downgrades, business closures, high rates of unemployment and the slow pace of structural reforms were among the many challenges that members were faced with. In order to mitigate these challenges, the Association engaged with several key industry stakeholders.

This was further exacerbated by the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic across the world. The world, South Africa and the construction industry would bear the brunt of the looming lockdowns and restrictions imposed to combat the spread of the virus. This set the tone for the coming months and it definitely would not be business as usual.

The Association remains steadfast in its commitment to driving and influencing a positive and sustainable future for the construction industry.

Following the emergence of COVID-19 in South Africa and the announcement by President Cyril Ramaphosa to implement lockdown from 27 March 2020, the Covid-19 Construction Rapid Response Task Team was established with participation from key industry bodies to tackle the recovery of the industry post the lockdown. The Task Team, which seeks participation and expertise of all stakeholders in the industry, played a pivotal role in making key submissions towards the full reactivation of the sector under Alert Level 3.

Upon full reactivation of the sector, to assist members and the industry as a whole to maintain the necessary Occupational Health and safety protocols during the Covid-19 era, Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal launched their COVID-19 site induction video, which can be downloaded from www.masterbuilders.co.za.



Vuka Makhi Learners



Extracts From Guidance On Routine And Deep Cleaning Of Workplaces When Covid-19 Positive Cases Have Been Identified

By Dr Charlene Andraos

Frequency of cleaning/disinfection

- Workplaces to be cleaned daily.
- The frequency of cleaning will increase if:
- Workplace operates in shifts (clean between shifts).
- Equipment is shared (clean between uses).
- Disinfect when there is likelihood of contamination:
- Suspected/confirmed case of Covid-19 at the workplace.
- At workplaces with high volume of workers, customers or visitors that are likely to touch surfaces.

Terminal/Deep cleaning when Covid-19 case identified/suspected

WHO, CDC, EPA etc does not recommend fogging:

- Disinfectant inactivated by organic matter (cleaning still required).
- May miss surfaces shielded by objects / folded fabric etc.
- Increased inhalation exposure of disinfectant to workers and community.
- WHO recommends deep cleaning via wiping disinfectant on surface after thorough cleaning.
- No formal accredited training needed.

Deep cleaning after Covid-19 case identified /suspected

1. Close off area and direct work to another clean facility (it is not necessary to close entire business).
2. Increase air circulation (open doors/windows).
3. Wait 24 hours before cleaning.
4. Personal protective equipment (PPE): disposable or utility gloves, dedicated overall (plastic aprons), closed shoes.
5. Clean and disinfect communal areas and equipment (focus on highly-touched surfaces).
6. Wipe twice with 0,05% (500 ppm) chlorine solution (or once with 0,1%).
7. Avoid exposure to ill person's fomites (ie pens, computer, eating utensils, dishes).
8. Flood bodily fluid spillage with 0.5% (5000 ppm) chlorine solution, cover with absorbent material, leave for 30 min before cleaning.
9. Cleaning equipment (eg buckets) must be separated from regular cleaning equipment.
10. Closure period of workplace: disinfectant vapours have disappeared and all surfaces air-dried.
11. Additional cleaning and disinfection not necessary if more than seven days have elapsed since ill person was present in facility.

12. Continue routine, everyday cleaning and disinfection practices

Disinfection spray tunnels / booths

- Prof Salim AbdoolKarim, Chairperson of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Covid-19, "Human spraying is harmful with almost no benefit."
- CDC "does not recommend the use of sanitizing tunnels. There is no evidence that they are effective in reducing the spread of Covid-19. Chemicals used in sanitising tunnels could cause skin, eye, or respiratory irritation or damage."
- WHO: "Spraying of individuals with disinfectants (such as in a tunnel, cabinet, or chamber) is not recommended under any circumstances. This practice could be physically and psychologically harmful and would not reduce an infected person's ability to spread the virus through droplets or contact. Even if someone who is infected with Covid-19 goes through a disinfection tunnel or chamber, as soon as they start speaking, coughing or sneezing they can still spread the virus."

Additional important points

- Never mix different types of disinfectants (eg bleach with ammonia as hazardous vapours are released).
- Moisturise hands regularly as alcohol-based hand sanitizers result in dehydration.
- If staff members develop skin irritation after using sanitizers or disinfectants, inform occupational health practitioner / specialist or contracted dermatologist to determine source of irritation and recommend another product.
- Employers have to provide resources such as no-touch refuse bins, hand soap, alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 70% alcohol, disinfectants, and disposable towels for employees to clean their hands and their work surfaces. (Department of Employment and Labour, 17 March 2020).
- Irrespective of workplace size (ie < or > 20 employees), it is still the employer's duty to comply with Section 8 of the OHS Act and to ensure that there are funds set aside for the provision of resources. If there is no budget, then the employer must think of alternative methods to raise funds. ■



Sub-Standard Handrailing A Safety Concern

In this tough economic climate purchasing decisions are, in many cases, based on price alone. This is of major concern, as individuals with little understanding of the technical aspects behind a product such as handrailing can unwittingly compromise the safety of people.

Dean Weil, Operations Executive of Mentis Africa, cautions those making this type of purchasing decision to carefully review its selection of handrailing more thoroughly.

“Cheaper handrailing invariably means that thinner material is being used,” Weil says. “This could have a serious impact on the safety of personnel working on the plants where the product is installed. Thinner material being used in handrail manufacture obviously impacts on its structural integrity and will affect its strength over the long term.

In the event that the sub-standard product fails, the consequences to the company concerned could be much higher than the original savings it managed to achieve,” he says. “It makes good business sense to buy products of the correct quality, with sound structural integrity, that will contribute towards a safe working environment.”

The quality of handrailing systems in South Africa is governed by an industry standard arrived at by independent authorities, based on numerous tests to determine the correct material and specifications that ensure handrail is able to withstand a certain level of pressure and force. This includes the stanchions or uprights, as well as the horizontal rails.

The standard accepted base plate in local industry for a stanchion or upright is, for example, 10mm thick, in order to deliver the appropriate load-bearing support for the stanchion and meet all safety requirements.

“Bases are being made available to the market that are only 8mm thick,” Weil says. “Someone without sufficient technical knowledge could easily assume that a difference of just 2mm cannot make a significant difference to the integrity of the product. Yet tests have proved that a 10mm base is almost twice as strong as an 8mm base.”

According to the industry standard, the bottom tube of the stanchion should have a wall thickness of 2,5mm. Weil

says the same applies here — inferior products with wall thicknesses of 2mm and 1,6mm are currently being put into use. Again, tubes with the specified 2,5mm wall thickness have been tested and shown to be at least 20% stronger than the 2mm and 1,6mm tubes. The top tube should also have a minimum 2mm wall thickness, but inferior products with a wall thickness of 1,6mm are presently being utilised.

Handrails for industrial and general purposes should normally be of the two-rail type — comprising a handrail and a knee rail, supported on standards placed at suitable intervals. Handrailing should preferably, and always in areas where there are stairs, be continuous and have no obstruction on, above or near to it that could obstruct people’s hands as they move along it.

The recommended clearance between a handrail and any wall or object behind or below it is 65mm.

Mentis Africa is the leading local manufacturer of high-quality grating, expanded metal and handrailing systems in South Africa. With a legacy that goes back more than 70 years, today the company operates a comprehensively equipped facility in Johannesburg which is ISO accredited. ■



Extracts From Construction Industry Webinar Q&A with NIOH, Part One

On Level 3, can all types of construction commence?
Yes

Before returning to site, are we required to redo medical tests (Annexure 3) for everyone?

If the current medical fitness certificate is expired, or if the Covid-19 risk assessment done by the employer requires further medical testing.

Is a Principal Agent legally responsible for the safety of the design team (architect, engineer, QS) while on a construction site at a site meeting he or she has called?

The person who remunerates the Principal Agent is responsible, depending on the contractual agreement and appointment of the Principal Agent.

What training is required for the person conducting the “access screening” on construction projects we as Safety Practitioners must assess; how do we declare the person competent to conduct these screenings? Or is this the contractor’s problem because they grant access to the site?

The assessing of training requirements must be risk-based, considering the working conditions and number of persons entering/existing the site. There are no formal qualifications required but it is considered good practice to appoint a competent person based on the risks.

One of our clients at my workplace requires us to submit a Covid 19 Clearance Certificate before we continue with the projects we left when lockdown started. Where am I going to get that, and should I take all employees for medicals again?

This depends on the detailed contractual agreement you have with the client with respect to the Covid-19 requirements.

Can we travel to different provinces and if so, where do we get permits to travel?

Yes, you can travel for official purposes and you do require a permit.

What are there standard procedures in agriculture infrastructure or construction such as maintenance or extensions (renovations) at abattoirs while operating, as these are high intense areas of work and complex in nature?

This is done through a risk assessment read with Section 8 of the OHSA.

Is the compliance officer supposed to be at work all the time?

No, the Directive does not indicate full-time on site but please note his/her responsibilities.

Is a mask compulsory on site even whilst wearing a face shield?

Risk-based approach.



I would like to know if all sub-contractors are subject to the same rules that will fall under the contractor’s rules and training regarding Covid-19? Do subcontractors have their own rules and training before coming on a site?

Question is vague: the flow of responsibility on a construction site is client, principal contractor and contractor (sub), rules and regulations applicable should be the same as per legislative requirements, contractor(s) can have their own rules as long as it is accordance with the client’s health and safety spec, principal contractor(s)’ health and safety plan and it is above the minimum legislative requirements.

If you are appointed as a covid-19 Compliance Officer, is it compulsory to have a training certificate?

Not a formal certificate but proof of training is under Section 8 of the OHSA must be noted.

With regards to the disposal of used PPE such as masks, it should be disposed with general waste. Should this not be seen as hazardous or infectious waste as described in the regulations?

It would be advisable for the generator of waste to assess the risk of their waste on humans and the environment, and put in place measures to ensure safe management of it.

The Covid-19 National Public Hygiene Strategy and Implementation Plan (14 April 2020) <http://www.health.gov.za/> indicates that used masks generated in workplaces and public places are considered general waste. However, where screening activities (ie Covid-19 testing sites) are taking place, used masks, gloves, etc should be placed in dedicated biohazard waste containers and managed as health care risk waste.

Between face mask and face shield, which one is the safest?

Risk assessment will inform this. Where there is likelihood of droplets landing on the worker's face (eg constant continuous interaction with public), as well as activities being conducted in the workplace, the mask alone might only protect the mouth and nose, leaving the other areas exposed.

What if one of the workers has a family member tested positive, but not showing any symptoms himself? Can he work?

Presentations mentioned this. Who can access facilities and the workplace cannot know this unless the person has disclosed at work. Nonetheless, this person might have to quarantine and monitor themselves for Covid-19 symptoms during quarantine. This should be discussed with the workplace on how it will take place, considering workplace procedures and policies.

Should screening be done multiple times a day or is the start of day enough: at least once a day?

The employer and risk assessment can decide if more than once is required. Minimum is once a day depending on the nature of operations and risk, as well as workplace changes, as some symptoms may show as the day progresses.

If an employee is infected, who takes care of the costs such as medical, employer or disaster relief?

That differs with what the company offers and depends on costs, medical assessments / consultation and testing where necessary. The company needs to state upfront what will be offered and how.

What would the ramifications be if an investigation identifies workers as low risk in terms of your criteria and further cases then develop?

Infection can come from anywhere. Low risk is not enough, it also goes with workplace controls be implemented as they are seen as prevention measures.

If a person is diagnosed with Covid-19 on site do I need to fill the COID forms? WCI 1?

YES

Are the following also considered as co-morbidities: peptic ulcer disease and iron deficiency?

The DEL's consolidated Covid-19 Direction on Health and Safety in the Workplace, published on 4 June 2020, has a list of guidelines and examples of these, immunocompromising conditions etc.

What is the regulations on transporting of employees in a bakkie?

The Road Traffic Act provides details on transporting employees in a bakkie.

Where can I access the private transport regulations not guidelines? I am referring to the use of private vehicles not for transporting people.

The Disaster Management Act details movement of persons.

Is there any training pertaining to hypoxia as a result of prolonged use of homemade masks as they do not follow design and specification parameters, and what is acceptable practice to prevent injuries due to hypoxia?

There is currently no scientific evidence that suggests or confirms that the use of masks can cause hypoxia. The Centre for Disease Control (CDC) recommends the use of cloth-based masks in areas of significant community-based transmission (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>). Please note that in the workplace, a risk assessment will inform what appropriate PPE should be use. It is important to note that a mask should not replace a respirator.

What's the definition of a Compliance Employee as per draft regulation?

The draft (assuming OHS Directive) does not define a compliance employee, reference is DMR (April 2020).

What are the roles of the compliance officer and how to they differ from those of the compliance manager?

This is clarified in the June 2020 OHS Directive, where it indicated the employer must appoint a Manager as the compliance officer.

Is it fine to just revise your HSEQ policy to include Covid-19 or should it be a separate Covid-19 policy?

As long as it addresses the protection of employees relating to Covid-19. ■



Extracts From “Compensation Of Occupationally Acquired Covid-19 Disease”

By Dr Lucas Mosidi –Director: Medical Services, Compensation Fund, Department of Employment and Labour

Legal aspects of compensation – case adjudication
Acquired out of employment: The employee must have been involved in tasks for which he or she was contractually employed to perform when the disease was contracted.

Acquired in the course of employment: The disease must have been contracted during the periods when the employee was expected to be performing his or her duties or any other duties in the pursuance of the employer’s business

The person contracting the disease is deemed an employee in terms of COID; Section 83 of the BCEA and Section 200A (4) of the Labour Relations Act (LRA)

Legal Aspects of Compensation –Section 65 & 66 Section 65

The employee is entitled to compensation if he or she contracts a disease listed in Schedule 3 of the COID Act. If the disease is not listed but it can be proven that it was acquired in the workplace, liability must be accepted. If a pre-existing condition makes it difficult to treat the occupational disease, treatment for the pre-existing condition must also be approved. When determining permanent disablement (PD) benefits, the impact of the pre-existing condition must be taken into account. The claim must be submitted within 12 months after the diagnosis of the disease by a medical practitioner, otherwise benefits will prescribe.

Section 66

An employee who contracts any disease while performing work listed in Schedule 3 is entitled to benefits under COIDA.

Medical Aspects of Compensation - Burden of Proof

Causality: The agent causing the disease in terms of HBAs must be a known cause of the disease and that the disease suffered must have a causal link to the exposure within the working environment [Covid-19 ✓]

Chronology: The series of events leading to the disease must have a chronological sequence that justifies the link to the cause [Covid-19 ✓]

Medical Probability: The link between the cause and effect must satisfy the requirements for medical probability, which stipulates that the likelihood that an association between a cause and an effect be greater than 95% for the relationship to be considered probable [Covid-19 ✓]

Criteria for acceptance of Covid-19 disease as occupational

Clinical diagnosis confirmed as per the DOH/WHO/ILO Guidelines and Protocols (Positive RT PCR for SARS Cov 2).

Proof of approved official travel / trip to countries or areas affected by Covid-19 on work assignment (Exposure and Medical Questionnaire completed).

Where there is no travel history, a known and confirmed case in the workplace as per the criteria above as source of infection (Contact tracing information). Where no source of infection is identified, the employee’s workplace must be that which has been presumed to be of high risk [Section 66 COID].

Compensation benefits for Covid-19 disease

Benefits covered under COID shall be paid on a retrospective basis where cases have been confirmed and accepted as occupational / workplace acquired. Medical aid shall cover the cost of approved diagnostic tests and clinically-appropriate interventions as advised by the DOH / WHO / ILO.

The costs for pre-diagnostic measures like quarantine in an approved non-hospital facility shall be reimbursed in accordance with applicable tariffs in the gazette, where appropriate quarantine guidelines were followed, with the advice of a registered medical practitioner when claim is accepted. The determination of sick leave for work-related disease shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 24 of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act (BCEA).

Medical Aid: This covers reasonable costs for treatment and rehabilitation as provided for by various medical service providers and health establishments

Temporary Partial Disablement (TPD): This is an equitable portion paid to the employee as determined in Schedule 4 of the Act, where the employee is reasonably accommodated in a similar or different task while recovering [Reasonable Accommodation].

Temporary Total Disablement (TTD): This is payment made directly to the employee while he or she remains off sick. It covers reasonable cost of lost wages up to 75% of the employee’s salary, payable from the fourth day of injury or disease and for such period as the employee may remain unfit to work but not exceeding 24 months.

Permanent Disablement (PD): This is payable as lump sum or pension to employees whose diseases have reached permanency and no further improvement or deterioration is envisaged after maximum medical improvement status is reached.

Death benefits for fatal Injuries or diseases causing death, the deceased employee’s dependents will be compensated to an amount not exceeding 100% permanent disablement referred to in section 49 (1). Funeral costs are also paid at a once off amount of R18 251. ■

caps lock
revenue

Unpacking The Supplementary Budget Speech

By Mamello Matikinca-Ngweny, Chief Economist.

Minister of Finance, Tito Mboweni, and National Treasury released the 2020 supplementary budget. This budget was prepared and tabled in response to major changes in expected revenue generation and the channelling of expenditure after the Covid-19 outbreak and managed to address the immediate issues confronting the fiscus. The main budget balance is now expected to widen to 14,6% of GDP in fiscal year 2020/21 (February projection: -6.8%). Gross national debt is expected to increase to 81,8% of GDP (February projection: 65,6%). The expansion is mainly due to lower revenue collections and higher pay-outs from the UIF.

Expenditure adjustments

National Treasury expects expenditure to increase to R1,573 trillion from R1,537 trillion projected in the February budget. This mainly reflects support extended to state-owned entities, the Covid-19 response package and debt service costs.

While the rise in total expenditure reflects a rise of R36 billion, the total fiscal response to the pandemic resulted in R145 billion additional spending. Of this amount, R122 billion was allocated to the fiscal relief package, R3 billion to recapitalise the Land Bank and R19,5 billion for provisional allocations for Covid-19 fiscal relief. National Treasury was able to reprioritise R109 billion, but the remaining R36 billion will be financed through an increase in the main budget deficit.

Revenue

The revenue shortfall was larger than anticipated; tax relief measures, business closures as well as lower personal income taxes owing to job losses are expected to result in a R304,1 billion tax shortfall in the current financial year. Treasury noted that domestic VAT and pay-as-you-earn has seen the largest shortfalls.

National Treasury indicated that tax revenue should increase over the medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF) on the back of improved tax collection as enforcement is strengthened and other revenue measures are put in place.

Overall impression

While this budget painted a sobering picture of the current circumstances, it did not provide much detail on how government will "close the mouth of the hippopotamus". The budget does, however, note that more details on how the government is planning to consolidate the budget will be provided in the MTBPS.



Minister of Finance, Tito Mboweni

Market impact

This budget certainly seems more bond-friendly than equity-friendly as no immediate increases in the overall size of bond issuances are expected and a commitment to running a primary surplus in 2023/2024 will be positively received by debtholders. Yields have come down slightly across the curve. The rand depreciated to R17,40 as the budget was tabled but has again strengthened to within the day's trading range towards the end of the day.

The equity market ended lower, in-line with global markets. Lower consumption expenditure by government and the hinting of potential tax increases to come will be negative for the equity market in the short to medium term. A commitment to structural reform and an ambitious infrastructure programme could boost growth longer term, which will have an ultimately beneficial impact on the market if executed. ■

Proper Surface Preparation Vital For Successful Plastering

The Concrete Institute MD, Bryan Perrie, here provides advice on how to prepare a wide variety of surfaces before applying plaster:

In new plastering work, surface preparation should start with accurate setting out and construction of walls and soffits to provide a surface that can be plastered to the required lines and levels by applying a coat (or coats) of uniform thickness. Excessively thick plaster, or plaster of uneven thickness, should not be relied on to hide inaccurate work.

Where zones of the substrate surface deviate from the required plane or curved surface by more than about 10mm, first try to remove high areas by hacking or cutting. If not possible, apply undercoats to low areas in such a way that the final coat has uniform thickness.

Strength:

For new work, masonry units that are strong enough to survive handling and transport should be strong enough to hold plaster. Similarly, in situ concrete should have ample strength.

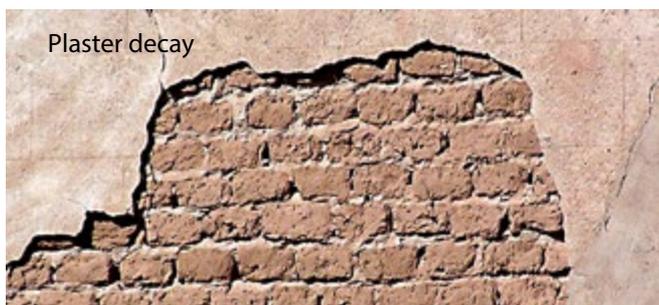
Roughness:

Background surfaces should ideally be at least as rough as coarse sandpaper or rough sawn timber. Surface roughness can be achieved by:

- Using formwork with a rough surface, eg sawn timber, for substrate concrete
- Stripping formwork early and wire brushing concrete
- Hacking
- Abrasive blasting (eg sand blasting)
- Raking out mortar joints in masonry substrates to provide a key. A depth of about 10mm is normally adequate.

Roughness can also be achieved by applying a spatterdash layer. Spatterdash is a mixture of one part of cement (preferably CEM I or CEM IIA) to 1,5 parts of coarse sand with enough water for a sluggishly pourable consistence. A polymer emulsion should be substituted for part of the mixing water (usually a quarter to a third, but in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions). The mixture is flicked on to the substrate as an initial coating to provide a key on dense or smooth substrates with poor suction. The spatterdash should cover the substrate surface completely and form a rough texture with nodules about 5mm high.

Spatterdash must not be allowed to dry out for at least three days and if a polymer emulsion is included in the mix, then curing should be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. It should be tested for adhesion and strength by probing with a screwdriver or knife before plaster is applied.



Plaster decay



Bryan Perrie, MD, The Concrete Institute

Cleanliness:

Surfaces must be free of loose material such as dust, and films that can interfere with bonding, such as curing compounds and form-release oil. Substrate surfaces may be cleaned by:

- Water jetting
- Blowing with compressed air
- vacuum cleaning
- Brushing

Solvents should not be used to remove films formed by curing compounds – such films must be removed by mechanical means.

Absorption:

Firstly, assess absorptiveness by throwing about a cupful of water against the surface. The surface will fall into one of three categories:

- I. No water is absorbed.
- II. Some water is absorbed - but most runs off.
- III. Most of the water is absorbed.

Category I surfaces, which would include hard-burnt clay face bricks, glazed bricks and very dense high-strength concrete, should be prepared by applying a spatterdash coat that includes a polymer emulsion. Such surfaces must not be pre-wetted.

Category II surfaces should not require any treatment to control suction.

Category III surfaces should be wetted thoroughly for at least an hour and then allowed to become saturated surface-dry before the plaster is applied.

Preparation of various types of substrate:

Monolithic concrete:

Concrete is normally placed in situ but may be

precast. Provide a rough surface by using rough-textured formwork, early stripping of formwork and wire brushing the concrete, hacking or abrasive blasting. If none of these is practicable, apply a spatterdash coat after ensuring that the surface is clean.

Ensure that no form-release oil is left on the surface to be plastered. Clean down by water jetting or vacuuming and remove curing compound, if any, by mechanical means. Conventional structural concrete should not require wetting to control suction but smooth off-shutter high-strength concrete surfaces will require the application of a spatterdash coat.

Concrete masonry:

The texture of the masonry units should be sufficiently rough without further treatment. If not, apply a spatterdash coat and/or hack the surface. If the surface is dusty, clean by brushing, water jetting or vacuuming. It should not be necessary to control suction of the surface by prewetting, unless the masonry units are very absorbent.

Burnt clay stock brickwork:

The texture of the bricks will probably be sufficiently rough without requiring further treatment. If not, apply a spatterdash coat, hack the surface, or attach the new plaster mechanically with expanded metal lathing. If the surface is dusty, clean by brushing, water jetting or vacuuming.

Burnt clay stock bricks normally have a very high suction: this can be assessed by wetting the wall as outlined in earlier reference to absorption. If suction is high, pre-wet the wall and allow it to become saturated surface-dry before applying the plaster.

Burnt clay face-brickwork:

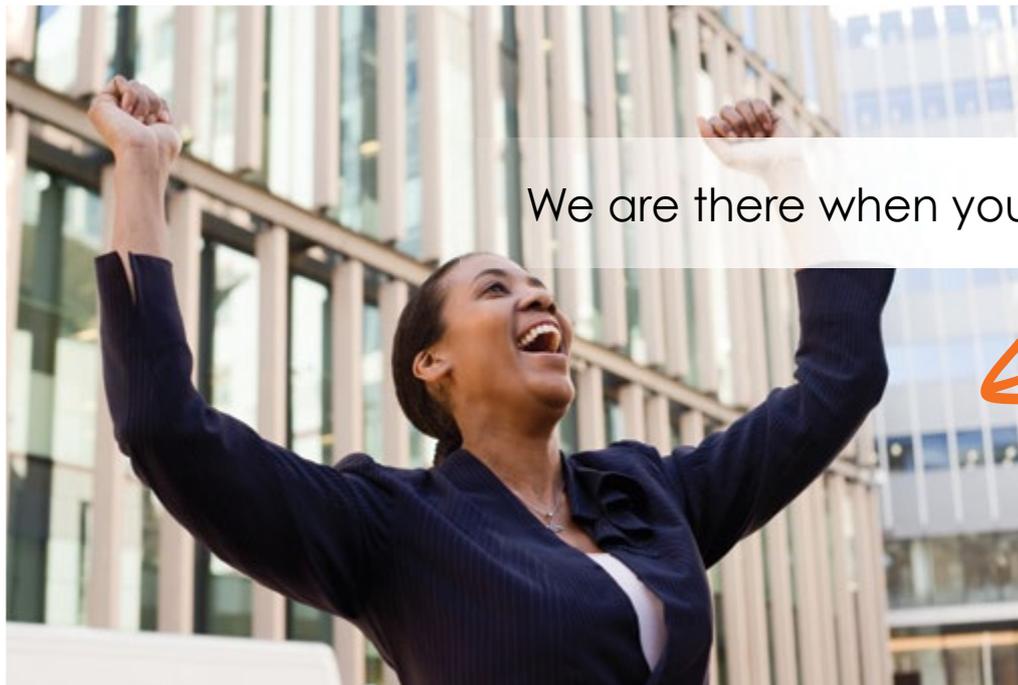
It is recommended that specialist advice be obtained for each specific case.



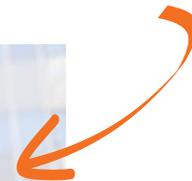
Wall being plastered

Poorly burnt soft clay brickwork:

This type of walling may be found in very old buildings, usually when restoration or repairs are being done. Care should be taken when removing the old plaster to prevent damaging the bricks. Protect the wall from rain or running water once the bricks are exposed. Rake out the joints about 10mm deep (the mortar is normally very soft). Brush down the wall to remove any loosely adhering material, then lightly dampen the wall and apply a spatterdash coat that incorporates a polymer emulsion to improve adhesion. ■



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The genset installation expands the hospital's standby generating capacity to 1 MVA continuous rating



Zest Weg Genset Solves Hospital's Standby Power Needs

A generator set installation at a Cape Town private hospital was commissioned by Zest WEG, providing a plug-and-play solution with high reliability and minimal downtime.

"In a design that suited the hospital's severe space constraints, Zest WEG built the generator, transformer and remote radiator into special ISO shipping containers in a double-stack configuration," Johannes Nel, Operations Manager – Production at Zest WEG. "The contract also included the refurbishment of the client's existing 1 000 KVA 400V MTU open-type generator which was included in the solution."

The new genset expands the hospital's standby generating capacity to 1 MVA continuous rating, allowing 100% of the institution's functions to continue as normal during periods of load-shedding. Nel also highlights that reliable supply was key to the hospital's safe and efficient operation, whether from mains or back-up supply.

To reduce the project lead time as much as possible, the delivery of certain imported components was arranged well in advance. The containerised solution was constructed and extensively tested at the Zest WEG genset manufacturing facility in Epping, saving time during installation.

"It was critical that any downtime be kept to an absolute minimum, as hospitals need to run continuously," Nel says.

"With our expertise, product range and experience in the health sector, our design, installation and commissioning strategy was able to align closely with this priority."

A dry-type step-up transformer allows the generator to connect to the 11 KV council electricity supply council supply, which will reduce hospital downtime during commissioning. The resin-sealed transformer also provides a long-lasting solution with low maintenance and a high safety factor due to the absence of oil as a coolant.

Nel explains that another vital concern was the hospital's proximity to a residential area, demanding that the noise level of the generator be kept within strict limits. This requirement was successfully achieved during testing, with the noise level kept within 65 decibels at a distance of seven metres.

In addition to conducting a complete engine rewiring, Zest WEG also upgraded the generator controller, giving the customer improved ability to monitor the generator's operation during load-shedding. The modern controls help protect the generator and optimise the lifespan of critical equipment.

While certain aspects of the contract's timing were affected by Covid-19 lockdown regulations, the final commissioning has been handed over to the client. ■



Latest regulations fall short in addressing all fire-safety design issues

The newly-released 2020 version of SANS 10400-T, “The application of the National Building Regulations - Fire Protection”, still does not adequately address all of the issues related to fire-safety designs.

This caution comes from [ASP Fire](#) CEO, Michael van Niekerk, who notes that informal settlements and wildland urban fire interfaces, to mention a few, are not addressed. The acute lack of water and effective options to deal with it are also not included, albeit in commentary form.

“Our latest sprinkler code is in draft format, and is currently in circulation for comment. However, that is also not, to the best of my knowledge, a comprehensive standard like the American NFPA 13 standard for sprinklers,” van Niekerk points out.

Meanwhile, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) has collaborated with a coalition of over 70 international organisations to develop a new fire safety global standard. The project aims to bring reassurance to people across the world that the buildings and infrastructure they use follows the best worldwide expertise on fire safety, RICS reported in a statement.

“I believe that international collaboration makes perfect sense, because unlike politics or cultural differences, fire burns everywhere in pretty much the same manner. The development of a standard that includes knowledge, experience and skills from across the globe can only be of benefit to all,” van Niekerk adds.

The International Fire Safety Standards were open for global consultation until 23 March 2020, with the final international standard to be published later this year. The project brought together wide-ranging global expertise, and also attracted the support of the United Nations and World Bank.

“Fire knows no geographical or political boundaries. Along with this, the differing approaches to building fire safety across the globe can be inconsistent, ineffective and, in some cases, non-existent. There is an urgent need



Michael van Niekerk, ASP Fire CEO

to deliver better safety for people’s homes, communities and workplaces,” according to Gary Strong, Chair of the International Fire Safety Standards Coalition and Global Building Standards Director at RICS.

About Fire
ASP Fire operates across the entire African continent from its Gauteng base, providing professional, accredited fire risk management and support to its clients. ASP Fire designs, installs and maintains a full range of fire detection and suppression equipment suited to clients’ needs. ASP Fire provides a holistic, proactive and preventative fire solution based on integrated fire risk assessment, training and consulting, with the installation and maintenance of fire detection and suppression systems that meet SABS, NFPA, FPASA, FDIA and SAQCC standards. ■

AfriSam: Creating Concrete Possibilities

“AfriSam has been operating for more than 85 years and despite the extremely tough economic environment, the company still has a vision of being around and making a positive contribution to the development of our country’s infrastructure through the products and services it provides, but first, we have to position our business correctly so that we can successfully navigate our way through the current storms and the headwinds facing our industry in the next two to three years,” says Richard Tomes, AfriSam’s Sales & Marketing Executive.

The company’s product range includes cement, slagment, aggregates and readymix concrete.

AfriSam is known for the high-quality cement it manufactures. This is from a number of its operations, including two fully integrated cement plants, one in Ulco in the Northern Cape, and the other near Lichtenburg in the North West province. “We also operate in Eswatini and Lesotho, where we have two cement blending and packing plants.



During Covid-19, the health and safety of its employees has been AfriSam’s number one priority

It is also a supplier of aggregates and readymix concrete. “The readymix and aggregate side of our business (construction materials) focuses on large infrastructure projects – roads, dams and bridges. We supply aggregates to many SANRAL projects, and concrete to sizable infrastructure projects,” says Tomes.

AfriSam provided the concrete for the tallest building in Africa, The Leonardo (the 55-floor mixed-use property development in Sandton), as well as many of the Sandton CBD buildings with readymix concrete. On the residential side, several large property developers receive concrete from AfriSam.

Most of the company’s bagged cement products are sold through the retail industry. Tomes says that the wide cement product range offered by all producers, importers and blenders and being sold through hardware retail stores throughout the country, is proving a little confusing for consumers. “Because cement is such a technical product, selling the right cement product for the right application can present challenges, especially in a country like ours where we have unfortunately lost a lot skilled artisans in the built environment and are still confronted will low levels of literacy across large sections of our population,” he explains.

“To make it easier for the consumer, we offer an all-purpose product, AfriSam All Purpose Cement, that is safe



AfriSam has two fully integrated cement plants, of which its Dudfield operation is located in Lichtenburg in the North West Province

for use in concrete, mortar and plaster. For all the reasons mentioned above, expecting consumers to find the appropriate product for laying bricks or casting concrete for foundations or other structural parts of a building can be quite risky. Consumers can build the home of their dreams with confidence of using a dependable, reputable product. We understand the importance of quality when it comes to building materials. Nobody can afford to continuously make repairs to their homes due to sub-quality products, so we focus on quality products that meet the needs of all South Africans, from the smallest house to the biggest piece of infrastructure – we cover all segments in our industry.

“For the private sector and commercial developments, we have a product called AfriSam High Strength Cement, a technical specialist product for those who do their own concrete mix designs and are able to decide how much cement they need per cubic metre of concrete for the right strength. That is our flagship product for the technical specialist,” Tomes adds.

Approach to sustainability

Pivoting to AfriSam’s sustainability practice, Tomes says that low-carbon cement is a driving force for the company. “We are focused on reducing our carbon footprint and have embarked on a number of initiatives such as renewable energy and making sure we use as much extender as possible to produce extended cement, without compromising on quality,” he says.

AfriSam is a market leader in this space, the first company to produce an eco-friendly cement with the lowest carbon



AfriSam offers an all-purpose product, AfriSam All Purpose Cement, that is safe for use in concrete, mortar and plaster

footprint of all cementitious products in SA. "All our operations are green-orientated; we recycle water and reduce energy consumption. All our cement products are aligned to Government's carbon tax regulations. Consumers of our products can make an informed decision about the best product to use with the lowest carbon footprint."

Industry overview

Tomes comments that even prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the SA big five construction companies, as well as construction material businesses, were faced with difficulties. This is due to low economic growth in the country, the reduction in infrastructure spend and local fixed capital formation.

AfriSam recently hosted webinars with renowned economists as guest speakers who forecast that the construction industry will decline by between 20% to 30% in 2020 compared to 2019, and that GDP will shrink by between 7% to 8%. The President has announced some stimulus packages to help boost the economy and the country has already seen the Reserve Bank reduce interest rates quite significantly in the past few months. The impact of these stimulus packages usually takes a while to materialise and show in the form of new projects.



AfriSam recently hosted webinars with renowned economists as guest speakers who forecasted that the construction industry will decline by between 20% to 30% in 2020 compared to 2019

"There will probably be a slight bounce back in 2021, but it won't get back to pre-lockdown levels. However, in the next 18 to 24 months we will see the construction industry gradually start to pick up again. South Africa has been through many growth cycles over the years and we have seen severe declines in economic growth and overall confidence levels, the worst probably being in the run-up to the country's first democratic elections in 1994. We do, however, know that in the long term we cannot write off this industry.

"There is a massive need for infrastructure development in our country and on our continent, with the rapid rate of urbanisation and the need for housing, schools and clinics. Some economists predict the level of urbanisation in South Africa to be around 80% by 2050. We are going to have to ride through these difficult periods for now, but the construction industry will thrive again in the future.

AfriSam's response to Covid-19

"As part of the mining sector, AfriSam was fortunate to reopen its cement and aggregate operations under lockdown Level 4 to supply products to the essential services as highlighted by the Presidency.

"Unfortunately, during Level 4 the general construction industry was not able to operate, so the demand for our products was from retailers (mainly bagged cement products). Now in lockdown Level 3 our aggregate and



Low-carbon cement is a driving force for the company

readymix businesses are ready to supply, but unlike in the case of cement, demand for these products has dropped significantly and the uptick is much slower. "At AfriSam, the health and safety of our employees remains our number one priority. For this reason, we want to encourage as many people as possible to work from home, especially our head office people. All our operations have implemented strict screening protocols regarding symptoms, personnel movement and interaction data to ensure we have the right testing and tracing in place.

"I must commend our Covid-19 Task Team. We've already had successful inspections from the DMR (Department of Mineral Resources) at our plants and the Department has been complimentary of our post-lockdown safety measures," Tomes says.

"Post-lockdown, the way forward for AfriSam is to ensure the business's sustainability. Since 2017, the company has been running on efficient capacity of two kilns in its cement plants. The readymix and aggregate businesses have also been working tirelessly at preparing themselves to cope with the ongoing decline in infrastructure spend for the last few years already.

"Even though we could not have predicted Covid-19, we had already adapted our business to make sure that production capacity reflects market demand and we will continue to do so. We were fortunate to have recently completed our balance sheet restructuring which has placed us on a better footing to weather the Covid-19 storm and its after-effects. The support that we received from our bankers, equity providers, suppliers and customers has played a significant role in helping to manage our liquidity position so far. The value of good relationships and stakeholder engagements cannot be underestimated, especially during difficult times like these.

"Businesses cannot be sustained if they do not have customers, so we have to ensure that we limit the spread of Covid-19 and the impact it is going to have on our economy. As President Ramaphosa said, we have to find the right balance between protecting lives and kickstarting the economy. AfriSam looks forward to the role it can play in rebuilding our beautiful country," concludes Tomes. ■



Richard Tomes, AfriSam's Sales & Marketing Executive

T2 Distribution Centre



T2 Distribution Centre is an ironmongery e-commerce website supplying a wide range of door handles, locks, cylinders, and door controls. With the promise of next-day delivery of all in stock items, projects can meet their deadlines with the added convenience of ordering all stock at a moment's notice, wherever you are.

t2distribution.co.za has an extensive range of decorative handles to browse. For the budget driven project, consider the coupé handles, which provide a quality item at a reasonable price point.

Operated by experts in ironmongery specifications, technical support is available to ensure all items are fit for purpose. With access to the leading brands in the industry, T2 can offer solutions for both the aluminium and timber applications on both commercial and domestic projects.

T2 stocks brands such as QS, Assa Abloy, Cisa and dormakaba.



QS

Created as a joint venture in 2001, QS have been successfully supplying the South African market with affordable stainless-steel ironmongery and reasonably priced door controls. The signature range of 304-grade stainless steel door handles is supported by a full complement of accessories, locks, cylinders, hinges, and hydraulic door controls. All products are covered by a five-year warranty.



QS bluetooth smart lock

ASSA ABLOY

ASSA ABLOY own the Union, Yale, Mul-T-Lock and Besam brands. Established in 1921, Henderson sliding door systems is a premium brand under ASSA ABLOY umbrella, known for being a leader in the design and manufacturing of sliding door gear.



Henderson sliding channel

dormakaba

dormakaba is the result of a merger between two well-established companies: Dorma & Kaba, now known as dormakaba South Africa. Together they stand for 150 years, supplying a comprehensive portfolio of high-quality products and creative door solutions to the industry.



dormakaba access control

Cisa

A humble family owned business of Derrick Purdue and his sons, Cisa was established in 1982 in Cape Town. With products ranging from cylinders, hospitality solutions and a premium range from Italy, Cisa has a wide range of door solutions to consider.



Cisa RS3 Cylinder

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Nozzles For Every High-Pressure Jetting Need

High-pressure jetting equipment is used to clean everything from surfaces to tubes, sewers and pipes. There are several challenges that jetting equipment operators may come up against, from tree roots to debris, and concrete inflow. However, having the right nozzle for the jetting hose is half the battle won.

This is why Werner Pumps SA, leading South African design, manufacture, supply and maintenance specialist in high-pressure jetting equipment, has partnered with Enz Technik AG to supply Swiss-manufactured nozzle solutions. Some of the specialist Enz products available from Werner Pumps include:

- **Rotopuls:** The Enz Golden Jet rotating nozzle is provided with an eccentrically supported rotor, which produces very fast vibrations and pulsating jets. The resulting pulsations are strong enough to disintegrate deposits up to 10cm thick. Thanks to the application of the Rotopuls nozzle, the more expensive work with the cutting tools or with the chain flail head can be avoided in many cases.
- **Bulldog:** The Enz Golden Jet Bulldog Rotating Nozzle has been designed for operation with recycling water and fresh water. The cleverly built sliding bearing allows the use of every kind of recycled water. An integrated oil-free braking system results in a low wear and tear operation and in controlled numbers of rotation.
- **Pointed nozzles:** Concentrated powerful advance is obtained by means of four front jet nozzles. The sharp edges cut, break and penetrate through every kind of blockage. Made of wear-resistant, hardened steel, all nozzles from art. 60.050 onward are provided with ceramic inserts. Applications include penetrating of completely clogged pipes, opening of interlaced roots and opening of frozen pipelines.
- **Grenade bomb:** This Enz Golden Jet nozzle is made of wear-resistant hardened steel. The “grenade”

and the “bomb” are joined in the same nozzles. Two different jet angles of 10° and 30° perform together, ensuring strong traction and effective cleaning. Applications include removal of loose rubble, stone, gravel and soft deposits.

- **Ejector nozzle:** These tools are outstanding in their enormous flushing capacity. Their main application is cleaning large fully surcharged pipes and drains bigger than Ø 50 mm. The specific arrangement of the nozzle inserts ensures that the nozzle jets do not work directly against the pipe wall.
- **Pipe cleaning nozzles:** Designed specifically for cleaning clogged pipes, this range of stainless-steel nozzles offers centric front jet and three or four rear jets (30°). The front jet penetrates completely clogged pipes and frozen pipelines, while the rear jets flush away the waste material.
- **Chain flail heads:** These nozzles are used to clear calcareous layers, concrete residues and larger roots.
- **Bulldozer nozzles:** Used to clear heavy blockages of sand, rags, plastic bags, containers and rocks. It has a front nozzle to clear its way.
- **Impact cutter heads:** A radical innovation for milling of deposits in pipes, these nozzles have carbide-tipped teeth to remove most stubborn deposits, such as thick roots, calcareous layers and injection cement.
- **Spinning nozzles:** Used in drains and sewer lines to blast blockages such as fat, calcareous deposits and smaller roots. This nozzle can also be set to 1000-bar for boiler tube cleaning and removal of hard scale.
- **Cross-jet nozzles:** Used in the cleaning of boiler tubes and heat exchanges, as well as completely blocked pipes. This tool is able to cut hard scale from within these tubes. ■

Mercedes-Benz Trucks expands the Arocs range

Benefitting directly from the innovations available in the new Actros range from Mercedes-Benz Trucks is the new Arocs range. Initially introduced in 2019, Arocs has set the benchmark in reliability, efficiency and safety within the distribution segment, while raising the bar in relation to reliability, robustness and bodybuilder friendliness within the construction segment.

Mercedes-Benz Trucks are therefore thrilled to announce that six new models have been added to the existing range, comprising three freight carriers (the Arocs 3336/48, the Arocs 3340/48 and the Arocs 3352/45), an 8x4 tipper (the Arocs 4145K/51) and two all-wheel drives off road vehicles (the Arocs 1845AE/45 and the Arocs 3345AE/45).

In both the distribution and construction applications, the new Mercedes-Benz Arocs model series impress not only with a comfortable driver workplace, but also with precisely coordinated, application-matched vehicle configurations, fuel-saving efficient technology and attractive service offers which lowers total costs.

With new enhancements like the multifunctional steering wheel, which enhances ergonomics and ease of operation, the electronic parking brake, which combines simple

handling, driving comfort and safety, the keyless start, which improves driver convenience. The Arocs is more functional and comfortable than ever.

Furthermore, the Arocs range comes standard with a seat belt monitor, rain sensor, and rubber mats for driver and co-driver's side. "With the addition of the new Actros and additional Arocs models, I am pleased to say we now boast a complete product line-up within the Heavy Duty Truck segment, that is not only unmatched in its design, but offers value for money to our customers," comments Maretha Gerber: Head of Mercedes-Benz Trucks. ■



Configuring Tower Cranes For Optimal Value

With higher buildings the order of the day, Potain tower cranes can be specially configured for better standing height. According to Louw Smit, sales director at Crane & Hoist Equipment SA, this allows the hook height to be raised without the added cost of anchoring or jacking. The company is the southern African dealer for Potain cranes.

"Configuring the mast makes the crane more suitable for the high-rise structures that are popular in today's construction sector," says Smit. "It adds to the freestanding height of the tower crane itself, without the need to tie the crane onto the building."

The process can be implemented by starting with bigger



Ten metres of mast loaded onto transport



Potain MD175B tower crane in action

mast sections and then adapting to the normal mast size – giving a better hook height. This differs from the standard configuration available on the crane's specification sheet, and offers greater flexibility at reduced expense to the customer.

Crane & Hoist Equipment SA deals in both rental and sales of Potain tower cranes. Its own rental fleet comprises eight top-slewing cranes and one bottom-slewing crane.

"Our rental fleet is well-suited to meet the needs of small and medium-sized projects, where lifting capacity of between 5 tonnes and 8 tonnes is required, with jib lengths of 50 metres to 60 metres," Smit concludes. ■

The Use Of Aluminium In The Construction Industry

Aluminium is predominately utilised in construction due to its inherent weightlessness and resistance to erosion. The material is used in outside facades, shelves, railings, staircases, windows and doors, and walls and roofs.

The following are advantages aluminium serves as a property in construction:

Alloys

With the addition of alloying properties in zinc, copper, manganese and magnesium, pure aluminium goes from a low-strength metal to a highly suitable material in construction.

Durability

Endurance is key, as aluminium alloys are water and corrosion-proof, as well as resistant to detrimental UV rays, prolonging buildings' lifespans.

Reduced maintenance costs

The material needs no maintenance, whether raw or lacquered aluminium, so resources can be redeployed.

Finishes

Able to be lacquered and anodised in a spectrum of colours, aluminium can satisfy stringent décor design requirements. Treating the material bolsters its strength and resilience.

Reflective qualities

Used for its light reflective characteristics, aluminium is utilised for managing light, as well as keeping HVAC and lighting costs to a minimum. Aluminium does not absorb radiant heat; in summer, maintaining cool interiors and in winter, maintaining warm interiors.

Aluminium is burn-proof and sustainable

Classified as a non-combustible material (A1 fire reaction class), aluminium alloys melt at 650 ° C, but don't release hazardous gases. Aluminium often coats the external membranes of industrial objects which only combine under intense fiery heat, ensuring the escape of smoke while ameliorating fire damage.

Aluminium is carbon-neutral

According to studies performed, aluminium coatings are carbon-neutral, with zero impact on inside air quality, water or land.



Aluminium framing is air-tight

When closed, aluminium-made doors and window frames prevent the ingress of water, air and dust, suitable for offices, board and meeting rooms and receptions areas.

High strength to weight ratio

Aluminium enables the reduction of load transferring to foundations due to its proportionately high strength to weight ratio.

Effortless assembly

Mention must be made of the ease in which aluminium alloys can be welded, rolled, forged, cast and extruded, as well their flexible properties, unbrittle and difficult to break. Aluminium constructions are easily assembled, transported and disassembled.

Sturdiness in sub-zero temperatures

Unlike steel, which loses tensility and strength under extremely low temperatures, aluminium retains its properties, making it suitable for structures in freezing weather.

Corrosion resistance

Thanks to its resistance to corrosion, aluminium corrugated sheets are extensively made use of in petroleum refineries, paper mills, chemical and power plants.

Aesthetics

Aluminium provides sheen to décor and enhances brightness, surrounding colours, and general eye pleasing appearances.

High resale value

Aluminium has a substantial scrap value, losing little of its value on the open market.

Sound proofing abilities

With soundwave reflective qualities, as well as repelling electromagnetic waves, aluminium retains sound in buildings and prevents external noise from entering.

Engineering and construction activities benefit from the use of non-ferrous aluminium, in conjunction with brick, cement, steel and glass. Aluminium occurs in abundance and is extracted from bauxite, and is available as phosphates, silicates, sulphates and oxides. ■

The Use Of Glass In Construction

The use of glass in cities is ubiquitous ever since the 20th Century, and along with concrete and steel, symbolises the aspirations of the middle class.

The characteristics of glass

Clearness

This facet of glass facilitates visual link between the exterior and interior worlds. Using electro chromatic glazing, glass panels are rendered opaque, as well as with other admixtures.

U-value

An indication of the measure of heat transferral through windows, the higher the glass insulation levels, the lower the U-value – insulation in winter and winter.

Durability

Laminates and admixtures decrease glass' brittleness and bolster its modulus of rupture (the degree to which it is deformation-proof under load).

Greenhouse effect

This describes the process whereby the sun's short wavelengths of visible light are absorbed by glass, but heated objects' infrared re-radiation wavelengths are prevented from passing through, leading to "trapping" and a concomitantly warmer temperature.

Durability

Glass can be manipulated in multiple ways: pressed, drawn, welded or blown; and can be made to be stained, diffused, colourless or clear.

Ecological

Glass is able to be recycled, and pieces of broken / waste glass can be reused as raw materials in manufacturing, as well as in cement production.

Light, heat and sound

Solar heat gain coefficient refers to the fraction of incident solar radiation going into a building through the windows. *Visible transmittance* is the degree of visible light entering through glass

The air barrier used in new double / triple glazing – energy efficient – ameliorates heat escape through windows by using coated, low-emissivity glass which also prevents exterior noise entering and interior sound escaping.

Types of glass

Float / soda lime / clear glass

Clear, flat and comes in standard thickness. Makes railing partitions, glass blocks, shop fronts and canopies.

Tinted glass:

Colour additives to the glass batch change its hue without altering its strength. Add iron oxide for a green colour, sulphur in different ratios for yellow, red or black, and copper sulphate for blue.



Toughened glass:

Breaks into small, square pieces upon rupture, making it suitable for fire-resistant doors; however, it has poor visibility and may warp.

Laminated glass:

Made by stacking glass panels sans protective layering, weighs more than standard glass and may warp, its is durable and resistant to UV radiation, and halves the ingress of external noise. Optimal for floor slabs, staircases, bridges, aquariums and glass façades.

Shatterproof glass:

Made by adding a polyvinyl butyral layer, it breaks without turning into sharp edged pieces, and is used in flooring, windows and skylights.

Extra clean glass:

Hydrophilic properties mean water leaves no marks, and *photocatalytic* properties mean extra clean glass has a nanoparticle covering that repels dirt, ensuring ease of maintenance.

Double glazed units:

To lessen heat loss, an air gap is put between two glass panes. Conventional glass leads to the diminishing of air-conditioning heat; green glass assists with this loss.

Chromatic glass:

Available in three forms:

1. Photochromatic – glass with light sensitive lamination
2. Thermochromatic – heat sensitive lamination on glass
3. Electrochromatic – light sensitive glass, with the transparency changed by switch

Glass wool:

Insulation which comprises entwined, movable glass fibres, trapping air and excellent for insulation and soundproofing.

Glass blocks:

Made as two individual pieces, these are hollow glass blocks with a small vacuum at the centre, admitting light but providing opaque properties. ■

Work Resumes On Cape Town High-Rise

The highest residential block in Cape Town's city centre – 16 On Bree – has resumed construction, but under demanding new Covid-19 conditions. The project is being developed by FWJK Developments.

This makes Concor Western Cape, the contractor on the project, a pioneer in the application of Covid-19 health protocols in a building of this height and complexity, says Senior Contracts Manager, Collin Morilly.

"With the large number of people on a site where space is severely restricted, we have introduced a range of new health and safety measures aligned with post lockdown Covid-19 regulations," Morilly says. "These are in addition to Concor's standard stringent health, safety policies and environmental procedures that have been fine-tuned over decades of experience."

At the project's peak, about 800 staff, labourers and subcontractors were active on site. The carefully phased on-boarding process in lockdown Level 3 will see 300 of the overall workforce allowed back in the initial intake, in compliance with regulations.

"The rolling out of construction activities will demand close adherence to our rules, and extensive training and monitoring will be introduced," Morilly says. "We have revised our method statements to allow work to continue safely, as managing social distancing under these space-constrained conditions is a major challenge."

He notes that the new health and safety specifications will require Concor Western Cape to take on additional staff who are specially trained and tasked with applying Covid-19 regulations. New processes will include screening and close monitoring of all workers by monitoring staff. Office space for construction management has been reconfigured, and rooms set up for screening, isolation and induction.

The project began in May 2018 and had progressed well until South Africa's national Level 5 lockdown in March 2020. Construction ramped up again under the Level 3 State of Disaster regulations.

"The main structure topped out in early March this year, just days before the Covid-19 lockdown," Morilly says. "The apartments on levels 12 to 19 are complete, with only snagging work underway. The fitting out of levels 20 to 27 is returning to full swing including electricals, water infrastructure, fireproofing and air conditioning systems."

The 120-metre high, mixed-use development has two floors of retail at ground level, followed by nine parking levels. The living area comprises 25 storeys of apartments with 380 units in all. There are also two floors for plant and equipment.

He says that work is underway to waterproof the final levels from 33 to 37. At these levels, curtain walling will comprise a glass façade including installation of structural steel canopies that will be bolted to the main structure.

Despite a high demand for specialised building-related skills in Cape Town over the construction period to date, work has proceeded well with chosen selected subcontractors, says Morilly.

The packages for the built-in cupboards, balustrading and tiling were also split. Close monitoring of work to maintain quality and schedules is achieved by deploying at least four foremen on each level.

Located on a busy city block, the project has had to deal with a restricted laydown area, demanding out-of-the-box thinking. Morilly says this has required upgraded safety plans, including safety fans around the building, and required additional flagmen and banksmen to ensure compliance.

The early phase of construction was complicated by a 100-year-old front façade of significant heritage value. This 16-metre wall required a specially designed structural steel brace, which supported it while it was cut free from the rest of the building. It now provides an eye-catching feature affirming the city's rich history.

Despite the challenges posed by lockdown and complying with Covid-19 requirements, the project is on track for completion later this year. ■



Iconic Msikaba Bridge To Be Built By Concor-Mecsa JV

Destined to be the longest cable-stayed bridge in Africa according to www.highestbridges.com, the Msikaba Bridge is being constructed by Concor Infrastructure in a joint venture with Mota Engil Construction. Significant work has already been done on the establishment infrastructure to support the construction works. Work on the approach roads and the significant pylon foundations and anchor blocks for the bridge are currently under construction.

Being built over the Msikaba Gorge near Lusikisiki in the Eastern Cape, the Msikaba Bridge forms part of the N2 Wild Coast project being undertaken by the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL).

When completed this spectacular bridge will also be the second longest main span bridge crossing ever built on the continent with a tower to tower distance of 580 metres. Its two pylons will be 127m high.

With a bridge deck at 194m above the valley floor, the Msikaba Bridge will be the third highest bridge in Africa, eclipsed only by the existing Bloukrans Bridge with a height of 216m and the Mtentu Bridge which, when completed, will be 223m.

According to Eric Wisse, MD of Concor Infrastructure, what is important is that that Joint Venture has overcome the initial community challenges through significant community engagement strategies with the various community stakeholders and businesses on board.



Aerial view of the southern pylon excavations and anchor block excavations



Aerial view of the south side of the Msikaba project

Concor has a strong legacy in the construction of iconic bridges, having constructed the Bloukrans Bridge back in 1983. At the same time, the company also built the Grootrivier and Bobbejaansrivier Bridges in the Eastern Cape.

The Msikaba Bridge itself will require 43 000m³ of concrete, 2 700 tons of structural steel, 1 090t of cables and 3 100t of steel reinforcing.

Not to be overshadowed by the bridge is the balance of works contained in the contract which includes construction of 1,5km of approach roadworks on either side of the bridge. Expressed in quantities, this will include 650 000m³ of bulk earthworks of which 430 000m³ is hard rock, a conventional three span bridge and four in-situ concrete culverts crossing some of the tributaries. A significant amount will be spent on projects to benefit of the wider community, including upgrading or repairing gravel roads in the district.

Wisse explains that due to the remoteness of the project, as well as the logistics travelling from the northern side to the southern side (a three-hour drive), a cable way will be installed as part of the temporary works. Due to the specialist nature of this installation, a company from Switzerland has been appointed to install the cable way.

“The cable car system will be used to transport people and small amounts of material from one side to the other,” he says.

Work on the project has resumed under Level 3 restrictions, with all the necessary measures having been put in place to ensure the health and safety of all stakeholders. ■

52 Katherine Street Makes Best Use Of Its Central, Sloping Site

As if designing the award-winning Sasol Place on a curving site in Katherine Street, Sandton was not enough of a challenge for the [Paragon Group](#), client Alchemy Properties tasked it to design a clearly-differentiated building at 52 Katherine Street, directly in front of the iconic Sasol headquarters.

The 5251m² P-grade office development is located at the corner of Katherine Street and Albertyn Avenue in the Sandton CBD, which gives it the advantage of a strong street-facing presence. An integral part of the rapidly-developing Katherine Street Development Node, it enjoys close proximity to Sandton City, the retail floor at Discovery and several significant arterial roadways and highways.

The corner is dominated by Sasol Place, which has a high basement both to the west and south. "We had to create a design that was very different from Sasol, bearing in mind that 52 Katherine Street itself was only three storeys and has Sasol basements as its backdrop. Hence the main challenge was to design a building that did not, on the one hand, obstruct or take away from Sasol Place, but was able to have its own distinct identity," explains Paragon Group Director Anthony Orelowitz.

"It is a difficult piece of land to develop because it is quite a sloping site. We selected a palette of materials quite different from the complex glass façade of Sasol Place. We chose to clad the façade with large porcelain tiles which were 3000 x 1500mm in size. These tiles look like Blanco and Nero marble, creating a contrast against the Sasol basements and differentiating the design," adds Orelowitz.

The marble and aluminium over-clad structure weaves at each storey, undulating and creating balconies and overhangs. Three landscaped courtyards allow light and air to penetrate the floor plate. Large openable full-height windows allow user-driven habitation, natural ventilation and abundance of light into the workspace.

"The courtyards were planned specifically to maximise the light on the western and southern aspects," highlights Orelowitz. The result was a building that is quite distinctive from many of Paragon's designs.

The project is currently on hold as the construction industry itself has ground to a halt due to the national lockdown imposed for the Covid-19 crisis. Completion is now tentatively scheduled for early next year. The professional



Anthony Orelowitz, Director, Paragon Group

team includes Leadcon Civils, Orion Project Managers and Trencon Construction.

About Paragon

Paragon, established in October 1997, is an internationally-active design business, based in Johannesburg. We deliver commercial architecture, masterplanning, interior design, and space planning to visionary clients in all property sectors, from retail to residential and education.

We are committed to global urban development. We are able and agile. Paragon is flexible and diverse in its approach to design. Each project is unique and not driven by style, but by lifestyle and a response to user needs. Elegant and efficient planning form the core of our designs. We understand the needs of our clients, and know how to generate ever new architectural forms in a competitive property market. ■

Style Conformity With Technicrete's Conleaf Pavers

Whether it is a residential estate or a commercial park, style conformity plays an important role in the success of such developments. The choice of paving plays a role, not only for appearance purposes, but also for future maintenance planning. These were the key factors when the owner of a house in a small residential complex in Herbert Baker Street, Groenkloof, Pretoria, decided to demolish and revamp their home after 15 years.

Maxi Pave, the contractors for the owner's house rebuild, contracted Technicrete to supply 1500m² of Conleaf Autumn 60mm pavers and 150m² of Bond Brick Autumn 55mm pavers for the parking and driveway areas of the refurbished property. Managing Director of Maxi Pave, Leon Veldsman said, "Technicrete's Conleaf and Bond Brick pavers are aesthetically very pleasing and the longevity of the products make them ideal for this residence. Technicrete supplied the original paving to this small complex many years ago, but after seeing the Conleaf design and colour installed at one of the residences, the owners decided to repave the driveways and entrances in the same manner of the other three units as well."

The Conleaf paver introduces gentle curves into paving, creating attractive patterns, pleasing lines and durability. This block is available in all standard colours such as Autumn, Terracotta, Grey, Plum, Slate and Tan and is suitable for domestic driveways, municipal parking areas, pedestrian

pavements, pathways and commercial developments. The larger 80mm thickness can be installed at petrol station forecourts, industrial and factory roads and suburban streets.

Technicrete's Bond Brick is a traditional paver that is not only economical but durable. It is also available in various colours and thicknesses and is mainly applied to parking areas, pathways, commercial and domestic surfaces. Technicrete and Rocla are part of the Infrastructure Specialist Group of companies (ISG). ■



Temperature Measurement On Ultra-Thin Glass

Optris CT laser G7 infrared thermometer measures up to 1 200 °C

Touch displays, such as for smartphones and tablets, use ultra-thin glass, which bring special challenges for temperature measurement technology in their manufacturing. For this application, INSTROTECH, local representative of Optris – leading manufacturers of non-contact temperature measurement devices – has brought out the new CT laser G7 infrared thermometer. The CT laser G7 can precisely measure the surface temperatures of glass components in the range of 100°C up to 1 200°C. The optimum spectral range, which for flat glass is normally 5 µm, cannot be used for extremely thin glass components due to the higher transmissivity of the material. This was the specific design criteria for developing the CT laser G7, which works at a special wavelength of 7,9 µm. This spectral range is optimised for low-reflection measurement on ultra-thin flat glass. Measurement errors, which are caused by the transmission of radiation, are therefore virtually eliminated. The measurement error is only 1 % of the measuring value – or 1,5 °C at low temperatures.

Double laser makes setup easier

The new infrared thermometer has an integrated double laser, which marks the exact measurement location, making setting the application easier. The smallest size of the measurement spot at a measurement distance of 70 mm is just 1,6 mm, so that the temperature can even be measured on very small objects. With a standardized two-wire interface, the measurement values can be transferred to a supervisory control system, for example a PLC. The output can be adjusted to the exact requirements of the

application. In this way, averaging, minimum or maximum value logging as well as an extended hold function with threshold value and hysteresis are possible.

Up to 85 °C without additional cooling

The CT laser G7 is ideally suited to the environmental conditions which prevail during the glass manufacturing. So, for example, with ambient temperatures up to 85°C, it works without additional cooling. For even higher temperatures, a matching cooling housing is available. Contact INSTROTECH for more information on Optris CTlaser G7 infrared thermometer that measures up to 1 200 °C, on 010 595 1831 or sales@instrotech.co.za ■



Optris CT laser G7 infrared thermometer



xStorage Home energy system

Eaton Introduces xStorage Home, Maximising Off-Grid Energy In South Africa

Power management company, Eaton, has introduced [xStorage Home](#) to the South African market. The single unit energy storage system is designed to give households peace of mind, by maximising solar PV self-consumption and keeping power on during load-shedding incidents.

xStorage Home lets households store energy produced during the day to use in the morning, at noon and at night, reducing their CO₂ footprint. The system also allows users to harvest energy in off-peak low-tariff windows, reducing their dependence on the grid and insulating them from the effects of load-shedding.

"xStorage Home provides new solutions for the South African self-consumption market, encouraging the increased adoption of renewable energy and making it possible for home owners to reduce their dependency on the national grid," says Jaco du Plooy, power quality and xStorage Home product manager at Eaton.

"The product is now available in South Africa through our network of trained and qualified installers, who can advise home owners about the best way to manage their off-grid power needs," he adds.

Designed by Eaton and incorporating new or second-use lithium-ion batteries from electric vehicle leader, Nissan, the xStorage Home system combines Eaton power quality, technology, and electronics, and is simple to install, set up, and use. It's easy to expand too, making it a viable solution for high-end residential and light commercial buildings.

xStorage Home has four intelligent operating modes, giving users the power to choose whether they want to maximise self-generated solar power, or choose when to charge from the grid based on variable pricing tariffs. The xStorage Home app makes it possible for users to see and manage their energy consumption easily, from wherever they are.

The system meets the highest electrical safety standards, with each unit requiring no more than one square metre of floor space.

About Eaton

Eaton's mission is to improve the quality of life and the environment through the use of power management technologies and services. We provide sustainable solutions that help our customers effectively manage electrical, hydraulic, and mechanical power – more safely, more efficiently, and more reliably. Eaton's 2019 revenues were \$21,4 billion, and we sell products to customers in more than 175 countries. We have approximately 97 000 employees.

About Eaton in Africa

Eaton has been in Africa since 1927 with offices in South Africa, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Morocco and Nigeria, with 200k ft² of manufacturing space located in South Africa and Morocco. A certified B-BBEE Level 1 contributor in South Africa, Eaton offers a broad portfolio supplemented by "made for Africa" products and solutions. Eaton has over 700 employees and numerous distributors across the region, allowing us the opportunity to help our customers grow and provide sustainable economic benefits to the communities in which we operate. ■



Giving The Perfect Sanded Finish

CHRYSO Southern Africa offers a comprehensive range of products to optimise the placing, performance and aesthetics of concrete. Particularly in the field of decorative concrete, CHRYSO has become a leader in addressing the need for quality, durable and inspiring surfaces and finishes.

One such a product is CHRYSO® Deco Wash Pico, a surface retarder that lightly delays the setting of the concrete surface layer. Following the correct application and washing-off procedures will result in a finished look of a “sanded” or “acid washed” surface.

Before application, all surrounding supports and elements for which the product is not intended must be covered. No bleed water must be visible on the concrete surface and troweling and smoothing should have been completed. After thoroughly mixing the product, it is sprayed uniformly onto the surface of the fresh concrete. This water-based solution forms a thin film that is resistant to fine rain and high temperatures.

Depending on weather conditions, the product should be washed off with a high-pressure washer within 24 hours to reveal the surface effect. For a better homogeneity and detail, a preliminary brushing with a single nylon brush machine is advised. To ensure a uniform appearance, it is

important to keep to the same washing-off time for all parts of the project on a given site. Time windows may vary in case of significant temperature variations.

CHRYSO® Deco Wash Pico is suitable for use on walkways, pool surrounds, patios, and areas open to public pedestrian traffic. CHRYSO Southern Africa’s sales and technical teams are on hand to discuss how CHRYSO® Deco Wash Pico can add aesthetic appeal to a concrete surface. ■



CHRYSO® Deco Wash Pico

Econz Wireless Timecard Application Helps Flatten The Covid-19 Curve

Essential workers across a wide range of sectors are using Econz’s industry-leading Timecard application to check employees’ current wellness status with a screening programme before starting work. Industry sectors include healthcare, government, logistics and distribution, merchandising, construction and maintenance organisations and those with mobile workers.

Econz Timecard is a leading workforce management application enabling comprehensive management and tracking of time and employees. Used globally by organisation across all sectors, Econz Timecard now delivers management reports specially written to screen both the wellness and possible infection of the Covid-19 virus. Some features include:

- Covid-19 screening and wellness forms with built in triggers to not only protect employees and employers, but assists in preventing the spread of the virus
- Required questions to be answered before the shift can start
- Real-time manager alerts and notifications depending on the employee’s answers to the questionnaires
- Verify employees GPS location as well as miles travelled and locations travelled for a day, a week or a month
- PDF outputs of all questions answered including digital signature attestation

- Other digital forms can be created to ensure adherence to Level 3 protocols (and beyond) about health and safety regulations, thus ensuring compliance for essential workers/workplaces
- Collect mobile time and attendance as well as timesheet approval processes
- Flexibility on pricing as a Covid-19 relief measure

Econz Timecard’s Covid-19 feature allows customers to ensure their employees are safe, well and fit for work. The data delivered from mobile devices gives the employer real-time status on their field workers and allows them to prevent the spread of this virus. ■





GRAVITY

ELEVATING SOLUTIONS

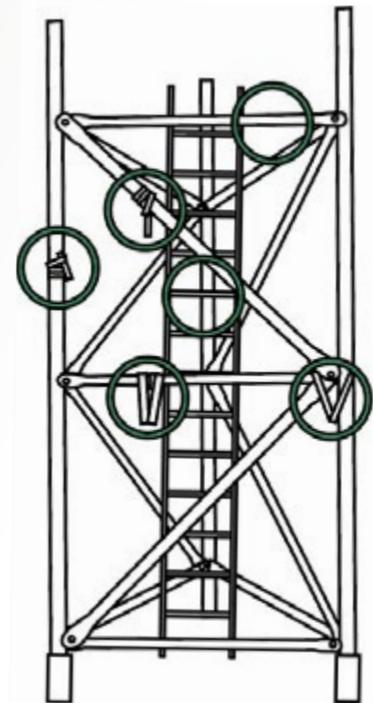
Safety Bulletin - July 2020

Anchor Points on Telecommunication Towers

Industry best practice generally accepts that anchor points for work at height systems should be 1500kg strong to support the forces experienced during a fall. This is easily implemented with planned anchors, but what about self-identified anchors? Those you merely look at and say 'yip, that seems good enough for me'.

As every tower is unique in its design and every member unique in its integrity, it is the ultimate responsibility of the climber to make the judgment himself whether the member he is planning to connect to is strong enough to support 1500kg. That is why it is so important that every climber is competent to do his work at height. We will, however, attempt herewith to highlight a couple of places and members on telecommunication towers which are and which are not sufficient to use as an anchor point.

Safe to use as anchors		Unsafe to use as anchors	
1.	Rungs on fixed caged ladder (marked on the picture to the right)	5.	Cage of ladder
2.	Horizontal and diagonal members of a lattice mast	6.	Horizontal cross bracing inside a tower
3.	Vertical legs of a mast. (These are often too big to hook onto, in which case a sling must be used)	7.	Cable trays and cables
4.	Fall Protec Secure Rope (Life Line)	8.	Mounting brackets for antennas
		9.	Palisade fences for rigging



Each climber should check for signs of corrosion, deformation, cracks or for loose bolts on the member he is connecting to. These could significantly impact the integrity of the structure.

Please note that when diagonal members of a lattice mast is used, one should make use of a klemheist knot in order to avoid slippage. At all times avoid cross loading your connector on these members.

For more information, contact info@gravitygh.co.za or visit www.gravitygroupholdings.com.



The Role Of Wind In Green Recovery

The South African Wind Energy Association (SAWEA) is pushing for a green economic recovery plan, which should consider renewable energy as one of the main components of the government economic stimulus package post-Covid-19.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought a severe strain on the economy of South Africa resulting in disruption of capital flows, increased unemployment rates, and growing debt burdens. In his address, the President stated that “Central to the economic recovery strategy will be the measures we will embark on to stimulate demand and supply through interventions such as substantial infrastructure build programmes.” To achieve a sustainable and lasting economic recovery, these actions should focus on long-term impacts, as well as the short-term need to generate growth and jobs.

It is expected that the energy demand will start ramping up as the country eases lockdown conditions in line with published lockdown levels, and additional energy capacity will be required. Therefore, Government should take measures to stimulate demand by moving decisively to electrify the economy. Renewable energy is well positioned to play an important role in the country’s economic recovery post Covid-19, since it is infrastructure investment that government does not have to put capital investment into.

SAWEA has joined the major wind industry corporates and associations across the world, in support of the Global Wind Energy Council’s (GWEC) drive to secure wind power’s role in the global economic recovery, following the Covid-19 crisis, which lays out key policy actions that must be put into motion in order to realise a sustainable economic recovery. “Our industry views the first step in this recovery plan is to fast-track the Ministerial Determination concurrence process by NERSA, which should give effect to the IRP 2019 thus enabling the Department of Mineral Resources &

Energy to proceed with the plans to procure new generation capacity,” says SAWEA CEO, Ntombifuthi Ntuli.

Whilst the wind energy allocation in the 2019 IRP promises to reduce the cost of energy, improve the country’s competitiveness and help deliver the additional power needed to kick-start the economy, the industry is of the view that the procurement of new capacity should be fast-tracked in order to deliver energy to the grid by 2022 in line with the IRP 2019 stipulations. We view wind energy as a key building block for economic recovery as it can deliver new electricity infrastructure with private investments, and help South Africa achieve sustainable economic recovery.

Furthermore, the sector has been a source of substantial capital investments in the South African economy, a total of R80 billion has been invested since 2012. Ramping up installed wind capacity by 1,6 GW per annum as allocated in the IRP 2019, would create additional annual investments of about R40 billion per annum in SA, which will help to deliver jobs, clean and affordable power and energy security needed for a sustainable economic recovery.

“SAWEA would like to call on government, intergovernmental bodies, and lending institutions, to put clean energy investments at the centre of their economic recovery and economic stimulus packages by implementing regulations that are fit for purpose, including market designs that provide long term price visibility and streamlined permitting that enables rapid ramp up of the deployment of renewables,” concluded Ntuli.

This can also be achieved by enabling and promoting end-consumer 100% renewable energy demand in order to allow corporates to ramp up and meet their sustainability objectives; and removal of regulatory barriers where these exist in order to enable private sector to freely purchase renewable energy. ■



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People in Construction



Tara Benn, Executive Director, SAPMA

**SAPMA Appoints New
Executive Director**

Tara Benn has been appointed Executive Director of the SA Paint Manufacturing Association (SAPMA) in succession to Deryck Spence, who has retired after 11 years in this position. Benn, who joined SAPMA in 2016, was the association's Training and Administration Manager before assuming the post of SAPMA Assistant Executive Director in 2019. She has had a diversified career involving staff recruitment, service at a leading international accounting firm and, in Botswana, was part of a project management company and also carried out educational duties early in her career.

The South African Paint Manufacturing Association; Incorporating Associated Industries (SAPMA) is a trade association representing 90% of paint manufactured in South Africa, representing paint manufacturers, raw material and services suppliers, paint retailers and painting contractors.

- Giving you a voice
- Education
- Promotion of ethical and competitive standards

Our objectives are to:

- Uplift the coatings industry
- Provide statistical information
- Promote sustainable innovation
- Promote the industry and exports
- Enhance efficiency and competitiveness
- Maintain ethical and competitive standards
- Ensure the training of our members and the next generation of skilled work force
- Provide and interface between the coatings industry and Government and regulatory bodies

Construction Industry Events 2020

Due to ongoing restrictions on public gatherings, some of the events on the list may be affected.



Western Cape Property Development Forum Annual Conference – 20-21 August 2020 – Cape Town International Convention Centre



Africa Build Show (ABS) - Virtual Exhibition (VE) edition - 28 September - 02 October 2020



Cape Construction Expo - 09-10 September 2020 - Sun Exhibits, GrandWest, Cape Town



ACHASM 2020 Construction Health and Safety (H&S) Summit - 6 - 7 October 2020, Altron Conference Centre, Midrand



AfriBuild - 13-15 October 2020 – Nasrec Expo Centre Johannesburg

bauma CONEXPO AFRICA
CONEXPO AFRICA - 13-16 October 2021 - Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg



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