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*THE RENEWABLE
ENERGY ISSUE*

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Stellantis Invests *R3 Billion in S.A.* establishing State-of-the-Art Automotive Plant in Coega



Stellantis will be investing R3 billion in South Africa, in partnership with the Industrial Development Corporation and the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, to develop a greenfield facility in the Coega Special Economic Zone, in Nelson Mandela Bay.

"It is a wonderful day for all South Africans when a global company of Stellantis' proportions decides to expand its manufacturing footprint in South Africa, to assemble completely knocked down units," said Ebrahim Patel, Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition. "South Africa currently has the capacity to produce close to 700 000 vehicles annually. This will add considerable additional capacity, just as we prepare to implement the African Continental Free Trade Area. The country remains a great investment destination and this commitment from Stellantis to invest in our local motor industry highlights the success of our manufacturing sector policy, its capability and potential. We look forward to welcoming Stellantis to South Africa and sharing in the detailed plan for employment and investment".

"We are delighted with the speed at which we are progressing on this project, thanks to the commitment of Minister Patel and the great collaboration with IDC, CDC and dtic teams," commented Samir Cherfan-Chief Operating Officer Stellantis Middle East and Africa. "This project reflects our focus and trust in South Africa as one of the most important markets in Africa and Middle East. It is also the execution of our Dare Forward 2030 Strategy to reach over 22% Market Share in the region by 2030 with 70% regional localization of our sales leading to over 1 million units produced. We believe

in South Africa and we intend to develop industrially and commercially bringing value to our customers".

The manufacturing facility will be completed by the end of 2025. The first launch planned early 2026 is a 1 T pick-up truck with volumes expected to reach up to 50,000 completely knocked down (CKD's) units annually including export, in line with the industry masterplan, known as the Automotive Production Development Program (APDP). The plant will be predisposed in terms of space and painting to go up to 90K units / year.

Direct employment to support the first capacity step is expected at 1000 jobs. The company will be massively investing in over 500 000 hours in training and skills to develop and support the local teams to the level of global standards. It is targeting a localisation rate over 30%.

"The Coega Development Corporation (CDC) is enthralled for Stellantis to have chosen the proposed site in Coega for their Southern African manufacturing operations. Joining other major manufacturers in the area makes the Coega region the primary automotive hub in the country. The investment in the plant, employment, training and skills transfer will certainly benefit the region tremendously. "This is a much needed and welcomed economic boost for the Eastern Cape Province with an anticipated economy wide impact on the province's GDP of R 664 million. Household income is anticipated to increase to R558.4 million within the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) and R577.4 million for the entire Province. Most importantly, an anticipated 1800 jobs will be created in the Metro and around 2 097 for the EC Province," said Khwezi Tiya, CEO of the CDC SEZ.

Stellantis continues to work closely with the IDC in developing a viable joint venture partnership that will be evaluated by appropriate credit committees. "Stellantis' success with similar manufacturing plants around the world is well-known and our planned joint venture with them to build another greenfield plant in South Africa is progressing well. The investment is in line with IDC's intent to drive investment that supports the development of the regional automobile value chain," said Tshokolo Nchocho, CEO of the IDC.

Powering INNOVATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS for a sustainable future

Established more than three decades ago, a Nelson Mandela Bay based company has forged a legacy that stands as a testament to their unwavering commitment to pioneering innovative energy solutions. Throughout their journey, they have not only become leaders in the local market but have also extended their influence far beyond their geographical borders.

Founded locally, the company manufactures a range of products including UPS and Solar inverters, battery and Solar chargers, Solar geyser and pumping solutions, a Module Mini Grid System, monitoring accessories and recently, they added South Africa's first Electric Vehicles (EV) chargers.

Microcare chief executive officer Gareth Burley says the company's legacy is rooted in a deep understanding of the energy landscape, a dedication to excellence, and a vision for a sustainable future. Over the years, they have consistently demonstrated their expertise by developing uniquely South African solutions to address the evolving energy needs of the local market and beyond.

"While Microcare manufactures predominantly for the South African market, exporting has been happening since the 90s. Over the years, the company has exported to countries such as Australia, Lebanon, Philippines, Portugal, including most of our neighbouring countries. Customised manufacturing has also been part of the company's offering for many years, while new opportunities to localise products are being explored," says Burley.

Regarding recent innovations and advancement in their Solar products that have set Microcare apart, Burley says they have stuck to manufacturing what has made the company sustainable over the past 33 years, such as transformer-based Inverters and hardy products that last well beyond their warranty. "An example of this is recently a 30-year-old Inverter came in for a service."

"While the heart of our products remains robust, new products such as geyser controllers, traffic light UPS systems, solar pump controllers and mini grid solutions have been added to the basket of offering over the past few years," he says.

Microcare recognises the changing dynamics of solar energy adoption. Consumers are now looking to solar not just to overcome power outages but also to reduce rising energy costs and secure a sustainable energy source for their homes and businesses. The company emphasises that the initial capital investment in solar can yield returns within five years, with incentives making solar an attractive long-term investment. The initial capital investment can be returned within 5 years and incentives have sweetened the offering to make ongoing Solar a well invested decision.

While renewable energy adoption is growing globally, Burley notes that there is still significant potential for renewable energy adoption in South Africa, especially on a smaller scale where every rooftop can become an energy generator. Keeping investment in local technology and reducing the number of imported products is crucial to boosting the local economy, creating jobs and developing skills.

According to Burley, in the second quarter of this year, R65 billion was sent overseas to import products that could have been potentially made locally. This, he terms, a 'hugely missed opportunity'.

As Microcare looks ahead, its commitment to exploring new frontiers, adopting emerging technologies, and driving innovation remains unwavering. The company envisions setting up new factories in every province, with a focus on developing local products to ensure a sustainable energy future for all. This vision aligns with the broader goal of fostering a sustainable energy ecosystem in South Africa and beyond.

Family taxi business serves as building block for one of Bay's fast growing property developers



A family taxi business serving as a building block for one of Nelson Mandela Bay's fast-growing property developers is an inspiring story that has all the hallmarks of resilience and strong entrepreneurship spirit.

The company's journey began with a focus on providing reliable transportation services to the communities of the Metro and surrounding areas. In 2014, Bonginkosi Ncalu and his wife founded Bontibase, a property development company that provides construction and renovation services to a wide customer base. This initial foray into the transportation industry was inspired by his late father Mr Victor Ncalu, who had established Khwalo Transport Services, which grew over the years to include a fleet of busses and taxis.

Ncalu's exposure to the complexities of the taxi industry through his family's business ignited his passion for entrepreneurship. He worked as an operations manager in his father's business and subsequently gained valuable experience in the field, learning about running the business, managing staff and cash flow management.

Seeing his father working hard and successfully managing to grow it into a competitive brand, inspired the Ncalus to pursue their dream of establishing their own brand where he could use the expertise he gained as an operations manager in his father's business.

"I grew up in a taxi business that was established by my late father in 1990 and this triggered my desire to own a taxi in the future as I was heavily involved in my family's taxi business operations. In the initial stages, we transported workers who worked late shifts in the hospitality and retail industries across the Metro," says Ncalu.

"I learnt along the way the importance of employing people who understand your vision. More importantly, you must also learn from many industry captains who have been in business for long to gain more knowledge about how to successfully manage the business."

In 2018, the Ncalus decided to make a strategic shift and focus on the property industry, partly due to the challenges within the taxi industry. This transition paved

the way for Bontibase's establishment, with a friend of the couple facilitating a business opportunity for them to develop properties in the Fairview area.

Ncalu, with vast experience as a Construction Project Manager professional and also having served as a Quality Control/Acting Project Manager in the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality's housing department, saw this as a calling. Bontibase's core services include building and renovating residential and commercial properties, including RDP units for the municipality and repairs and renovations for local schools.

"When the opportunity came, we immediately rolled up our sleeves and laid a solid foundation for our business to be recognised for its professional, high quality and uncompromised workmanship. Our core service offering is building and renovating residential and commercial properties, including the RDP units for the municipality. We also take on work from schools where we do repairs and renovations," he says.

The company has managed to expand its customer base beyond the Metro to areas such as Jeffrey's Bay and Mthatha.

Looking ahead, Bontibase has plans for future expansion, including assisting emerging contractors in the Metro by supplying them with building materials for the construction of RDP units.

This is motivated by the fact that small businesses often fail to secure the requisite financial support they need to grow their businesses.

"We understand the frustrations of wanting to grow your businesses without the necessary financial support from financial institutions due to tedious application processes. Our goal is to take away this burden and position ourselves as a reliable supplier to this key sector."

Ultimately, the Ncalus aspire to grow their business and become one of the leading black owned brands in property development locally, with a reputation for professional, high quality and uncompromised workmanship.



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Orion Engineered Carbons builds innovative *water treatment plant* for sustainability and self-reliance

Orion Engineered Carbons (OEC) is taking significant steps towards sustainability and self-reliance by constructing a Brown Water Treatment Plant at its business premises in Deal Party.

This facility will produce 1,6 million litres of daily demineralised water, replacing the need for municipal water in its operations.

Currently, the company uses 1600,000 litres of water per day in its local operations, which is a significant amount considering the city's water supply challenges.

OEC is a global specialty chemicals company that makes carbon black, a solid form of carbon produced as powder or pellets, an essential material in everyday products.

The company's water initiative charts a compelling trajectory and reinforces its self-reliance and resilience in the face of water shortages in Nelson Mandela Bay due to poor water management and prolonged droughts.

OEC SA's managing director Nomfundo Faltein says what makes OEC's approach unique is its utilisation of effluent water, which will be derived from the neighbouring municipal wastewater facility.

"This demonstrates the company's commitment to environmental integrity and social responsibility by repurposing treated wastewater for its processes. From the construction phase to the final operation of the plant, the project has created a tapestry of jobs, which are enriching our local community and fostering growth," says Faltein.

She further highlights that the bulk of construction work, which commenced at the beginning of August this year, the overall plant commissioning is scheduled to produce the first water by end November 2023. Municipal upgrades are in line and would be ready and commissioned by end November 2023.

Once the treatment plant is operational, it will play a key role in ensuring that the company saves millions of clean water in its manufacturing processes while remaining true to its commitment to delivering sustainable solutions in its operational processes.

Faltein also emphasises that the initiative is particularly important in the context of water shortages in the Metro, which have been exacerbated by poor water management and prolonged droughts.



FEATHER IN THE CAP FOR BAY AS BENTELER SA EXPANDS LOCAL PLANT



The guests touring the newly expanded plant

Another feather in the cap for Nelson Mandela Bay was the official opening of the expanded Benteler SA automotive plant in Kariega recently, which underscores the company's commitment to the city's growth and development.

The company has 73 manufacturing plants around the world, operating in 26 countries and employing over 23 000 people. Their Nelson Mandela Bay plant has increased its employment to over 700 people.

With the plant expansion by 9000 sqm, the site now has a total production area of 30 000 sqm. Benteler's Plant Manager Cleber Rossini said the company was strengthening its presence with local customers and making a significant contribution to the sustainable growth of their company.

Rossini said: "It follows our "local for local" approach - to be close to our customers worldwide. At the same time, we are supporting the local economy through this investment, underlining our commitment to the region.

The South African Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Ebrahim Patel, also welcomed the plant expansion. He emphasised the need for a local approach: "The Kariega plant expansion shows that OEMs have realised that by manufacturing components locally, they can reduce the cost of the offshore supply chain, leading to local job creation."

Commenting on the investment, Chamber CEO Denise van Huyssteen said: "These decisions to invest in Nelson Mandela Bay further cement our reputation as an automotive hub, and demonstrates the opportunity which can be unlocked if the rail system and our two ports can become fully operational and productive again. It is clear that if all the stakeholders can work together for the common purpose of ensuring that an enabling environment is in place, the potential is there to create employment and thereby grow our local economy."

Algoa FM launches 25th Big Walk for Cancer



Uniting for a common cause.... from left, ISUZU President, Billy Tom, Inge Human, Manager at Wings and Wishes, Michelle van Huyssteen, National Financial Administrator and Alfie Jay, Algoa FM Managing Director.

The Algoa FM Big Walk for Cancer has its eyes set on drawing a record crowd on 28 October 2023 when it celebrates its silver anniversary.

Dating back to 1998, the first Algoa FM Big Walk for Cancer started with the participation of not more than 500 people. From this humble base, the event has grown over the years and reached more than 13 000 participants in 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic prevented physical participation.

However, since the first walk, the purpose remained clear. "We walk in aid of supporting cancer related organisations and we are pleased to have positively impacted our beneficiaries over the years. The proceeds from the Algoa FM Big Walk for cancer has fulfilled many organisations' needs over the last 25 years," said Alfie Jay, Algoa FM Managing Director.

The Algoa FM Big Walk for Cancer aims to celebrate survivors, and honour loved ones undergoing treatment while remembering those who succumbed to the disease. "We also strive to empower our listeners with knowledge and understanding of the risk factors, early detection methods, and treatment options available through various activations," said Jay.

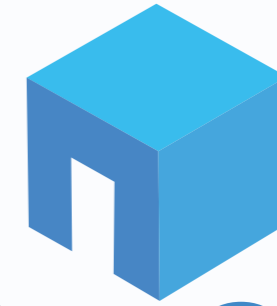
Last year close-on 11 000 people joined the Algoa FM Big Walk for Cancer in Gqeberha, East London and George. Jay said that the Algoa FM Big Walk for Cancer would not have been able to reach its objectives if it had not been for the unwavering support from sponsors and partners.

"Thank you to ISUZU Motors South Africa, our long-time supporter who has come on board this year as our presenting partner. I also thank the Nelson Mandela Bay municipality, MTN, aQuellé, the Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, the Courier Guy and Value Added Life for your support," said Jay.

ISUZU has extended its sponsorship over a three-year period with the release of six vehicles for the purpose of the Big Walk. ISUZU Motors South Africa President and CEO, Billy Tom said the collaboration with Algoa FM emphasises ISUZU's commitment to the community in which the company operates.

"Driven by our commitment to make a meaningful impact within the communities in which we operate, ISUZU is honoured to be the presenting partner for the Algoa FM Big Walk for Cancer," said Tom.

Beneficiaries of the 2023 Algoa FM Big Walk for Cancer are Wings and Wishes and Reach for a Dream. In addition to this support, Jay said Algoa FM would like to fulfil 25 dreams to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the event.



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VOLKSWAGEN GROUP SA DEVELOPS EMERGING ENTREPRENEURS

Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) are described as the engine of an economy. According to the World Bank, SMEs represent 90% of businesses and accounts for more than 50% of employment worldwide.

However, small businesses often encounter challenges which impede growth or they fail due to the lack of business management expertise, cash flow issues, access to markets, and a number of other factors.

To this end, Volkswagen Group South Africa (VWSA) established the Volkswagen Business Support Centre, in collaboration with Raizcorp, to develop the entrepreneurial ability, resilience and business acumen of entrepreneurs who run small businesses in Nelson Mandela Bay.

Since its inception in 2011, many entrepreneurs who have participated in the programme have attained business success. To date, the centre has developed 137 businesses, generating a collective turnover of R640 million in the Eastern Cape, with an average turnover growth rate of 61%. An additional 604 new jobs have been created during this time, and 1 608 people were employed by these businesses while on the programme. Furthermore, 3 866 walk-in visitors from the community have received business advice since August 2015.

VWSA Corporate and Government Affairs Director, Nonkqubela Maliza, says small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are an essential vehicle to address the challenges of unemployment, economic growth, and perhaps most importantly, equitable distribution of income among South African citizens from all walks of life. "The Volkswagen Business Support Centre was established to encourage small business success and create employment," said Maliza.

The latest cohort of entrepreneurs recently graduated after following a rigorous three-year programme. The graduates successfully completed the Business Commercialisation Programme, the Comprehensive Enterprise Development Programme and the Supply Chain Support Programme for Levels P, M and E.

Guy Taylor, Raizcorp Prosperator Manager, commended the graduates for persevering. "The programme is intensive and demanding, but the participants showed tenacity to continue. Now they are reaping the rewards of their labour," he said.

The Volkswagen Business Support Centre invites small to medium businesses that need support to apply online on www.raizcorp.com.

From left:

- **Monique de Villiers** (Raizcorp Personal, Marketing and Sales guide)
- **Sashendrin Naidoo** (BK Steel and Profiles)
- **Claire Kivedo** (Overall Events)
- **Bashira Evans** (Solar Projectiles)
- **Monde Mhletywa** (Anelisah Trading)
- **Vernon Naidoo** (VW Community Trust Manager)



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Chamber ENGAGEMENTS



Ambassador Veiccoh Nghiwete, the High Commissioner of Namibia recently visited the Chamber to discuss trade opportunities with businesses in Nelson Mandela Bay. Priority sector areas of interest include green hydrogen, renewable energy, oil and gas, high value fruits, meat and tourism. Pictured below from left to right are Vaino Epaphras (First Secretary Consular), Denise van Huyssteen (Chamber), Ambassador Veiccoh Nghiwete, Theresa Sipiho (Investment and Export Promotion Attache) and Lunga Mjodo (Chamber).

Chamber ENGAGEMENTS



Chamber CEO Denise van Huyssteen had the privilege of attending The Herald Citizens of the Year Awards recently. The awards celebrate the incredible efforts undertaken by people who are passionate about making a difference in Nelson Mandela Bay. Pictured with her at the function is Rochelle de Kock (The Herald and Weekend Post Editor) and Gishma Johnson.



The Aspen Women's Forum (AWF) recently held their annual event in Nelson Mandela Bay where Chamber CEO Denise van Huyssteen was the guest of honour. In addition to the hundreds of women in attendance, it was good to see the company's male executives and those in the manufacturing plant there actively supporting their female colleagues.



Recently, 12 Nelson Mandela Bay based companies got together to discuss the power of collaboration in effecting positive change in our local community. Thank you to all the companies who participated and for their incredible spirit of Ubuntu! Looking forward to what's to come.

Upcoming EVENTS



SOIRÉE EN NOIR
Annual Banquet



NOV
FRIDAY 24 18:00 FOR 19:00
2023

Sun Boardwalk Hotel and Convention Centre
Dress Code: Chic Black Attire
Cost Per Seat: R900 | Cost Per Table: R8750
BOOKINGS ARE CURRENTLY OPEN TO MEMBERS ONLY

Chamber EVENTS



Chamber Membership Coordinator Honey Koba, Natsha Saunders (Code A Bot Founder), Brenda Moduka (Atlega for Women Projects MD) and Nqobile Qupe (Herstory Enterprise Founder).

Standard Bank - South Africa hosted the "Women in Business Breakfast," in collaboration with the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber.

The purpose of the event was to give guests an overview of Enterprise Development and access to funding provided by Standard Bank.

It was a beautiful morning filled with networking and engagement, as well as a lovely environment for the phenomenal women to empower, motivate, share experiences and gain insights about the contributions of women in the workplace.

Thank you to everyone who joined this morning; we hope you left the room feeling inspired.



Leigh-Anne De Witt, Head of Business Banking at Standard Bank Eastern Cape in conversation with the Brenda Moduka, the MD of Atlega Projects for Women during the event.

Chamber EVENTS

Annual Ladies Breakfast



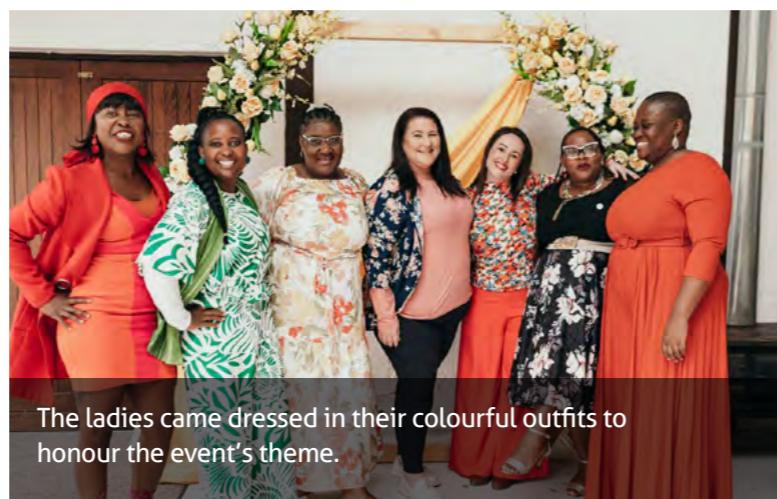
The Chamber's Annual Ladies Breakfast was a massive gathering of a record 460 women who came together to connect and reflect. This year's event was headlined by Busisiwe Mavuso, the CEO of Business Leadership South Africa who delivered a keynote address on the importance of business and government working together to change South Africa. She further called on women to utilise their strengths to lead the way forward by getting involved, wherever they can make a difference in Nelson Mandela Bay.

Thank you so much for your unwavering support and attendance at what was the Business Chamber's biggest Annual Ladies Breakfast ever.

Thank you to our sponsors: ENGIE, Vodacom, Absa South Africa, BASF, Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator, Bliss Hair, Skincare and Kids Salon, LIFE is GRAPE Wine & Gift Shop, MatsiMela Home Spa, Nyosi Wildlife Reserve, Staff Unlimited, Walmer Park, Shopping Centre, BLC Entertainment, Boast Events, Composed Photography, Gourmet Treats by Salma, LX Events SA, Slipperfields, WOOLWORTHS. We couldn't have done it without your support.



This year's event was the biggest in the Chamber's history as over 450 guests attended.



The ladies came dressed in their colourful outfits to honour the event's theme.



Diversity also plays a key role in the Ladies Breakfast event as it brings together a diverse spread of women from different economic, cultural and social backgrounds.

Chamber EVENTS



Every aspect of the event exuded elegance and class to mirror the beauty that is women.



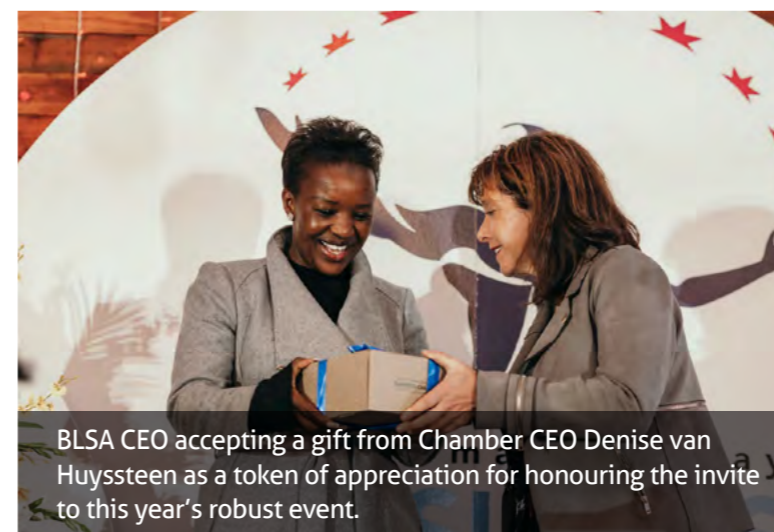
As music started hitting the right notes, one of the ladies is seen gently surfing the waves of the soothing sounds from the music deck.



One of the guests having a fun moment during the day's proceedings.



The audience was glued throughout the proceedings as the lady of the moment Busisiwe Mavuso (BLSA CEO) delivered a powerful talk where she unapologetically raised concerns about the worrying state of leadership in South Africa.



BLSA CEO accepting a gift from Chamber CEO Denise van Huyssteen as a token of appreciation for honouring the invite to this year's robust event.



The day's MC was Bradley Goldman did a sterling job as he directed the day's programme.

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SOLAR PANELS

What you need to know from a legal perspective

If you reside in South Africa, you would be well aware of the rolling blackouts and the endless need to consult the load shedding schedule to plan accordingly.

Installation of solar panels is fast becoming a necessity, and with the tax incentives for installing solar panels property owners are opting to install solar panels as a preferred energy solution.

What must you do to comply with legal requirements to install a solar panel solution?

As a registered property owner, you would be responsible for the safety of any electrical installation, including a solar installation on your property in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1993.

The National Energy Regulator of South Africa regulates energy, and this includes solar energy.

A Solar panel installation must therefore be installed by a certified reputable electrician. This means that the electrician must be registered with the Department of Labour and must be proficient in the national wiring code. The electrical contractor must also be certified to install a solar solution which will comprise solar panels, inverter and batteries as required.

Once the installation is completed the electrician will issue you with a valid Certificate of compliance.

Do I need consent to install solar panels?

If you own a freehold property, then you do not require any consent to install solar panels on the roof of your home, however, if you reside in a Sectional Title Scheme or a Cluster Housing Scheme, the latter being regulated by a Home Owners association, the situation becomes tricky and you will have to abide by either the Sectional Titles Management Act of 2011 and the regulations to this act or the Home Owners constitution which will dictate the rules applicable to the cluster housing scheme.

In a nutshell, if the owner of a unit in a Sectional Title Scheme wishes to install solar panels on the roof of the unit, they would be doing so on common property and would require written consent from the Body Corporate.

To enable the consent to be obtained, the body corporate would be required to meet and resolve to permit the installation by the owner. The Body Corporate will take into consideration whether the installation is regarded as aesthetically acceptable and will determine whether the installation is either luxurious in nature or a reasonably necessary improvement, and the requirements for consent by the Body Corporate would be by way of either a unanimous resolution or a special resolution.

The alternative option would be for the Body Corporate to incorporate solar installation as part of its plan to move the whole scheme to renewable energy use, but in this case all owners would unanimously have to consent, and a special levy would be raised to assist with financing of the installation.

An owner of a Cluster House within a Scheme would have to comply with the conditions as set out in the constitution which incorporates conduct rules, and which would hopefully include solar installations.

Insurance cover must also be considered. The registered owner must advise their insurance company or the body corporate insurer that they have installed a solar system.

In conclusion there is a need to include an appropriate clause in Offers to Purchase immovable property and "declarations by Sellers required by the Property Practitioners Act 2019" to provide for the delivery by the Seller of a valid certificate of compliance and to warrant that the solar installation on the property is in good working order as at the date of sale.



Dubennette Moolman

Dubennette obtained her B.Proc degree at the University of Port Elizabeth (now Nelson Mandela University) 1993. She is a qualified attorney, notary and conveyancer and has been specialising in conveyancing and property-related matters since 1996.

Dubennette focuses on Property Law, Conveyancing, Notarial Law, Contract Law pertaining to Property (Freehold, Sectional Title and Developments) and the Registration of Mortgage and Notarial Bonds.



Local industry can **GO 'GREENER'** and still be energy-efficient

The debate around 'green' versus 'greener' energy - in other words, 'green' energy usage versus the optimisation of energy efficiency - is critical in South Africa, despite industry having to constantly grapple with the knock-on effects of the ongoing power crisis while also trying to meet environmental sustainability goals.

Very importantly, many manufacturing businesses do not realise that these goals are not mutually exclusive.

Energy efficiency optimises the efficiency of the energy conversion process; while 'green' energy utilises a different fuel source - which is deemed more environmentally-friendly - to meet fuel requirements.

If using coal, manufacturers could convert to natural gas which - despite being a fossil fuel - has a smaller carbon footprint. Alternatively, they could use less coal to generate the same energy by optimising their production processes to use less steam, while combusting more efficiently.

Green energy versus energy efficiency

AES is fuel-, solutions- and technology-agnostic and addresses the generation and supply of steam from coal, liquid fuels, biomass and biogas, empowering companies to both optimise efficiencies and future-proof their plants. For those who are pondering the issue of green energy versus energy efficiency, we are able to offer input, guidance and solutions.

We advise clients regarding their best available options, including diverse aspects such as by-product utilisation, cogeneration, and fuel-switching such as biomass or agricultural production residue use as an energy feed stock.

We understand the conundrum of industry juggling sustainability goals and local infrastructure challenges, embracing efforts to address global warming while simultaneously addressing the need for cost-effective, higher carbon fuels, simply to survive.

As a country, South Africa has committed to several international goals to reduce carbon emissions. However, we do not have the same diversity as other countries when it comes to cost-effective alternatives for process energy streams.

However, there are still potential solutions - starting with the requirements of the 'status quo' manufacturing plant. Reducing the quantity of fuel that is used - relative to the initial baseline - mitigates the fuel risk through an established fuel procurement offering. By being highly selective regarding fuel quality, plant efficiency can be improved. This, in turn, results in a reduced carbon footprint.

Quality fuel = effective energy and plant

The selection of fuel type not only impacts the efficiency of energy conversion and supply, but also of the plant itself. Poorly selected fuels can clog boiler tubes, leading to breakdowns and downtime; as well as having a long-term effect on other mission-critical plant components such as combustion systems.

The key objective is to achieve a balance. Our recommendation is to begin by optimising energy efficiency through addressing current operational fuel requirements.

Once this first vital step is in place, one can then look to embracing 'greener' energy options - which may have cost implications initially but will yield very beneficial results in the medium- to long-term: for operations, plant asset care and the environment.

Raymond Lund

Associate Director: Operations
Associated Energy Services (AES)



Member GOOD NEWS

Leading Bay law firm Goldberg & de Villiers appoints new MD



Tracy Mouton

One of the Metro's leading law firms Gold & de Villiers Inc has appointed Tracy Mouton as its new Managing Director effective this month. Mouton succeeds Adri Ludorf who passionately led the firm for a number of years in the same capacity.

She brings with her an impressive academic and proven leadership background into the role, and her visionary approach make her an exceptional fit to steer the company into its next chapter.

With a focus on maintaining and enhancing its renowned conveyancing services, the company has also announced key appointments within the Conveyancing Department. Director Tracey Watson-Gill, who has co-managed the conveyancing department together with Adri Ludorf since October 2005, will now spearhead the department, supported by Conveyancer and Senior Associate Bardine Hall. Additionally, the firm welcomes Senior Associate Sarah Fisher Hill to the Conveyancing Department. Sarah is an accomplished Conveyancer and Notary, bringing a wealth of experience in Property Law and Conveyancing.



Hanleigh Daniels

Ford appoints Daniels as Product Communications Manager

Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa has announced the appointment of Hanleigh Daniels as the new Product Communications Manager.

With over 14 years of experience in media and communications, his professional journey includes significant roles at TechSmart Magazine, freelance work and more recently, positions in the field of public relations at several reputable firms and agencies.

Member GOOD NEWS

ISUZU Motors SA wins 2023 Citizen Of The Year Award in the Business Category

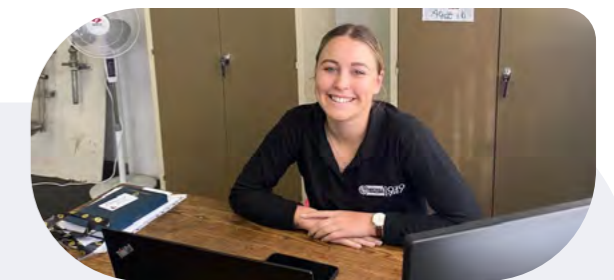


ISUZU Motors South Africa, Senior Vice President Mongezi Hermans receives the Citizen of the year award (Business Category), from Berna Ulay-Walters, The Herald's Marketing Manager.

ISUZU Motors South Africa was recently announced as the winner of the 2023 'The Herald Nelson Mandela University Citizens of The Year' in the Business Category during the Citizens of The Year awards gala dinner event.

The awards give homage to ten remarkable individuals or organisations nominated by the public who selflessly serve those in need by recognising compelling stories of hope and inspiration.

Accepting the award, ISUZU Motors South Africa, Senior Vice President for Human Capital, and Corporate Affairs, Mongezi Hermans said: "ISUZU Motors South Africa is a responsible corporate citizen of the Nelson Mandela Bay that has a social obligation to help uplift our communities. It is crucial for us to ensure we walk in step with society in their path to success. The Citizen of The Year award is a validation of our social license to operate within this community. It sends a strong signal to the market and confirms that we are indeed a company with a soul".



Mienke Stander

Northfield Engineering appoints junior Health and Safety Officer

The Health and Safety division at Northfield Engineering has its newest fully-qualified Health and Safety Officer, Mienkie Stander, to its ranks this month.

At only 20, she has proved her worth after passing her modules in Safety Health Environment, Risk Management, Safety, Health, Environment and her practical – on the Fabrication workshop at Northfield Engineering, with flying colours.

"I'm super-happy as it's taken a while but it feels great knowing that all the hard work has finally paid off. I've been interested in health and safety pretty-much since I matriculated in 2020, so yes, it's a very satisfying milestone," says Mienkie.

Mienke has always wanted to be part of something bigger – an environment in which she can grow. However, when she sent her CV to Northfield Engineering, she was not sure they would come calling. By then, her CV contained work experience at Enviro Quest - focusing on the Environmental impact of the manganese ore shipments into Nelson Mandela Bay – and at Principal Plastics in Markman where she concentrated purely on Health and Safety.

"I took the chance to apply here and came in for an interview and I could not believe it when I received an email a few days later advising me that I had the job. I'm super-excited for the challenges that lie ahead. There are so many areas that will need my attention because of the sheer scale of the work that goes on here at Northfield Engineering, but I'm up for the challenge."

Aspen inks deal to begin SA's first production of human insulin

Africa's largest drug maker Aspen Pharmacare has signed an agreement with Danish healthcare firm Novo Nordisk to establish SA's first production of human insulin.

Novo Nordisk's drugs currently reach more than 500 000 diabetes patients on the continent, but the agreement is aimed at ensuring more than 16 million vials will be manufactured at Aspen's sterile facility in Gqeberha - enough to cover the yearly needs of 1 million patients. The intention is then to ramp up production to cover over 4 million diabetes patients in 2026.

Human insulin, which regulates blood sugar levels, is made synthetically in a lab using modified bacteria, in contrast to insulin taken from the pancreases of animals. Aspen has invested R6 billion in building these facilities and related technologies, and the production of insulin will use sterile infrastructure - including some utilised for Covid-19 vaccine production. The healthcare firm said in a statement it would deploy approximately 250

people for this production, while the collaboration will also reduce the transport-related carbon footprint of the medication by 68%.

Aspen executive Stephen Saad said the insulin manufacturing would retain critical skills and develop new talent on the continent, as well as endorse Africa's role in the regional and global supply chain.

"Aspen has a clear objective and focus to capacitate Africa and give quality affordable access to critical medicines from sites based in Africa that are also capable of exporting to global markets," said Saad.



About the company

We're a global logistics company that offers end-to-end supply chain solutions. We offer international forwarding, customs clearance, warehousing and transport.

Reason we joined

We'd like to join the business community that we operate in in order to be visible as well as participate in it. Also, to be easily available for opportunities to collaborate, co-operate, share knowledge and add value.



About the company

We provide commercial property rental services.

Reason we joined

We are the member of the Perseverance Cluster.



About the company

We provide sales and management of residential properties.

Reason we joined

For self-development and community involvement.

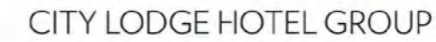
PLATINUM partners



GOLD partners



SILVER partners



BLUE partners





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