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NEWSLETTER

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Embracing Sustainability: The Essential Role of Green Building Principles in Modern Architecture

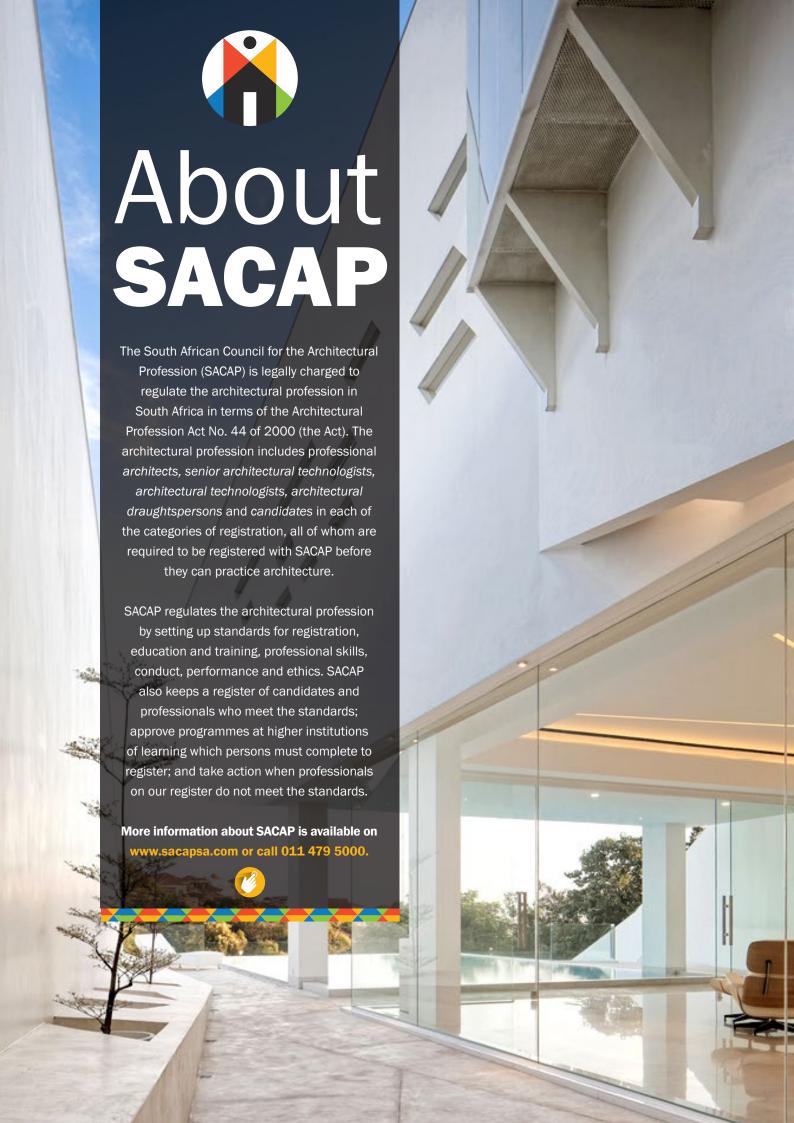
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21st Century Cities Require Agility in the Built Environment

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Beyond Slogans: Empowering Women in the Built Environment for True Transformation





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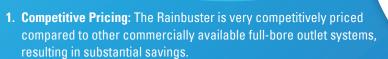
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THE SACAP

JULY - SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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- » Linke Ströhmenger
- **Employment and Labour**



Editor's Note

Dear readers.

SACAP is once again pleased to present our vibrant and informative publication. Our primary objective is to keep our stakeholders informed about the latest developments in the architectural profession and the broader built environment.

In this edition, we delve into critical topics that reflect

our commitment to shaping a more sustainable and equitable future. We recognise that transformation is not just a goal, it is a responsibility we take seriously. We further explore the essential role of green building principles in modern architecture, showcasing how these practices can foster healthier, more resilient communities. As our urban landscapes continue to evolve, the demand for innovative solutions grows.

Notwithstanding the above, empowering women in the architectural profession and the built environment at large is vital for achieving true transformation. This issue emphasizes the importance of inclusivity and representation within our profession, working toward a future where diverse voices are not only heard but celebrated.

focusing on how we can advocate for positive change and resilience in the face of adversity. Together, let us work towards a more

you for your submissions to the SACAP newsletter. Your articles have brought depth and diversity to our content, and we truly appreciate the time and effort you put into sharing your insights.

- Brenda Phake: Stakeholder Relations, Marketing and Communications

"We are considerate and relevant to our stakeholders"

Feedback

To all readers - we want to hear from you!

Your feedback continues to be invaluable! If you have any feedback, articles you would like to submit, or suggestions regarding our content, please reach out to our Stakeholder Relations, Marketing and Communication Manager, Ms. Brenda Phake, at Brenda. Phake@sacapsa.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

HAPPY Reading!



SACAP NEWSLET

EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY: THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF GREEN BUILDING PRINCIPLES IN MODERN ARCHITECTURE



n recent years, numerous terminologies reflecting sustainability principles have emerged, with "Green Building" becoming a particularly prominent phenomenon. Comprehensive Green Building Guidelines, rooted in sustainability principles, have been developed for cities worldwide. According to the Brundtland Report (1987), sustainability is defined as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987).

The built environment sector, particularly architects, must play a pivotal and enduring role in mitigating the environmental impact of buildings through sustainable design practices. Recent data highlights a concerning trend: energy demand in buildings has risen by 7% in recent years (Global Status Report for Building and Construction, 2023). The construction and urban environments are major consumers of natural resources, accounting for one-third of global energy consumption, 40% of greenhouse gas emissions, and 50-60% of waste production (United Nations Environment

Programme, 2023). These findings, once reported by the Club of Rome thirty years ago, have recently been corroborated by United Nations reports (*Meadows et al., 1972; United Nations Environment Programme, 2023*).

Werner Sobek aptly stated, "Now that we have generally recognized our responsibility to future generations, there is no longer any doubt that we cannot continue to behave as we have" (Sobek, 2021). Architects, urban planners, and engineers bear a significant responsibility to develop sustainable solutions grounded in passive design strategies.

A critical concern is the growing tendency to treat sustainability strategies as add-on options rather than integrating them into core building design principles. This approach has led to sustainability being perceived as a luxury rather than a fundamental design consideration. The dominance of building material manufacturers and suppliers, who often prioritize profit over passive design principles, exacerbates this issue (*Jones*, 2022).

According to the Brundtland
Report (1987), sustainability is
defined as "meeting the needs of
the present without compromising
the ability of future generations
to meet their own needs."

During the building design phase, it is crucial to address the economic implications of long-term building management to minimize operational costs. Resource management strategies - such as reducing energy consumption, minimizing waste, conserving water, and enhancing human comfort—require urgent attention. Furthermore, exploring alternative design and construction methods that are less harmful to the environment is imperative (*Smith* et al., 2022).

Sustainable design should be evaluated not only based on financial costs but also on social and environmental impacts. The Green Building Council of South Africa, for example, must expand its role beyond training and promotion to become a regulatory body that enforces sustainability standards and reduces the negative impacts of construction on natural environments (*Green Building Council South Africa, 2023*).

Implementing straightforward and cost-effective sustainable design principles can significantly mitigate the adverse effects buildings have on both the natural and human environments. These principles must be integrated into every stage of planning, design, operation, and maintenance, promoting a more sustainable lifestyle rather than being treated as mere add-ons (*Brown & Smith*, 2024).

Eco-Friendly Design

During the design phase, considerations should include efficient land use, building orientation, site placement, fenestration, natural light harvesting, and integration with the natural landscape. Designs should positively contribute to both the natural and urban environments (*Green Building Council*, 2024).

Socio-Economic Relevance

Buildings should address the socio-economic and cultural contexts of their users. Early collaboration with the community ensures that the design is responsive to local needs, avoids imposing financial burdens due to high energy consumption, and prevents contributing to urban sprawl (*Wilson*, 2023).

Human Health and Well-Being

Buildings should promote well-being by fostering environments that enhance happiness and support integrated lifestyles. Those that harmonize with natural landscapes can improve mental health and overall quality of life (*Davis*, 2023).

Building Material Choice

Selecting locally sourced materials with minimal energy use and opting for reusable materials can significantly benefit the environment. Using materials in their original form reduces maintenance and environmental impact. Choosing materials with fewer chemicals and incorporating renewable energy sources further reduces greenhouse gas emissions and mitigates climate change. Renewable resources support long-term sustainability for future generations (*Taylor*, 2023).

Architects are at the forefront of innovative green building designs, making significant contributions to climate change mitigation. Case studies of buildings designed with Green Building Design Guidelines and awarded Green Star ratings can be found both in South Africa and globally, demonstrating the impact of these principles in action (Green Building Council, 2024).

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FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK REGISTRAR'S 1ST QUARTER OVERVIEW

Advocate (Adv) Toto Fiduli

am honored to report back to our stakeholders and account for how the organization has performed in the 1st quarter to advance the statutory mandate of the Council as per the approved annual performance plan.

Registration

Registration is one of our core statutory mandates, therefore, we receive registration applications frequently. This quarter, we received 355 registration applications consisting of new registrations, reregistrations, and reinstatements. Of the 355 registration applications, 350 were processed within 5 days, and 5 were processed over 5 days.

As the drive to professionalize the public sector continues, we are hopeful that the registration numbers will improve. We will continue to undertake registration roadshows to promote registration. Professional registration is important to demonstrate competence and commitment toward the profession, the built environment, and the public, therefore, we welcome the call to professionalize the public sector.

Knowledge Hub (Library)

We have developed the Knowledge Hub (Library) portal on the MM system to enable us to share important information with all registered persons. The Knowledge Hub enables registered persons to access the latest SANS 10400, the National Building Regulations and Standards Act, the latest legislation, policies, guidelines, and best practices. We intend to ensure relevant, up-to-date professional development opportunities and resources are also available on the Knowledge Hub (Library). We encourage all registered persons to log onto MM to access the Knowledge Hub.

Fees Survey

The fees survey commenced on 28 May 2024, and it is currently underway, we encourage all registered professionals to participate and complete the survey. The fees survey is important to enable SACAP to determine guidelines fees for the architectural profession. The publication of guidelines for professionals annually is a statutory requirement, therefore, we must have relevant information to base the guidelines professional fees on. Hence, a fee survey is important to enable SACAP to determine guideline fees.

Stakeholder engagements

The stakeholder relations department had a very eventful first quarter. The team held webinars on the Code of Conduct, local authority refusals, and Work on Risk. These webinars are very informative and educational to ensure that registered persons are adequately informed about important matters in the architecture profession and the built environment.

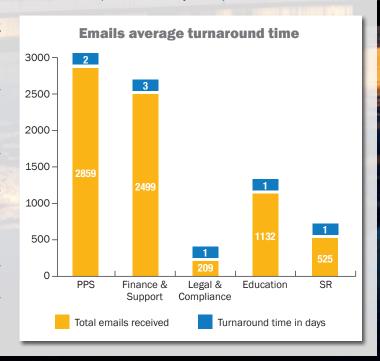
The team also undertook roadshows, career expos, and public awareness campaigns. There were engagements with Tribal Authorities, the Small Enterprise Development Agency, the South African Police Service, the National Prosecuting Authority, and the National Science and Technology Forum. We recognize that these are key partners to enable SACAP to achieve its statutory mandates. We continue to strengthen our relations with these stakeholders to enable us to collaborate and advance the mandates of the profession.

The team had an exciting engagement with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) to share best practices. This is critical as we want to benchmark SACAP against best allied built environment professions such as ECSA.

Our social media pages were active during the quarter with posts on the work of SACAP on Facebook, X, and TikTok. We continue to reach our stakeholders on all platforms to disseminate important information about the profession.

Service Charter

We strive to provide high-quality services to registered persons, the public, and all stakeholders in line with the turnaround times. The graph below indicates the total number of email queries received by each department and the turnaround time to handle the queries. Overall, we received 7,224 email queries and the average turnaround of all the email queries was 3 days this quarter.



Public protection

In terms of the public protection mandate, we had seven (7) matters which were enrolled for a Disciplinary Tribunal. Six (6) cases proceeded and were finalized by the Disciplinary, and guilty verdict findings were issued on all the disciplinary cases. One matter was postponed due to the Registered person's ill health. As the burden proof to produce evidence to establish contravention of the Code of Conduct rests with the Pro Forma Complainant, care is taken to ensure that no complaint is taken to the Disciplinary Tribunal without sufficient evidence.

Unregistered persons

This quarter we received 11 complaints against unregistered persons. Following preliminary investigation, they were all reported to the South African Police Services for investigation and prosecution. We also published a list of unregistered persons who perform architecture on all our social media platforms. Our constant engagements with the South African Police Services and the National Prosecuting Authority are mainly to ensure that unregistered persons are held into account for contravening the Architectural Profession Act.

Local Authorities

Local Authorities are a key stakeholder of SACAP. This quarter, we conducted roadshows at the Mangaung, the City of Joburg, and the City of Cape Town Metros. The engagements were centered around the approval of building plans' turnaround time and the action plans to reduce the refusal to grant approval rate. We conducted educational webinars on the National Building Regulations and Standards Act and SANS 10400, focusing on areas stated in refusal letters by local authorities. We hope this will assist registered professionals and improve the approval rate. Several Local Authorities are working hard to improve the turnaround time to make decisions on planning applications. A lot of them have capacity constraints, however, we are engaging the Municipality Managers to look into the challenges faced by our registered persons and find solutions to improve capacity and effective and efficient decision-making.

We have renewed the SACAP subscription on the SANS 10400 this quarter. All standards can be accessed on the Knowledge Hub. This is important to enable registered professionals to access the standards to prepare documentation required for local authority building plan application submission. While it is not possible to have a printout of the standards, we encourage all registered professionals who do not have updated hard copies to access updated online standards.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

This quarter we received 12 442 CPD claims from registered professionals. We approved 12 154 and declined 288 CPD claims. We have also developed a plan to constantly communicate with registered professionals who are due for a registration renewal. Through the plan, SACAP will issue a written communication to all registered professionals indicating the points that are due or outstanding to enable them to renew registration. Overall, 1278 registered professionals are due to renew their registration in 2024. We have commenced to communicate with them.

Accreditation visits

SACAP undertook an accreditation visit at the Academic Institute of Excellence on 6 - 8 May 2024. This is significant because previously, the draughting or architecture programmes offered by many colleges

were not accredited by SACAP. This has changed now; a lot of colleges have requested SACAP to evaluate the architecture programmes that they offer and consider granting the programmes accreditations. This approach enables graduates with qualifications from the Academic Institute of Excellence to register with SACAP and perform architecture work lawfully. We call upon all colleges that offer architecture programmes to communicate with SACAP so that we can regularise their programmes.

Professional Practice Examination

In May 2024, 297 and 264 registered candidates sat for the Professional Practice Examination for papers 1 and 2 following the completion of the mentorship period. 81% of registered candidates who sat for the examination passed and have been upgraded to a professional registration category. We wish them well in their professional journey.

We held a Professional Practice Examination webinar workshop on 3 & 4 May 2024. While a significant number of candidates passed the examination, however, we noted that some candidates failed, as a result, we have introduced mechanisms such as webinar workshops and sourced facilitators to help candidates prepare better for the examination. This approach has helped improve the pass rate. We will continue to create mechanisms to enable candidates to prepare better for the examination.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Several registered professionals applied for recognition prior learning. At the end of the quarter, we had 32 incomplete applications. We will be following up with all applicants to complete the applications by submitting all the required documentation. We also have 8 complete Special Consent applications that are set for assessment.

We recently issued a call to registered professionals to express interest in serving on the Assessment Panel. We encouraged registered professionals to apply for consideration to serve on the Recognition of Prior Learning Panel to enable us to effectively process all RPL applications. The Panel must be comprised of highly experienced registered professionals.

CETA Grant - Candidacy Programme

Through the mentorship program, we successfully allocated 28 candidates to various architectural practices to commence with the mentorship. While we have noted some administrative snags, we are thankful to all the mentors who volunteered to partner with SACAP to provide these young candidates with the necessary vocational training to enable them to ultimately articulate to professional registration. The progress of the candidates was assessed and the next assessment will be undertaken in the next quarter. The assessment is critical to ensure that all areas of practical training are covered during the mentorship period. We remain appreciative to all mentors who have volunteered to take on candidates and prepare them for professional registration.

Conclusion

We are grateful to the President, Vice President, Committee Chairpersons, and all Council members for steering the direction of SACAP to realize our core purpose. We are also grateful to the Management and employees of SACAP for ensuring that the plans of the Council are fully implemented.



21ST CENTURY CITIES REQUIRE AGILITY IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

By Dr Msizi Myeza - Chief Executive Officer: Council for the Built Environment

Dr Msizi Myeza, and the CEO of CBE, advocates that the "professionalisation of the built environment is about being technically proficient and ideologically compatible."

n October 2022, President Cyril Ramaphosa's announcement that Cabinet had approved the Professionalisation Framework for the Public Sector was remarkable. This action was particularly instructive for the Built Environment sector. You see, it is not just the public sector, but also the private sector that is being encouraged to professionalise. To clarify, in the Built Environment, when we speak of 'Professionalisation', we are referring to the advent of professionalism, the transition to professional practices, and the emergence of the profession itself.

Since this announcement, there's been considerable activity in this area led by the Council for the Built Environment (CBE), all echoing President Ramaphosa's sentiment. In fact, the CBE has gone so far as to develop the Built Environment Professionalisation and Capacity Development Strategy. And let us not limit ourselves to thinking this is just for the public sector. No, this strategy is for both the private and public sectors, and it is currently implemented aggressively in the context of developing a skills pipeline for the future, mentorship programmes for young graduates, and targeted interventions for women in the Built Environment.

As the CBE, we are indeed making progress towards professionalising the Built Environment sector. I have also been reflecting on the qualities that really make an individual stand out as a truly ethical built environment professional in today's rapidly evolving world, and I reckon it is the coupling of a few crucial aspects that can help us navigate the tide."

"Another challenge weighing heavily on my mind lately, particularly considering the epoch we find ourselves in, is where individualism and the accumulation of wealth seem to dominate the societal landscape. This is a notable trend, especially prevalent among my fellow professionals within the Built Environment domain. Quite unsettlingly, we are confronted with ethical conundrums on a regular basis, almost as if it is become an occupational hazard of our profession," Dr Myeza said.

Interestingly, this challenge is rooted in societal attitudes that worship individualism and are driven by the relentless pursuit of financial success. The emphasis on 'self' and personal gain above all else often places us, as professionals, in a rather tight spot. When should

we prioritise our professional ethics and responsibilities over the pressures of accumulating wealth and advancing our individualistic ambitions? This is a tightrope that many are walking, and the fall can be steep," said Dr Myeza. To effectively navigate through this, we must remember that at the heart of our profession, we have a duty to the community, to the wider society, and to our planet. All these are beyond any personal gain or wealth accumulation.

We have an ethical obligation to create spaces and environments that are equitable, just, and sustainable. We have promised to construct a future in which all individuals can thrive, regardless of their socioeconomic standing. We, therefore, must ensure not to let our judgment be clouded by the lure of wealth or the charm of individualism.

Another challenge, especially in an era dominated by technology, is the aptitude to constantly upskill and stay technically proficient. This does not necessarily imply knowing everything under the sun; rather, it is about mastering your chosen path, keeping abreast of the latest developments, and understanding how to proficiently use tech tools to boost productivity. After all, technological savviness is undeniably the currency of the modern age."On the other hand, an often-overlooked aspect is being ideologically compatible. Now, this does not mean conforming to everyone's viewpoints or being "politically correct." It is about appreciating that the built environment professions operate in a contested political environment, and it is about serving society, which is not homogeneous," Dr Myeza said.

It is about fostering a thought process that harmonizes with the collective ethos you are working with. It means displaying the elasticity to adapt, contribute effectively, and advocate for inclusive progress. Like different parts of a jigsaw puzzle coming together to form a complete picture, a diverse yet aligned ideology helps in driving innovative solutions.

Let us strive to meld seemingly disparate attributes together. In a nutshell, be competent with technology and, at the same time, can effortlessly blend into the ideological canvas. It is a continual learning process, something that requires dedication, resilience, and tenacity. By honing these prime aspects, you might just be crafting an avantgarde persona that resonates well in the chambers of the future.



BEYOND SLOGANS: EMPOWERING WOMEN IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT FOR TRUE TRANSFORMATION

s we reflect on the journey thirty years into democracy, it's vital to recognize both the achievements and the challenges that still lie ahead. While there have been numerous policy and legislative reforms, it's disheartening to note that the Built Environment sector remains largely untransformed.

According to the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) statistics, only 13% of professionally registered individuals in this field are women. These statistics are indeed worrying and highlight a significant inequality that must be addressed.

While it's vital to acknowledge and remind ourselves of these statistics, I think we also need to be cautious of what I like to call "sloganeering," particularly during August, which is widely regarded as Women's Month. We must guard against merely paying lip service to the issue without taking substantial action. It's not enough to celebrate women for a month, only to forget about them for the remaining eleven. It's crucial that our commitment goes beyond just words and slogans.

The CBE - Built Environment Women's Network (BEWN), in collaboration with the Tshwane University of Technology – Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment recently hosted a fantastic Youth Assembly and Women's Network event under the theme "Women's Wellbeing and Career Growth". The networking event aimed to empower underprivileged female students by addressing both their educational needs and personal well-being. A significant part of the event was a hygiene products drive, which successfully donated over 200 dignity packs. Additionally, this is part of our broader programme aimed at empowering women and creating a networking platform for information sharing, best practices, and role modelling within the Built Environment.

It was inspiring to see so many passionate individuals, especially young women, come together to discuss ideas, share experiences, and work towards building a more inclusive Built Environment. We had insightful discussions, networking opportunities, and a chance to highlight the vital role that women play in this field.

This, for us, was a demonstration that we shouldn't just talk about these issues; our actions must reflect our intentions. We are now deliberately creating supportive platforms that allow women in the Built Environment to pursue their passions and practice what they studied, just like their male counterparts.

We do this because we strongly believe that for change to happen, it must start with us, and it is a long journey. We will continue to advocate and champion inclusivity, foster partnerships, and ensure that the voices of women are not just heard but valued.













THE PLEADING (BLEEDING) PROFESSION THAT IS ARCHITECTURE

What would it take for a pleading (bleeding) profession to be heard? Of late, I often find myself asking this question. Will it be when Architecture given its last breath? I can see the headline, "Architecture extinct".

n the 26th of April 2023, with the hope for a brighter, bolder future for all women in the Built Environment, we showed up at a bespoke event in celebration of International Women's Day. Elegantly dressed we were welcomed by our distinguished host, the honourable Ms Bernice Swart, the former Deputy Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI). It was at this imbizo Ms Letsabisa Shongwe, in her then fifth term as Vice President of the South African Council of the Architectural Profession (SACAP), made a plea for our profession.

Ms Shongwe used her time on stage at the Indaba Hotel in Sandton to address the Deputy Minister with a heartfelt message. Architecture, she stated, should finally be given its rightful place at the top table of our country's engine room for infrastructure development and economic growth. Her heartfelt words resonated with the women and were acknowledged by Ms. Swart, with the sincere promise that things would change.

Slightly more hopeful we left the venue in Sandton and returned to our daily lives, doing what we do best: working tirelessly to help renovate, redesign and improve our country with the tool's architecture has given us.

A little over a year later the SACAP, still boosted by the promise of Ms Swart, used their social media platforms to congratulate the newly appointed Minister of DPWI, Mr Dean McPherson, and his Deputy Mr Sihle Zikalala. The Minister responded by expressing his gratitude. His office, he added, looked forward to meeting with the SACAP soon.

Were these cordial words and strengthened bonds the start of new beginnings? Did the pleas of Ms Shongwe get us a foot in the door? Would architecture be given the opportunity by the Ministry to operate at the forefront of infrastructure, housing, human settlement and development in particular? Did the government take on board the message of SACAP President Mr Charles Nduku, who eloquently described the importance of our profession at the Sustainable Infrastructure Development Symposium (SIDSSA24) in Cape Town earlier this year? Architecture, he said, "is the conductor of the Built Environment Sector, without it there will / is no harmony."

Our hope was short-lived as on 19 August 2024 the Minister sent out the following request: "Requests for individuals to serve as members of the Public Works & Infrastructure advisory committees". The request goes on to list the crucial built environment role-players namely Quantity Surveyors, Contractors, Engineers, Infrastructure Economists and Funding Specialists, who should join the voluntary advisory committee to work with the Minister in providing a hub for new ideas, expertise-sharing and strategic guidance on infrastructure delivery. This is to, as the request puts it, "...to help turn South Africa into a construction site."

At first glance, you feel compelled to commend the Minister for this initiative to boost our economy through construction. The devil, per usual, is in the details. Architecture? No matter how hard you try, you will not find a single mention of it in this statement. I would have turned the page around if I had a hard copy in my possession. Was there perhaps a dedicated paragraph on the back of the page? No, of course, there wasn't.

Just like that, Architecture was left out.... again. Not a single phrase to include our profession. We were deemed unworthy to be included in such an important announcement. The Ministry advocates change but doesn't see the value of one of the key catalysts to make this happen under his new hashtag #LetsBuildSA. Or was it a mistake, a simple error from a Department finding its feet?

The term Architecture comes from Latin architectura; from Ancient Greek (arkhitéktōn) 'architect'; from (arkhi-) 'chief' and (téktōn) 'creator', and now in 2024, the Chief Creator that helped shape civilization is asking to be included.

If we are the Chief Creators our importance to grow the South African economy can no longer be overlooked. Our profession is a crucial role player that will impact meaningful change in areas such as affordable housing, tourism, sustainability, economic resilience and most importantly, job creation.

Effective, well-designed architectural solutions for affordable housing, will reduce the housing backlog and improve living conditions, it will create safer and liveable human settlements and lead to better economic stability and productivity for communities. Safe, liveable human settlements cannot be achieved by tackling the housing crisis from an engineering or contractors' point of view.

Tourism is a cash injection for many towns and cities in South Africa and depends on it. Future well-designed spaces and buildings will become major tourist attractions, which has the potential to draw local and international visitors that in turn will stimulate local economies even more.

The impact of climate change was visible this winter, as Cape Town experienced its harshest winter in over sixty years. Continuous flooding caused great damage to several areas, and images of a thick white layer of snow on Table Mountain circulated via social media platforms.

Sustainable and energy-efficient architectural principles will minimize such environmental impacts that are caused by climate change. This not only aligns with global sustainability and climate change goals but can also attract green investment for South Africa.

The flood disaster areas created by the exceptionally harsh winter mentioned are a testament to a country where development was based on past apartheid engineering strategies as design principles. Year on year with each rainy season government funds are spent on disaster relief stretching this third-world country's economic resilience, and its ability to bounce back.

Instead of testing our country's economic resilience each year, the architectural mind and skill will aid in the design of buildings and infrastructure that can withstand natural disasters and other factors that could test our economic resilience.

Our skill set can be used to redevelop and revitalize neglected areas such as the inner Johannesburg CBD. Thoughtful architectural projects will rejuvenate communities, especially informal settlements. This will help reduce socioeconomic ills contributing to the urban decay of areas, a stress that can also test any country's economic resilience.

Acknowledging our profession within the Ministry will enable us to advise on key decisions that would unlock the red type that continuously delays government projects on a yearly basis. This in turn will lead to expediting construction projects and creating employment opportunities in the workforce. With an unemployment rate averaging at 42.21% between 2000 to 2024; as documented by Statistics South Africa; this would be a substantial economic growth and employment strategy.

If all of the above is who we are; the Architectural Professional, the Chief Creator; then why are we still being overlooked? I took a chance and made some enquiries by emailing the Ministry via the email address provided. In addition to the omission of Architecture, the information provided in the advert was not sufficient for professionals to decide whether they should contemplate dedicating their time and expertise voluntarily. Nine days have passed, and I am yet to receive any response to my query. The SACAP Registrar; Advocate Toto Fiduli; has confirmed that our governing body has also reached out to the Ministry to meet and discuss the omission. They are also yet to get feedback.

Whilst typing away, I can't help reflecting on commonly accepted quality standards and conduct. If we as architectural professionals were to omit a crucial element in what would lead to a successful design and a happy client, we would undoubtedly receive our first written warning. Or if the omission had grave consequences for the project, we would be fired.

Therefore, would it stand to reason that the DPWI, as an employee of the State, should suffer the same fate as those of us employed by architectural firms across South Africa? Is this repeat omission the equivalent of a design omission with grave consequences that should lead to the termination of the contract of the newly appointed Minister and his Deputy? Should they be fired? They should at least be scrutinized and held accountable for their failings.

I hope that regardless of the snub of our profession, architectural professionals heed the call as this advisory committee will be illequipped without our skills and expertise.

Until Architecture has taken its rightful seat at the table of our country's infrastructure development and economic growth, we will keep on demanding that we are heard. We won't be ignored. Minister McPherson and Deputy Zikalala, are you listening? It's your move now.









SACAP COLLABORATES WITH GLOBAL LEADERS AT SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2024 TO ADDRESS CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES

he Sustainability Summit 2024 is set to take place on Tuesday, 15 October 2024 at Emperors Palace, uniting top global leaders, policymakers, innovators, and industry experts to tackle pressing sustainability issues. This year's summit will cover critical topics including Sustainable Water Resources, Sustainable Energy, Transport and Mobility, Agriculture and Food Security, and Infrastructure for Smart Cities.

The South African Council for the Architectural Profession (SACAP) is proud to be part of this initiative, collaborating with leading figures in sustainability to drive meaningful change. Keynote speakers will include:

- · Charles Nduku, President, SACAP
- · Dhesigen Naidoo, Climate Adaptation Lead, South African **Presidential Climate Commission**
- Alderman Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, Executive Mayor, City of Ekurhuleni
- Ghinwa Shammas, Global Director of Group Sustainability, BSI

These thought leaders will share insights on how governments, cities, and industries can work together to combat climate change, build resilient infrastructures, and promote sustainable growth for future generations.

Key Discussion Themes:

- Sustainable Water Resources: Addressing global water scarcity through innovative technologies and policy frameworks.
- · Sustainable Energy: Exploring clean energy solutions from nuclear to renewables, focusing on the transition to low-carbon economies.
- Transport and Mobility: Developing sustainable urban transport systems, including electric vehicles (EVs) and public transport infrastructure.
- Agriculture and Food Security: Ensuring food security through sustainable agriculture practices and innovative farming technologies.
- Infrastructure for Smart Cities: Harnessing smart city technologies and green infrastructure to create resilient, sustainable urban environments.



Event Details:

The Sustainability Summit 2024 will be held on October 15, 2024, at Emperors Palace, with options for both in-person and virtual attendance. Registration is now open at sustainabilityweek.co.za, and early registration is recommended due to limited capacity. For more information on the summit agenda, speakers, and sessions, please visit sustainabilityweek.co.za or contact the event team at beverley@alive2green.com.

For more information on the Sustainability Summit 2024, please refer to the details below

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2024

15 October 2024 | Emperors Palace

Introduction: The Sustainability Summit is a gathering of professionals, policymakers, and activists from around the world to discuss and share their knowledge, experiences, and innovative ideas on how to achieve sustainable development globally. The summit aims to provide a platform for engaging in productive discussions and exploring actionable solutions towards a sustainable future.

Objective: The main objective of the summit is to foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing among experts from diverse fields to accelerate sustainable development worldwide. The summit will also provide a platform for stakeholders to showcase their initiatives, innovations, achievements, and challenges in promoting sustainability.

Format: The Sustainability Summit is a dynamic one-day event being held on 15 October at Emperors Palace, featuring a streamlined format designed for maximum impact. The programme includes expert-led panel discussions, networking sessions, and interactive exhibits, all condensed into a single, power-packed day. This format ensures that attendees gain valuable insights, make meaningful connections, and engage in highimpact discussions on the most pressing sustainability challenges and opportunities.

Expected outcomes: The Sustainability Summit is expected to:

- Raise awareness and promote understanding of the importance of sustainable development
- Foster collaboration and partnerships among stakeholders from diverse sectors and regions
- Generate innovative ideas and actionable solutions towards a sustainable future
- Provide a platform for showcasing successful initiatives and best practices
- Inspire policymakers and business leaders to integrate sustainability into their decision-making processes

Conclusion: The Sustainability Summit is an opportunity to accelerate sustainable development globally by fostering collaboration, sharing knowledge, and generating innovative ideas. The summit will bring together experts and stakeholders from diverse sectors and regions to engage in productive discussions and explore actionable solutions towards a sustainable future. We invite you to join us in this exciting endeavor and be part of the global sustainability movement.

About Alive2Green

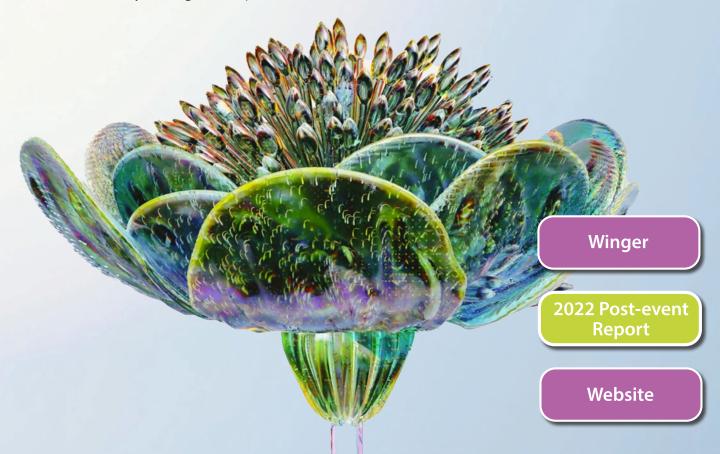
Alive2green is a South-African-based media company whose events and publications connect leading public sector, private sector and civil society stakeholders with each other. Alive2green is an advocate for sustainability, believing that once presented with

accurate information, decision makers will make the right choices. As a publisher, it is the goal of Alive2green to help communicate the fundamental issues, promote leading best practices, and facilitate the action needed for a more sustainable future. Alive2green owns and organises Sustainability Week Summit.

About Leadership

For over four decades, Leadership magazine has formed an integral part of the publishing landscape in South Africa. Proudly South African and brimming with insights, intelligence, and interviews with leaders at the cutting edge of all aspects of our society, it is little wonder that it has scooped up numerous prestigious awards, both locally and internationally, and is held in such high regard around the world. Now available in both digital and print formats, Leadership magazine is able to reach some 80 000 people every month.

This shift to digital has created a plethora of new opportunities, as readers are now able to access an interactive version which boasts videos and other multimedia offerings, to complement the outstanding editorial work of editor Prof. JJ Tabane and his team. Leadership magazine is still aimed at the dynamic reader who is not afraid to take life by the proverbial horns. It is much loved by both entrepreneurs and those pushing the boundaries of leadership as an art form. This is made possible by the one-on-one perspective of leaders from within South Africa, Africa, and the world.



































THE ROLE OF ARCHITECTS IN CREATING AN INCLUSIVE, TRANSFORMATIVE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

By Nadira Haripersadh

rchitects hold the power to shape spaces that reflect the diverse needs of the people who inhabit them. This responsibility goes beyond just the physical structure; it requires deep consideration of how spaces affect lives, especially in promoting inclusivity. An inclusive, transformative built environment prioritizes universal design, sustainability, and cultural and heritage sensitivity.

Furthermore, recognizing the feminine attributes of human experience is critical in driving a more people-centric, compassionate approach to architecture. Women, especially, are poised to take leadership in transforming narratives and creating more inclusive environments.

Understanding the End User and Universal Design

Central to any inclusive design is a keen understanding of the end user. Architects must ask themselves: Who will use this space? What are their unique needs and challenges? By answering these questions, architects can create environments that cater to a broad spectrum of individuals—children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and everyone in between.

Universal design principles are fundamental in this regard. Rather than adapting spaces later to make them accessible, universal design involves creating spaces that are inherently usable by all from the outset. This approach ensures dignity and equity, making public and private spaces not only functional but empowering for everyone. Architects are responsible for championing this inclusive approach, pushing the industry towards a future where accessibility is standard, not exceptional.

Sustainability and Long-term Impact

Sustainability is a key pillar in any modern architectural practice. It is not enough to create beautiful, functional spaces—these spaces must also be sustainable. Architects must consider the long-term impact of their designs, integrating energy-efficient technologies, sustainable materials, and eco-friendly practices. A sustainable built environment does more than minimize environmental harm; it creates healthier, more resilient communities. This, in turn, ensures that future generations can thrive in spaces that meet their needs without depleting the earth's resources.

Cultural and Heritage Sensitivity

No building stands alone. Each structure is part of a broader cultural and historical context that deserves acknowledgment and respect. When architects take the time to understand and incorporate local traditions, materials, and history into their designs, they create spaces that resonate with the community. This approach fosters a sense of identity and belonging, allowing people to connect with the built environment on a deeper level. Whether it's through the preservation of historical landmarks or the integration of cultural motifs in contemporary buildings, cultural sensitivity is crucial in maintaining the social fabric of a place.

Recognizing the Feminine Attributes of Human Experience

Architecture is not just about bricks and mortar—it's about the human experience. Recognizing the feminine attributes in this experience, such as empathy, intuition, and collaboration, brings a more holistic perspective to design. Women in architecture often approach projects with a heightened sensitivity to the needs of people, focusing on creating spaces that foster connection, community, and well-being. This people-centric approach is essential in designing environments that cater to the emotional, social, and physical needs of all users.

Encouraging Women in Leadership Roles

Despite the contributions of women in architecture, the field remains male-dominated. There is an urgent need for more women to take up leadership roles and inspire others to challenge outdated narratives. By stepping into these roles, women architects can influence the future of the profession, advocating for inclusive practices and driving positive change in the built environment. Leadership from women brings fresh perspectives, encouraging collaborative approaches that prioritize inclusivity and diversity in design.

Inspiring Change for a More Inclusive Future

Architecture has the power to shape society, and with more women in leadership roles, there is an opportunity to create environments that reflect the diversity of human experience. By designing with empathy and understanding, architects can transform the built environment into spaces where everyone feels seen, valued, and included. Encouraging more women to enter and lead in this field is not just about achieving gender equity—it's about enriching the profession with diverse perspectives that benefit everyone.



EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS: CBE AND WESTERN CAPE GOVERNMENT'S 3-DAY ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP

he Council for the Built Environment (CBE), in partnership with the Western Cape Government's Infrastructure Department. successfully hosted a 3-day Entrepreneurship Workshop from July 10 to 12, 2024, at the prestigious Western Cape Premier's Office. Over 40 Masakh'iSizwe Bursary Programme final-year recipients and business stakeholders attended the workshop. The workshop aimed to equip future leaders with essential entrepreneurial skills and knowledge to thrive in the built environment sector. Participants engaged in interactive sessions, networking opportunities, and mentorship from industry experts to enhance their understanding of business principles and practices.

The Built Environment (BE) graduates pursue employment and participate in professional development programmes, such as candidature for professional registration, after graduating. However, this is not the situation for a significant number of graduates. The CBE's 2021 Throughput Study revealed a high attrition rate among BE students, lowering the number of students who successfully completed their degrees. Consequently, the throughput rate of BE professionals in the sector is reduced. Additionally, the unemployment rate is increasing, leaving many graduates unable to secure employment and seeking alternative opportunities.

The CBE has designated the Entrepreneurship Programme as a way for unemployed graduates to attain professional registration and socio-economic empowerment. To introduce this programme, the CBE partnered with the Western Cape Department of Infrastructure to offer a 3-day entrepreneurship workshop. The Entrepreneurship Workshop is crucial for empowering the next generation of leaders and innovators in the Built Environment sector. It fosters growth, sustainability, and positive social impact. The programme is designed to be practical, providing beneficiaries with exposure to the following: real-life case studies, hands-on exercises, and networking opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge.

The workshop included presentations by important stakeholders, such as the Department of Infrastructure (DOI) in the Western Cape. These presentations discussed procurement and supplier management topics within the Western Cape Government (WCG). Topics covered the Central Supplier Database (CSD), where suppliers can do business with the government, and the Western Cape Supplier Evidence Bank, which verifies supplier information for procurement processes. Other topics included procurement policies and regulations, the importance of references for credibility. the evaluation process, engagement with non-registered service providers, and the integration of databases with the electronic Procurement System (ePS) for streamlined processes.

The Development Action Group (DAG) gave additional presentations in which it presented opportunities for developers, broken down into homeowner developers, micro developers, and medium/large developers. The presentations also covered entrepreneurship opportunities like contracting, consulting, and the CPD Capacity Building Programme for contractors and developers.

The Department of Employment and Labour presented the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 130 of 1993, focusing on Chapter 9, which covers the obligations of employers. Section 80 mandates employers to register with the commissioner, maintain records, and provide earnings returns. This includes employer assessment, exemptions, tariff variations, payment to the commissioner, failure to pay, contributions, and contractors. They also covered the Unemployment Insurance Act and unemployment insurance.

The Small Enterprise Development Agency (seda) presented various entrepreneurial products and services, explaining their support for young people. Additionally, Harambe Youth Employment Accelerator presented on "MYOM" (Make Your Own Money), addressing funding, saving, and alternative funding sources for businesses.

The South African Revenue Services (SARS) presented about small business corporations, focusing on compliance, small business obligations, incentives, turnover tax compliance, and digital platforms. Other presenters included Nedbank, the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), the National Empowerment Fund (NEF), the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), the National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC), and the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB).

The speakers shared practical tips and guidance on navigating the regulatory landscape, accessing funding opportunities, and building sustainable businesses in the industry. Overall, the workshop was a comprehensive platform for young professionals to network, learn, and grow their businesses in the Built Environment sector.



INTEGRATED LIVING: DESIGNING FOR EXTENDED FAMILIES, INCLUDING THE AGED

By Linke Ströhmenger

In today's rapidly evolving social landscape, the concept of family is undergoing significant transformations. Extended families, once the norm in many cultures, are making a resurgence as more people seek to live in multigenerational households.

his trend, driven by economic, cultural, and emotional factors, presents both challenges and opportunities for architectural professionals. One of the most compelling aspects of this resurgence is the need to design living spaces that accommodate aging family members. This article explores how architectural professionals can approach the design of integrated living spaces for extended families, with a particular focus on the needs of the elderly.

The Resurgence of Multigenerational Living

Multigenerational living is not a new phenomenon. Historically, extended families living under one roof were common, particularly in agrarian societies. However, the advent of industrialization, urbanization, and the rise of the nuclear family led to a decline in multigenerational households in many parts of the world. Today, a confluence of factors is driving a return to this living arrangement.

Economic pressures, such as the high cost of housing and eldercare, are prompting families to combine resources and live together. Cultural factors, including the desire to maintain strong family ties and care for ageing parents, also play a significant role. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the benefits of having family close, leading to increased interest in multigenerational living.

Designing for Extended Families: Key Considerations

Architectural professionals tasked with designing spaces for extended families must consider a range of factors to create homes that are functional, comfortable, and inclusive. These considerations include privacy, accessibility, adaptability, and social interaction.

Privacy and Personal Space

One of the primary challenges in designing for multigenerational households is balancing the need for communal spaces with the

need for privacy. Each generation within the household may have different routines, lifestyles, and preferences, making it crucial to design spaces that allow for both interaction and retreat.

Zoning is a key strategy in achieving this balance. By dividing the home into distinct zones—such as a quiet zone for sleeping and reading, a social zone for dining and gathering, and a work zone for home offices or study areas—designers can create spaces that cater to the needs of different family members. For elderly family members, a private suite with a bedroom, bathroom, and sitting area can offer a sense of independence while still being close to the rest of the family.

Accessibility and Universal Design

Designing for the aged requires careful consideration of accessibility. As people age, their mobility, vision, and hearing may decline, making it essential to create environments that are safe and easy to navigate. **Universal design** principles, which aim to make spaces usable by all people, regardless of age or ability, are particularly relevant in multigenerational homes.

Some key features of universal design include:

- Step-free entrances and wide doorways to accommodate walkers and wheelchairs.
- Lever-style door handles and faucets that are easier to use for those with arthritis or limited hand strength.
- Non-slip flooring materials and well-lit pathways to reduce the risk of falls.
- Accessible bathrooms with walk-in showers, grab bars, and comfort-height toilets.
- Low or adjustable kitchen counters to accommodate users of different heights, including those who may need to sit while preparing food.

By incorporating these elements into the design, designers can create homes that allow elderly family members to live comfortably and safely.

Adaptability and Future-Proofing

As families grow and change, so too do their living needs. A home that works well for a family today may need to accommodate additional family members or changing health conditions in the future. Designing with **adaptability** in mind ensures that the home can evolve with the family.

Flexible spaces that can be easily reconfigured are one way to achieve this. For example, a den or study that can be converted into an additional bedroom or a living room with movable partitions that can create separate areas for different activities. Another approach is to design with **potential future modifications** in mind, such as reinforcing walls to support the installation of a stairlift or designing a ground-floor room that can be easily converted into a bedroom if needed.

Technology integration is another aspect of future-proofing. Smart home systems can enhance the quality of life for elderly family members by enabling remote monitoring, automating tasks like adjusting lighting and temperature, and providing communication tools that help them stay connected with family and caregivers.

Encouraging Social Interaction

While privacy is important, so too is fostering a sense of community and connection within the household. **Communal spaces** play a crucial role in bringing family members together, and their design can significantly impact the quality of social interaction.

The kitchen is often considered the heart of the home, and in a multigenerational household, it can serve as a hub for family gatherings. An **open-plan kitchen and dining area** can facilitate conversation and interaction while meals are being prepared. **Outdoor spaces**, such as patios, gardens, or courtyards, can also provide valuable areas for family members to relax and spend time together.

Shared amenities within the home, such as a family room, home theatre, or library, can offer additional opportunities for family members to connect. When designing these spaces, it's important to consider the needs and preferences of all generations, ensuring that they are welcoming and accessible to everyone.

Conclusion: The Future of Integrated Living

As the trend towards multigenerational living continues to grow, architectural professionals have a unique opportunity to shape the future of housing. By designing homes that are inclusive, adaptable, and supportive of family connections, designers can help create living environments that enhance the quality of life for all family members, from the youngest to the oldest.

The key to success in this endeavour lies in thoughtful, human-centred design that anticipates the diverse needs of extended families. Whether through the application of universal design principles, the creation of flexible spaces, or the integration of technology, architectural professionals can lead the way in developing homes that truly reflect the changing nature of family life in the 21st century.



TECHNICAL SYSTEMS (PTY) LTD VS RTS INDUSTRIES



r Christiaan Arnoldus Kurtz (Mr Kurtz), was previously employed by Technical Systems (Pty) Ltd as a plant engineer and, in the course of his employment, gained intimate knowledge of the manufacturing processes of Technical Systems (Pty) Ltd. He had unfettered access to Technical Systems (Pty) Ltd's technical drawings and technical data relating to the manufacturing processes. As part of Mr Kurtz's conditions of employment with Technical Systems (Pty) Ltd, he was obliged to enter into a confidentiality undertaking and restraint of trade agreement in favour of the first respondent.

In 2009, Mr Kurtz left the employ of the first respondent. Shortly thereafter, rumours emerged of a competitor in the market selling a product similar to that of the first respondent. The competitor's product was offered for sale at a lower price than that of the first respondent. The competing entity appeared to be RTS Industries, the first appellant, but the first respondent could not ascertain the identity of the individual who was the first appellant's controlling mind for some time. It was only in July 2014 that the first respondent was able to confirm the involvement of Mr Kurtz with RTS Industries, and as a result, the 2014 application, which culminated in the 2015 order, was launched.

Following the launch of the 2014 application, the first respondent came into possession of technical drawings prepared by the appellants. It was then discovered that those drawings infringed the copyright of the first respondent in 1179 of its technical drawings. The appellants had made reproductions and adaptations of the copyrighted work. It became clear from the discovery process that the second appellant, CGC Industries (Pty) Ltd, and Mr Kurtz had unlawfully competed with the first respondent between 2009 and June 2015. Thereupon, they had no choice but to capitulate and accede to the 2015 order.

In terms of the 2015 consent order, the appellants recognised the confidentiality of the first respondent's production process for the production of the auger. The order interdicted the respondents from using this information for as long as it retained its confidentiality. They were also interdicted from infringing the copyright of the first respondent in its artistic works comprising its 1179 technical drawings for a period of three years from the date of the granting of the order.

The 2015 order obliged the appellants to deliver up to the first respondent all works infringing the latter's copyright for destruction. In addition, the appellants were restrained from competing in the field of manufacturing, marketing and sale of flat wire, auger and auger coiling machinery. The respondents then launched the 2019 proceedings seeking a rule nisi interdicting and restraining the appellants from manufacturing, processing, marketing for sale or selling flat wire and auger, pending the completion of the process stipulated in the 2015 order. They also sought an order declaring the appellants to be in contempt of the 2015 court order and their committal to prison, alternatively payment of a fine.

On 9 March 2020, Mangcu-Lockwood AJ delivered her judgment and granted the following order:

- 1. That an interim interdict is granted in the following terms:
 - 1.1. Pending the finalisation of the process provided for in paragraphs 23 to 25 of the order granted by this Court under case number 17470/14 on 2 June 2015 (the Court Order), the respondents are interdicted and restrained from
 - 1.1.1 manufacturing and/or producing flat wire for purposes of manufacturing auger;
 - 1.1.2 manufacturing and/or producing auger;
 - 1.1.3 marketing for sale and/or selling any flat wire and/or auger produced by any of the respondents;
 - 1.2. The respondents are restrained and interdicted from removing, causing or permitting the removal of any of the unlawfully produced products from the premises situated at 6 Distillery Way, BAT Building, Paarl, Western Cape, or from any other premises where same may be located.
 - 1.3 Within 5 court days of the issue of this Order, the respondents are directed to furnish the applicants with the addresses of all premises where the respondents are storing the unlawfully produced products.

USING A BULK MIXING PLANT ON A CONSTRUCTION SITE



A bulk mixing plant is commonly referred to as a batch plant and by definition, it means machinery, appliances or other similar devices that are assembled in such a manner to be able to mix materials in bulk to use the mixed product for construction work.

hen a contractor is appointed on site to erect or use a bulk mixing plant the client or the principal contractor, as the case may be must ensure that the contractor has all the necessary competencies and resources to carry out the construction work safely.

The appointed contractor must ensure that the operation of a bulk mixing plant is supervised by a competent person who has been appointed in writing and is aware of all the dangers involved in the operation. The appointed competent person must also be conversant with the precautionary measures to be taken in the interest of health and safety and ensure that no person operates a bulk mixing plant without the necessary competencies.

When erecting a bulk mixing plant on site the contractor must adhere to the requirements set out by the manufacturer per the design, installation, operation and maintenance. Critical components such as devices to start and stop the bulk mixing

plant must be easily accessible and be constructed in a manner to prevent accidental starting.

All dangerous moving parts of a mixer must be placed beyond the reach of any person utilising doors, covers or other similar equipment and no person should, under any circumstance, remove or modify any guard or safety equipment relating to a bulk mixing plant unless that person is authorized to do so by a competent person.

Depending on the type of bulk mixing plant required on a construction project, the contractor must ensure that all precautionary measures stipulated for confined spaces, when using a silo, are complied with as per the General Safety Regulations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and records of all repairs or maintenance to the bulk mixing plant are kept on-site and readily available to an inspector, client, client's agent or any employee.

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EMAIL COMMUNICATION

Please note that any enquiries relating to Professional Registration, including Annual Fees, Registration, CPD etc may be directed to the following email adresses:

CONTACT CENTRE

General enquiries - Registration, Upgrades, Professional Practice Exams (PPE), Continuing Professional Development (CPD), frequently asked questions (FAQ)

Email: info@sacapsa.com

FINANCE UNIT

Account - Annual Fees and other fees accounts including CPD renewal fees, re-registration fees

Email: accounts@sacapsa.com

IDOW - COMMITTEE

Identification of Work (IDoW) - Matrix and Exemptions **Email: idow@sacapsa.com**

LEGAL

Filing a complaint and lodging an affidavit Email: legal@sacapsa.com

