

## **"A MOMENTOUS DECADE –**

### **Prelude to**

## **A MEMORABLE JUBILEE"**

Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) has a proud history of being at the forefront of driving positive change in the industry. A highlight of the decade was the change in name from the South African Association of Consulting Engineers (SAACE) to Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) which took place in 2009. Having been founded in 1952 CESA is proud to celebrate its Diamond Jubilee in 2012 celebrating 60 years of service to the industry.....and there is much to celebrate:

**The Presidents:** More changes took place in the Presidency of CESA in the last decade than in the previous 50 years – 2002 saw the first black President, in 2004 the first lady President took the chair, and in 2005 CESA had its second black President, followed by two more, in 2007 and 2011. Transformation within the Organisation has been taken very seriously starting right at the very top.

**Growth:** In 2002 membership comprised 400 firms employing 11 000 staff. In 2012 the Membership of CESA is on track to reach 500 firms, employing in excess of 22 000 staff, earning fees approaching R20 billion.

**Transformation:** As far as transformation is concerned CESA has always been ahead of the game. Closer cooperation was initiated with kindred associations in the built environment providing a platform for discussion around a specific industry charter. After more than six years of intensive lobbying it was promulgated under Section 9 of the BBBEE Act of the Construction Sector Codes of Good Practice and Scorecard, providing at last a realistic and relevant measure of Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment in the sector.

**The cidb:** With passing of the Construction Industry Development Board Act in 2000, our Organisation engaged with the cidb to bring about uniformity in the procurement of consulting and construction services across South Africa -an ongoing process.

**Procurement:** In 2006 the Organisation conducted a workshop on the procurement of consulting engineering services which resulted in the publication of a CESA Guideline Manual on best practice procurement, and a country-wide "road show" to promote the manual among member firms and clients.

**School of Consulting Engineering:** The School of Consulting Engineering (SCE) was launched in 2002 and was soon offering over 50 courses, country-wide, and generating a turnover of R5 million per annum by the end of 2011.



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**International Expansion:** In 2002 CESA established the International Business Development Section (IBDS) which later became the Built Environment Professions Export Council (BEPEC) to assist firms and coordinate their efforts to export our professional engineering services. .

**Quality Management:** In 2007 it became a condition of membership of CESA that member firms adopt a Quality Management System compliant with the ISO standard. By 2009 this concept was broadened, to include Risk Management guidelines and Business Integrity Management. In 2009 compliance with CESA's Business Integrity Management System (BIMS) became compulsory.

**Sustainability:** CESA developed a Sustainability Framework for use by members and joined the Board of the Green Building Council of South Africa.

**Youth:** In 2004 following the example set by FIDIC, the Organisation established the Young Professionals Forum (YPF) serving the needs of professional engineers and technologists in member firms, aged under 35. .

**Client Liaison:** By 2011 CESA's National Liaison comprised no less than 19 committees, each dedicated to be in touch with a designated public sector client. CESA is also an active member of Business Unity South Africa (BUSA).

**The Future:** CESA will continue to be "The Voice of Consulting Engineering" and going forward the Organisation's focus will turn to integrity and ethics so as to mitigate corruption within the industry. The message to clients is "CESA Engineers – Unquestionably Ethical".



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