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Inside Track is published by Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA), a non profit organisation sponsored by its members to serve all stakeholders in the business of Consulting Engineering and Infrastructure Development.

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Editorial board: Graham Pirie and Kuvashnee Govender
Written and edited by: SW Marketing
The prestigious CESA Aon Engineering Excellence Awards held at Vodacom World in Midrand on the 15th August this year were a celebration of innovation, quality, outstanding workmanship and professionalism in the industry. CESA is proud to host this annual event, sponsored by Aon, as a platform to showcase the important role that infrastructure plays in the sustainable development of our country. The Awards focus on consulting engineers and their clients who participate in or initiate projects that promote the advancement of our nation and the people of the continent.

Awards were handed out for the following categories: Engineering Excellence for projects with a value of less than R50 million; projects between R50 million and R250 million and for projects with a value of over R250 million; Best International Project; Visionary Client of the Year; Mentor of the Year; Business Excellence; Mentoring Company of the Year; Young Engineer of the Year; Publisher of the Year; Job Shadow Day; and Branch of the Year.

The category of Engineering Excellence with a value greater than R250 million was won by HHO Africa for the Upgrading of Koeberg Interchange for the Department of Transport and Public Works Provincial Government of the Western Cape with BKS receiving a commendation for the Upgrading of the Ben Schoeman Freeway for the South African National Roads Agency.
The category of Engineering Excellence with a value **between R50 million and R250 million** was won by **BKS** for the Safety Rehabilitation of Klein Maricopaort Dam for the Department of Water Affairs. The **JW Waste Water Partnership** comprising Knight Piésold Consulting, Zitholele Consulting, PD Naidoo & Associates and the WSP Group received a commendation for the Northern Waste Water Treatment Works, Sludge Drying Bed for Johannesburg Water.

**BKS - Winner**  
Projects between R50m & R250m

**JW Waste Water Partnership - Commendation**  
Projects between R50m & R250m

The category of Engineering Excellence with a value **less than R50 million**, was won by **Aurecon** for the Meulwater Water Treatment Works for the Drakenstein Municipality. **GOBA** received a commendation for the Brakspruit Bridge Project for Transnet Freight Rail.

**Aurecon - Winner**  
Projects less than R50m

**GOBA - Commendation**  
Projects less than R50m
In the category of **Best International Project**, sponsored by the Built Environment Professionals Export Council (BEPEC), **Vela VKE Consulting Engineers** part of the SMEC Group was announced the winner for the Baia de Luanda - Luanda Waterfront Development with **Bosch Projects** receiving a commendation for the Ubombo Sugar Mill in Swaziland for Illovo Sugar.

**SSI Engineers and Environmental Consultants** (Now Royal HaskoningDHV) won the **Business Excellence** category. In an effort to promote mentorship of young engineers CESA recognises the contribution Mentors make to the industry and the future of the profession. **Bigen Africa** won the **Mentoring Company of the Year** category.

**Andrew Brown** from Golder Associates won the category of **Mentor of the Year**.

To view a copy of the CESA Aon Engineering Excellence Awards magazine [click here](#).
In recognition of the role that the media plays in the industry, **3S Media and Crown Publications** received recognition for **Publishing Excellence: Trade Media** and **Independent Newspapers** received recognition for **Publishing Excellence: Daily Newspapers**.

In the **Visionary Client of the Year** category, CESA nominates candidates for the award, who must then consent to their nomination. Nominees in this category can be from the public, parastatal or private sectors, and are judged inter alia on their contribution to sustainable economic job creation in South Africa and or Africa. Creating sustainable development in communities through skills and knowledge transfer is an equally important factor. The judges also look at the opportunities provided for the growth and expression of professionals, including those from formerly disadvantaged communities. Projects should also have embraced innovative designs that highlight the ability of South Africans in the technological field. CESA this year gave recognition, in the category of Visionary Client of the Year, to the **Gauteng Provincial Government and the Bombela Consortium for the Gautrain Rapid Rail link**.

In order to promote the Consulting Engineering industry to young professionals, CESA recognises the contribution young engineers make to the industry and to the future of the profession. Naturally the winner must be available to receive the award and attend the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) convention. Furthermore, he or she must be available to serve on CESA’s Young Professional’s Forum for a 12-month period. Judges look for outstanding performance in areas including technical achievement on a project; educational achievement; recognition such as awards received; contributions to sustainable development—such as environmental initiatives, social responsibilities, and community involvement. And finally, the winner in this category must have leadership ability, and contribute to the image of the firm and the industry as a whole. Once again, this year the Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) sponsored the Young Engineer of the Year Award, enabling the winner to attend the FIDIC convention to be held in Seoul, Korea this year. The winner in the category of **Young Engineer of the Year** is **Imraan Mahomed from BKS**.
Representatives from CESA were recently invited by the Governor of the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), Gill Marcus, to participate in an open and frank discussion between the Bank and the Construction Industry. Participants included industry organisations, representing both Professional Services and Contractors. The purpose of the meeting was for the Bank to get a better understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing the industry, both locally and abroad. Marcus affirmed her intention to hold similar meetings on a regular basis.
Government’s Poor Procurement Performance Hinders Job Creation

Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) is appalled at Government’s poor performance in relation to the non-payment of suppliers resulting in many companies in the industry going into liquidation and out of business. Just recently Sanyati Holdings has been forced into provisional liquidation due to Government incompetence in not paying timeously. Graham Pirie, CEO states, “If Government wants to create jobs then this is very poor behaviour”. Key priorities included in President Zuma’s New Growth Path are job creation and improved service delivery. Non-payment is having a serious impact on SA’s ability to deliver infrastructure. CESA would like to see stronger measures implemented to ensure that Government adheres to its commitment, which is a legal requirement in terms of the Public Finance Management Act, to pay suppliers within 30 days. In addition CESA would like to see the legislation regulating Procurement practices being adhered to across all spectrums of Government. Non payment is a huge issue for the industry and this is happening on a daily basis at all levels of Government resulting in a large number of companies, large, medium and small being adversely affected.

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First for Western Cape - Annual Relay

The first CESA relay to be held in the Western Cape took place on the 21st of April 2012 at Bergriver resort in Paarl. This inaugural relay had 41 team entries from 10 member firms, these teams participated in tug-of-war, cycling, walking and running.

The main sponsor of the event was Topmed supported by Chris Willemse Cycles, Aon, Jeffares and Green and Safe Working Practice. These sponsors ensured a fun day, and some of the lucky draw prizes included a bicycle worth approximately R8500, as well as an array of other cycling equipment.

It was a fun filled day for all ages and a perfect team building and family-day for firms.
Procurement of Consulting Engineering Services

A position paper on the Procurement of Consulting Engineering Services, recently released by CESA outlines the problems being experienced with procuring professional services in the built environment and puts forward proposals to improve this process.

Our country’s economic growth is directly correlated to the state of its infrastructure. In addition, the development, operation and maintenance of infrastructure also provides many opportunities for job creation. Simply put “the better the infrastructure, the better the economic growth, the better the quality of life and job creation”. The health of the consulting engineering sector is critically important in this process through the planning and delivery of a sound infrastructure within the economy.

CESA’s member firms and their Government clients find themselves in a procurement nightmare insofar as tendering for work in the Public Sector is concerned. Whereas consulting engineers would prefer to compete for work on the basis of the quality, innovation and creativity, the current procurement procedures set out in Treasury Instruction Note 15, favours essentially priced based competition. This leads to mediocrity, lack of innovation and minimal design effort in project development. The procurement process itself frustrates quick and effective procurement while the low prices being offered in order for firms to survive are in turn causing client dissatisfaction, virtually no effort on innovation and reduced training and development for young staff.

In an independent survey of 46 client bodies commissioned by CESA all respondents felt that the role of the consulting engineer was vital for the successful implementation of a project and many of the problems related to the present procurement system were reported. It is obvious that the manner in which the present systems of procurement are being practiced is not delivering the required value from the consulting engineering industry. When it is considered that the consulting engineer’s fee typically only represents 2% of the lifecycle cost of the Works then the short-sightedness of this approach becomes evident. Reducing design costs by 25% can easily add 10% to the capital cost of a project, let alone the higher operation and maintenance cost over the project life cycle, and is, therefore, false economy.

Negative consequence for ordinary South Africans
Procurement problems have resulted in the following negative consequences:
• Government departments and municipalities are reporting massive underspending of infrastructure budgets and the Auditor General has reported wastage in 2011 of some R21 billion.
• The slow rate of public sector infrastructure spending has hampered job creation in the construction/infrastructure sector, which typically has a major job creation potential.
• The slow rate of service delivery in terms of municipal engineering services such as water & sewer reticulation, roads & stormwater reticulation and electrification, has angered many long suffering communities. This dysfunctionality has unfortunately also affected schools and hospitals, and even extends to the national power supply infrastructure.
• The inability of local Government to use the expertise available in the consulting engineering sector in order to monitor, maintain and upgrade the services being provided has resulted in many “disasters waiting to happen.” Examples of these are poorly maintained electrical infrastructure that could fail at any moment and a complete failure of many waste water treatment works with disastrous health and environmental consequences. In the area of drinking water supply, only around 66 of 244 municipalities achieved blue drop status in 2011 (primarily in the metro and water board areas) and millions of people are at risk of drinking contaminated water.

The Proposal
CESA firmly believes that the ‘way forward’ in addressing these multi-faceted problems lies in the adoption of separate supply chain management system for professional engineering services that is appropriate to the nature of the services being rendered. The overall approach put forward in this proposal is to use the existing Government structures and systems more effectively to improve the value derived from procurement and reduce opportunities for corruption.

The proposal suggests a procurement system largely based on existing systems within Government but adapted to suit the procurement of professional services. It should be relatively easy to set up and administer and the results should be monitored and audited annually with the assistance of the cidb to ensure fairness and value.

The full position paper is available for download from the CESA website, www.cesa.co.za
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CESA Opposes Sexwale Call for State-owned Construction Company

Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA), strongly opposes the call by Minister Tokyo Sexwale to create a state owned construction company.

Speaking on behalf of their 470 member firms, employing in excess of 22 000 employees, President of CESA, Naren Bhojaram states, “The budget for subsidised housing does not allow for adequate construction supervision by experienced people. Hence contractors take a chance and get away with poor workmanship either due to no supervision or supervision by inexperienced people”. He goes on to explain, “The State should not set up structures in competition with the private sector. They should be creating a platform and a conducive environment for the private sector to excel.” He contends that this is what will grow the economy and create jobs.

Contracts are being awarded to inexperienced contractors, some of whom may be politically connected and hence get the projects. CESA has no data supporting this but strongly recommends that ownership structures of contractors need to be carefully checked to ensure that politicians or their families are not involved. Bhojaram goes on to state, “We already have too much political interference in public tenders, whether direct or indirect.” CESA also strongly disagrees with President Zuma’s statements in a parliamentary debate where he lends support to politicians being involved in private companies. CESA finds this practice fundamentally compromising and lacking in transparency. Politicians should choose their careers well, either stick to politics and refrain from getting involved with the private sector doing business with the state or get out of politics and join the private sector in doing business with the state.

The solution is not a state owned construction company. We need better procurement of the service providers, proper budgets to do adequate construction supervision, and a realization by government that large scale construction of what may seem to be simple buildings, requires proper project management. Bhojaram believes that the State should focus on their priorities which include the following for the built environment sector:

a. Ensuring that experienced technical staff are brought back into Government to manage infrastructure projects. This will enable the writing of proper Terms of References for projects, effectively assessing tenders and monitoring deliverables provided by the private sector
b. Sorting out corruption
c. Sorting out the procurement process in the built environment sector generally, but specifically for the professional services providers, by recognising quality or functionality as essential in a single evaluation process for tenders alongside price and preference
d. Inviting the private sector to come up with innovative ideas for infrastructure development by recognising and streamlining the unsolicited bid and PPP process

Bhojaram concludes “CESA invites government to engage with us to find solutions to these problems so that together we could make a better life for all”.

Khuthaza provides Career and Enterprise Development services within the construction industry. Founded informally in 1995, the organisation has grown to offer a number of programmes and support services aimed primarily at promoting women's empowerment within the industry. Khuthaza has strong relationships across the industry and has a reputation for delivering. We offer a range of programmes and services.

For more information contact
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liz@khuthaza.org.za
011 275 0268
www.khuthaza.org.za
CESA in Full Support of Call by Minister Manuel to Accelerate Change for Growth

Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) is in full support of National Planning Minister, Trevor Manuel’s call to accelerate the pace of change and development in the country in order to increase growth. CESA agrees that failure to implement the recommendations of the National Development Plan could result in the country sliding backwards. It is imperative that urgent attention be given to the social needs of the country and in particular, job creation. The Construction Industry is a major contributor to the creation of jobs resulting in economic and social stability for the country.

CESA states, “The National Development Plan is a holistic plan envisioning a sustainable future that has identified all of the gaps in society requiring attention relating to social and economic infrastructure in which Consulting Engineers play a key role.” CESA members stand ready and waiting to provide support and assist in order to create a sustainable future for our country as the process unfolds. While the content of the plan is laudable, implementation is key to its success, and this is where the Consulting Engineering Sector comes to the fore and can play a positive role in providing the necessary capacity for this to happen.

Graham Pirie
Chief Executive Officer
GAMA 2012 - Engineering as a Driver of Sustainable Social & Economic Development

Representatives from Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) recently attended the 19th Group of African Member Associations (GAMA) Conference held in Livingstone at the Zambezi Sun adjoining the spectacular Victoria Falls. GAMA is the African chapter of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) and aspires to become the knowledge platform to further sustainable development on the continent.

It was the most successful conference in GAMA’s 20-year history, attended by just under 200 delegates and 50 partners. 15 Member Associations from across the African continent attended the event. FIDIC and GAMA still have a lot of work to do to increase membership, in order to fully represent the 54 countries in Africa. The theme for the conference was “Engineering as a driver of sustainable social and economic development”. This in view of the fact that progress in attaining the targets set in terms of the Millennium Development Goals has been very slow and throughout the conference, there was frequent reference to the need for capacity building and the promotion of local (indigenous skills) or regional skills and for multinationals to work in partnership with local entities.

Statistics emanating from the FIDIC’s State of the World Report 2009 include: Africa’s population growth rate was 26% in the past decade, in 2050 Africa could be three times the size of Europe and 75% the size of Asia. By 2015, Nigeria’s population, if current trends persist, will be greater than that of the USA. South Africa’s carbon emissions are greater than that of the UK. The 2012 version of this report will be released at the FIDIC Conference in Seoul in September and is likely to present some more frightening statistics. The main challenge is to increase Africa’s rate of economic growth and improve quality of life in a sustainable manner so Engineers have a lot of hard work to do and are increasingly presented with more and more opportunities to share in Africa’s challenges. A paper presented by CESA Past President, Zulch Lötter, entitled “What do I, as a Consulting Engineer, do differently tomorrow morning to ensure sustainable development?” provided a practical dissertation on how to integrate sustainable tools and thinking into the way we do business from an everyday point of view. It is very good news that everybody, including politicians are talking Infrastructure delivery as well as operations and maintenance of projects over their life cycle.

There were a number of CESA speakers, as well as speakers from The World Bank, African Development Bank and FIDIC. The GAMA Conference proved to be a wonderful networking forum, particularly for work north of our border. There were many similarities in the information shared and it was really good to see African Member Associations uplifting themselves, becoming more professional and adding dedicated in-house capacity to ensure improved service to members. The conference papers are available under GAMA on the FIDIC website, www.fidic.org Next year’s conference will be held in Khartoum.

Appointment
Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) is pleased to announce that CESA Board Member, Arthur Taute (VELA VKE) has been appointed as Chairperson of the Group of Africa Member Associations (GAMA). GAMA is the African chapter of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC).
Branch of the Year

Congratulations to our KwaZulu Natal and Western Cape Branches who this year are joint winners of the 2012 CESA Branch of the Year Award.

2012 is the ninth year that CESA has given recognition to the best Branch out of 12 Branches nationwide. The criteria for the award includes the effectiveness of the Branch committee structure; Branch organisation; and communication with local members. In addition, the judges look at the consistency and number of client liaison and Branch meetings as well as how well the Annual Presidential visit is organised by the Branch.

(L-R) Colin Raman from KwaZulu Natal Branch; Melanie Kemp-Hofmeyr from Western Cape Branch - Joint Winners of the Branch of the Year Award congratulated by Naren Bhojaram (CESA President)

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CESA Job Shadow Month

CESA’s Young Professionals Forum, our YPF, is committed to growing our country’s much-needed engineering skills. The YPF once again invited all member firms to get involved in our Job Shadow Month which was extended to take place over 2 months during June and July this year. The aim of CESA’s Job Shadow Months is to expose learners not only to the engineering environment but to the Consulting Engineering experience in particular.

Congratulations to GIBB who were announced winners of the CESA Job Shadow Initiative with GOBA 1st runner-up and MPA Consulting Engineers 2nd runner-up.

This year record participation was achieved with more than 800 Learners - high school juniors and seniors, from diverse backgrounds shadowed engineering professionals for a day at their workplace.

It is encouraging seeing this empowering initiative flourish and grow year after year both in terms of the number of learners job-shadowed as well as the spread across the country. What’s even more encouraging is the fact that CESA Job Shadowing Initiative is becoming more than just an event on the CESA calendar but a way of life, with a significant number of participating member firms having decided to adopt some of their local schools.

The initiative takes the form of a Poster Competition where the firm that submitted the best entry depicting the day is named the winner. This award is based on the events of the day and the nature of the experience gained by pupils. The following member firms participated in the Job Shadow Initiative:

- Arup
- Aurecon
- Bigen
- BKS
- Bosch
- BVi
- GIBB
- GOBA
- Iliso
- Infraconsult
- Knight Piésold
- MPA
- PDNA
- PRDW
- Semane Consulting
- SSI
- UWP
- Vela VKE
- WorleyParsons
- WSP

(L-R) Richard Vries (CEO) & Yolande van Rooyen (CRM & CSI) from GIBB being congratulated by Naren Bhojaram (CESA President)

Job Shadow Month Poster Competition

The winner walks away with 2 seats to the CESA Conference and Exhibition happening in November this year at the Durban ICC and 2 free registrations to the ‘Road to Registration for Candidates’ course at the School of Consulting Engineering. The two runners-up will each receive 1 seat at the CESA Conference and Exhibition and 1 free registration to the ‘Road to Registration for Candidates’ course. These prizes are for Young Professionals within the participating companies.
Job Shadow Day
Goba Durban

SAFETY INDUCTION
AN INTRODUCTION TO CIVIL ENGINEERING
STRUCTURES 101
PAVEMENT DESIGN WITH BISCUITS
STUDENTS UNDERTAKING
STORMWATER DESIGN
PIPELINE DESIGN MADE EASY
WATER TEAM RELAXES AFTER THE PRESENTATION
TRAFFIC SIMULATION IS NOT ONLY ABOUT COUNTING CARS
LONG WALK BACK TO THE SITE OFFICE

SA’S FUTURE ENGINEERS AND THE PRIZE GOES TO…

YES! THOSE PIERS ARE 26m HIGH!!! WOW!!!

I wonder if this will work?
Glue or Prestik
I told you that’s how they do it!

This looks easy…

The start of a jam packed day full of activities for our young future Civil Engineers. Beginning with a formal presentation by our CEO, Mrs Malani Padayachee-Saman and Director, Mr Victor de Abreu.

EISH!! This is not so easy
OMG!!!!

Is engineering an Art or Science?

Bridges were built using everyday materials and then tested to failure.

One of MPA’s experienced engineers teaching them how to set up a Theodore light to get elevations.

Peter Viljoen (COO, GOBA) - 1st Runner Up & Naren Bhojaram (CESA President)
Job Shadow Month Poster Competition

Malani Padayachee-Saman (CEO, MPA) - 2nd Runner Up & Naren Bhojaram (CESA President)
Job Shadow Month Poster Competition
Presidential Visits - ‘CESA Engineers – Unquestionably Ethical’

Naren Bhojaram, President of CESA recently completed the 2012 Presidential visits to all of the Organisation’s nationwide branches to present his message for the year. He recently visited: Gauteng North and South, Limpopo, North West, KwaZulu Natal, Mpumalanga, Free State and Northern Cape where he presented his theme for the year and addressed industry issues affecting the country:

“Where does the power really sit with the procurement of Professional Services?”

South Africa still has many needs with respect to service delivery. Training and development of our people is lacking and unemployment is on the increase. We are informed that significant budgets are available for job creation and accelerated service delivery. At the same time, budgets are underspent and established local consulting engineering businesses are not 100% utilised. Is the procurement of professional services a hindrance to service delivery and where does the power really sit with procurement? Members and Clients are invited to listen to Naren as he talks about:

• Unemployment and Training
• Provision of New Services
• Operations and Maintenance of Existing Infrastructure
• Economic Growth

Gauteng North and South

(L-R) Tafadzwa Mukwena (Chairperson, CESA YPF Gauteng North Branch); Sugen Pillay (CESA Gauteng South Chairperson); Andre van der Walt (CESA Gauteng North Chairperson); Graham Pirie (CESA CEO); Nazir Alli (Guest Speaker and SANRAL CEO); Naren Bhojaram (CESA President)

Limpopo

Presidential Delegation at Samaritan Childrens Home

Presidential Delegation and Staff of Ngwana Huis
Northern Cape

Elmar Deyssel, Branch Chairperson

North West

Mike Mthimunye (guest speaker); acting CEO of NW Development Corporation cutting the CESA 60th Anniversary Cake

KwaZulu Natal

(L-R) Naren Bhojaram, CESA President; Logashrie Sewnarain, Guest Speaker from SANRAL; Colin Raman, Branch Chairperson; Graham Pirie, CEO of CESA

(L-R) Arnold Ramchunder (PDNA) and Jeshika Ramchund-Moonsamy (KZN YPF Chairperson)

(L-R) Yolan Pillay and Naomi Naidoo (KZN YPF Committee members); Barbra Duffy (TopMed)

(L-R) Gaillard Rossouw; Graham Pirie, CEO of CESA; Sid Turner
Transformation and the SCE - BCE Development Programme

“Our people are our best asset” has become a business cliché, but this holds true in Consulting Engineering. Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA), and in particular the School of Consulting Engineering (SCE), has a desire to realise transformation in our country and in our industry. One way of achieving this is through skills development, education and training.

In South Africa today, there is only 1 engineer for every 3100 people. Germany boasts 1 engineer for every 200 people and in Japan, UK and USA, the ratio is 1:310. The industry’s challenge today is two-fold. It needs to not only reduce the ratio, but also to increase the competency of our young engineers in order to render more efficient delivery.

There is a clear need for transformation in our industry, even though the June 2011 CESA Bi-Annual Economic and Capacity (BEC) Survey indicates an improvement from increase from 21,2% to 27,8% of black (including Asian and Coloured) equity. This includes executive directors, non-executive directors, members and partners. This indicates a positive improvement in the contribution of black people (including Asian and Coloured) that have obtained some sort of ownership or equity in the firm for which the work, but they still remain in the minority. For a detailed breakdown by race and gender you can refer to the CESA BEC Survey on www.cesa.co.za / Bi-Annual Economic and Capacity Report.

There is also a clear need for additional development of staff employed by consulting engineers firms. This is critical to broaden the scope of their knowledge beyond pure engineering in order to both create a larger reservoir of skills, and to attract and retain new entrants to the industry.
CESA established a Business of Consulting Engineering (BCE) Development Programme to better prepare engineers, technologists and non-engineering professionals in consulting engineering firms in dealing with all aspects of the complex and competitive world of commercial business.

This dynamic programme is a personal and professional business development programme, aimed mainly at young engineers and graduated non-technical staff working in consulting engineering companies. It has been designed by a specialist educational consultant, and well known industry individuals who have worked in member firms for many years.

Companies have handpicked some of their talented staff to attend the programme. Through this programme students are being pushed to their maximum to reach their potential ensuring that they become the global leaders of the future. The new aspiring bunch of enthusiastic students entered their first block week in March 2012 at CESA Training Centre, Bryanston. The students are bright, assertive and ambitious individuals.

The quality of students on the first BCE has far exceeded expectations. The programme is relevant, practical and current, the lecturing has been of a high standard, and the programme is very well organised (and fun at the same time) and provides vast networking opportunities. The highly experienced group of Convenors/Facilitators include Craig Clarke, Celia Mullane, Zulch Lötter and Ivor Evans. Subject Experts include Diane Liebenberg, Megwyn Marot, Henk Langenhoven, Ron Walter, Mandy Anthony and Graham Pirie. All have been genuinely engaged in the training, ensuring that the students are building a solid foundation of knowledge in area of the Business of Consulting Engineering. In a short space of time a strong sense of camaraderie has been developed between the students and the Facilitators/Convenors.

The programme will close the gap between the engineering training currently provided at tertiary education institutions, and the business skills needed to function in the consulting engineering industry. Firms will benefit by having engineers who have been taught the detailed processes of project delivery and the basic soft skills of consulting engineering, and who have been prepared to take on future leadership roles.

The challenge into the future will be the funding of the next phase. This will be the Management of Consulting Engineering Development Programme, which will prepare the students for management roles. To date CESA has funded the BCE, however, a funding proposal has been submitted to the Construction Education and Training Authority (CETA) to fund the next programme.

Extract from: Transform SA
KwaZulu Natal First Annual Relay

CESA KZN played host to 14 member firms at the 1st Annual CESA KZN Consultants Relay. This inaugural event was held on 12 May 2012 at the Shongweni Polo Club in western KZN.

The day’s activities included the main walk/run/cycle relay, volleyball, tug-o-war and a host of kids activities. The Relay attracted an impressive 350 participants comprising 13 cycling teams, 21 running teams and 28 walking teams, cheered by over 300 supporters.
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