



Minds at Work!



Site Visit to Kassier Road



Office Tour & Project Showcasing



Construction & Pavements Math Quiz Challenge



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CONSULTING ENGINEER

On 24 July 2023, SMEC South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal office hosted 12 students from uMkhumbane Secondary School as part of CESA's Job Shadow Initiative.

The Day in the Life of a Consulting Engineer exposed the students to SMEC's various engineering disciplines and some of the firm's nation-building projects.

A site visit to SMEC's flagship Kassier Road project, and a project planning & implementation tower building challenge gave the students a sneak-peak into the exciting world of civil engineering!



Welcome!



Refuel Time!



The Refined Site Team!



Career Path Discussion



The Tower Building Challenge

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CONSULTING ENGINEER

by SMEC South Africa

On 24 July 2023, twelve students from uMkhumbane Secondary School, spent “a day in the life of a consulting engineer”. SMEC South Africa hosted these learners as part of the Job Shadow Initiative by CESA.

On arrival, the learners were welcomed with breakfast, and handed essential stationery to journal the day. The learners were enlightened on Civil Engineering, the various career paths it has to offer, and the requirements to peruse a career in the field.

The learners were given a tour of SMEC’s office, and each engineering discipline gave a brief explanation of the work they do, and showcased some of their exciting projects. The manager of the Construction & Pavements section, kept the learners thinking caps on by preparing an engaging math quiz, where the winner received a prize.

Following the office tour, a project-planning and project-implementation activity involved building a tower with 30 straws and sellotape was conducted. They had a time limit of 1 hour to brainstorm and come up with the best structure. A clean paper bin and water bottles were used to load the straw structure. This was planned to enhance the learners understanding of engineering concepts, which they thoroughly enjoyed. The learners worked within groups, and motivated their adopted structure in a very interactive presentation. each received a SMEC branded mini speaker.

Lunch was provided, including refreshments for an anticipated site visit to Kassier Road, Westown Development.

The learners were taken to Kassier Road, geared in the relative PPE. On arrival, they underwent Induction before entering site. The learners peaked into the Contractor’s work-life, and witnessed the construction of Civil Engineering Bulk Services, (such as Earthworks, Roads, Stormwater, Water, Sewer, and Ducting). They understood the relationship between Consulting and Construction, and could relate to the design aspects explained to them earlier that day. They also realised the importance of this infrastructure in their everyday lives.

In concluding the day, the learners glanced the world of engineering, and were inspired by the value brought to people, by Engineers.