

## GMBA members scoop eight national safety awards

Gauteng Master Builders Association members have scooped eight national safety awards – including three first places – in the Master Builders South Africa's annual Health and Safety Awards.

**THE THREE GMBA** members who won GMBA regional awards, and have now also emerged as national winners in the MBSA 2010/11 awards, are:

- WBHO/Tiber Bonvec Joint Venture for 115 West Street (Projects of over R500-million);
- Aveng Grinaker-LTA for Medupi Power Station P35 A/C (Projects valued at R200-million to R500-million); and Stefanutti Stocks for the KPMG site



GMBA member, Stefanutti Stocks, has won a MBSA national Health and Safety Award for its work on the KPMG building site. John Barradaile of Stefanutti Stocks (right) was pictured earlier this year receiving the GMBA regional award for the same project from Doug Michell, GMBA Occupational Health & Safety Specialist.

(Projects between R120-million to R200-million).

Furthermore, GMBA regional winner, Tyriss Construction, was placed second nationally by MBSA for its health and safety record on the new Wits Health Science building (Category: Projects between R50-million and R120-million).

Finally, four GMBA members won MBSA national third places after winning the GMBA 2011 regional competition: Tiber Bonvec Construction for its Village Deep storage yard (Category: Plant and Storage Yard), Aveng Grinaker-LTA for its Façades factory in Jet Park (Category: Manufacturers), Belo & Kies Construction (Category: Projects under R5-million), and GVK-Siya Zama Construction Gauteng (Category: Projects R5-million to R20-million).

Doug Michell, GMBA Occupational Health and Safety Specialist, says GMBA members' success in the latest national MBSA competition is by far the GMBA's best showing in recent years. "It reflects the increasing concern about safety and health on construction sites in Gauteng by our provincial authorities and testifies to the GMBA's continuing drive to bring a safety mindset across to our members. We are extremely proud of our members' significant achievement and hope that this will lay the foundation for similar achievements in future," he adds. ■

## Structural engineer has major role in sustainability

The role of the structural engineer will become increasingly important as the South African construction sector strives to produce more sustainable buildings in future.

**THAT IS THE VIEW** of Rachel Muigai, Cement & Concrete Institute (C&CI) Fellowship holder, who has completed three years of studies at UCT towards a PhD degree in concrete sustainability.

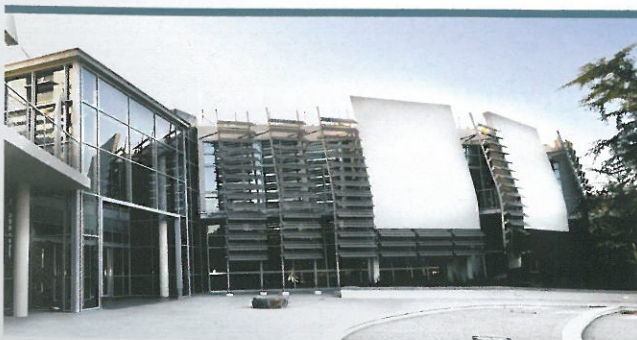
Delivering an informal interim report to staff members of C&CI at the Institute offices in Midrand, Muigai said:

- "Commercial buildings produce a third of the total carbon produced during energy usage in Cape Town,
- Structural frames contribute 27 to 62% of the total initial embodied energy of a building – which makes it imperative for designers to select the correct materials for maximum sustainability,
- Designers should not be over-influenced by cost issues but rather consider the environmental impact of structures during pre- and post-use, and
- Choice of building materials plays a major role in sustainability." ■

## Designed for life

dhk Architects is a recent recipient of an award from the Cape Institute of Architects for its work and design of the UWC University Life Sciences Building at its main campus in Bellville, Western Cape.

**THE UWC LIFE SCIENCES** is an innovative development which includes an institutional laboratory comparative to the best in the world and which uniquely incorporates six departments into a single working and learning environment.



"Our focus is on designing fit-for-purpose developments on time – and on budget. Our efforts are aimed at creating spaces that reflect contemporary designs that advance conservation and sustainability principles and practices," says Derick Henstra, chairman of dhk Architects.

"UWC combines all these ambitions while remaining pioneering and functional."

"Despite the challenges presented by the global recession, dhk continues to build on its reputation that combines innovative design capabilities and sound technical skills so as to deliver living spaces that work – mixed-use urban developments that

bring benefits to those that live and work within these environments," says Henstra. ■

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