



Building Industry Forum

Newsletter

Dec 2016

Dear Readers

We bring you the final edition of the Building Industry Forum (BIF) newsletter for 2016.

This has been a challenging year for the construction industry and all stakeholders must play a pivotal role in fostering a conducive business environment in which companies of all sizes can strive and succeed.

In this edition we bring you articles as well as information on the 11th Built Environment Conference to be held in Durban in 2017. This conference is hosted by the Association of Schools of Construction of Southern Africa (ASOCSA), an active member of the Building Industry Forum.

As we approach the shutdown period, we take the opportunity to wish all readers a wonderful festive season and a prosperous 2017. May your businesses grow from strength to strength.

Be safe and enjoy the read!

Vikashnee Harbhajan
Executive Director: Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal

Site Closures

In the past few months several incidences of disputes on construction site between construction companies and local business forums have been reported to the Association. In order to avoid this situation arising in the future we advise members to consider the following:



At pre-tender site meetings ask if the client has engaged with the community and local business forums.

In addition the Principal Agent should supply details of the local business forums to be employed by the main contractor to all prospective companies lodging bids.

Obtain and use prices from the local community for at least 30% of the project value in order to avoid conflict at a later stage.

Ask the local business forums to provide prospectuses and CV's of completed projects in order that they can be evaluated as to their ability to perform.

Once the project has commenced keep full documentation on site to prove the level of local participation.

When the project has commenced and you are then approached by the local community or business forums, it is important to engage. Be transparent on your efforts to employ local community members.

Ross Stembridge | Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal

FEM Awards Special Merit Rebates

At a Special General Meeting held on 19th October 2016, shareholders of the Federated Employers Mutual Assurance Company (RF) Propriety Limited (FEM) approved a distribution of R1.035 Billion to qualifying policyholders in respect of a once-off special merit rebate, which was scheduled to be paid before the end of November 2016.



The purpose of the payment was to reduce the Company's accrued surplus and thereby align its capital position to board-approved long term strategic targets and to recognise and reward those policyholders who have made positive contributions due to their focus on health and safety.

Whereas annual merit rebates are determined based on policyholders underwriting results in each particular year, the special merit rebates were designed to recognise policyholders' contributions to the company's underwriting profits over the long-term. Consequently, the principles applied to determine policyholders' qualification for the special merit rebate and their individual allocations are similar to those used for the annual merit rebate calculations, but have been adapted to cater for the longer calculation period applicable and is directly related to health and safety performance.

Herman Enoch | FEM

11th Built Environment - Call for Papers

The Association of Schools of Construction of Southern Africa will be hosting the 11th Built Environment Conference 6 - 8th August 2017 Durban, South Africa

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The ASOCSA Built Environment conference series is steadily becoming one of the leading built environment conferences on the African continent. For many years it was one of only two construction-related conferences in South Africa that enjoyed full accreditation by the South African Department of Higher Education for subsidy. The series continues to be endorsed by the International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB), one of the largest global built environment research organizations. The conference provides an international forum for interaction between and networking among researchers, academics, administrators and practitioners representing institutions of higher learning, government agencies, contracting organisations, consulting enterprises, financial institutions, and other construction-related organisations.

Authors are invited to submit structured abstracts in English of not more than 150 words for peer review by the Scientific and Technical Committee by not later than January 31st, 2017. Each abstract should give the name and full contact details of the authors to be contacted concerning the paper.

The abstract MUST contain the following SEVEN obligatory fields about the paper: Purpose, Design, Research limitations/Implications, Findings based on Empirical Research, Practical Implications, Response to the conference Theme and Keywords.

[Click Here for more info \(PDF\)](#)

Ferial Lambardo | ASOCSA

Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal, Safety Consulting Service

Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal offers a comprehensive Occupational Health & Safety consultancy service that aims to assist Members and Non-Members in ensuring safety compliance.



The Association has the following employees' **registered with SACPCMP.**

- Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal Health and Safety Manager, Neil Enslin registered as Pr.CHSA (Professional Construction Health and **Safety Agent**)
- Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal Midlands Regional Manager, Gareth Roberts registered as a Pr.CHSM (Construction Health and **Safety Manager**)
- Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal Health and Safety Officer, Tasvir Matai, registered as a CHSO (Construction Health and **Safety Officer**)

The registration with SACPCMP as contemplated in CR 5(8) came into effect on 7 August 2015. The Construction Regulation requires individuals who would like to act on behalf of a client or be appointed as a Construction Health and Safety officer for a contractor to be registered with a statutory body approved by the Chief Inspector.

The Association strives to provide prompt professional advice and assistance and these registrations, added to the expertise of the unit, enable the Association to deliver a professional service that meets all safety requirements.

For more information please contact me on 031 831 3222.

Neil Enslin | Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal

BUILDING INDUSTRY FORUM STAKEHOLDERS

