

# The Weekend Property and Construction News

Published on behalf of

Weekend 13 / 14 December 2003

**Circulation : exceeds 1,950 subscribers**



The Association of South African  
Quantity Surveyors

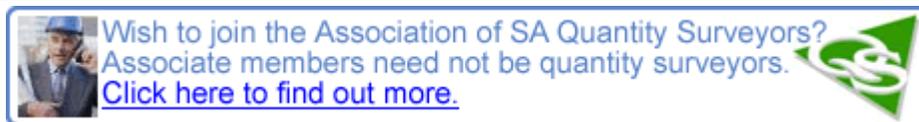
Property and Construction related articles featured on the Internet during the past week brought to you by [ASAQS](#).

Editor: Bert van den Heever

News specific to the quantity surveying profession is reflected at the bottom of this newsletter. Click on the blue headline if you wish to read the full article on the Internet.

Past issues of this newsletter can be found at [http://www.asaqs.co.za/news/property\\_news.html](http://www.asaqs.co.za/news/property_news.html)

## CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT NEWS



Wish to join the Association of SA Quantity Surveyors?  
Associate members need not be quantity surveyors.  
[Click here to find out more.](#)

### INDEX

- [Construction and Development News](#)
- [Retail Roundup](#)
- [Newsflashes for Architects](#)
- [SAFCEC News](#)
- [News from Africa](#)
- [Mining News](#)
- [News for Estate Agents and Home Owners](#)
- [Property Links](#)
- [The Agent's tool kit](#)
- [Building Terms](#)
- [Special Reports](#)
- [Economic Indicators](#)
- [ASAQS News](#)
- [Did you hear?](#)
- [Update your information](#)
- [Subscribe](#)

On behalf of the Board, Management and Staff of ASAQS, we would like to wish all our subscribers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the year 2004 be a happy and prosperous one!

This is the last edition of the WP&CN for this year - our next issue will appear on the 10th January 2004

### [Relief in sight for tenant-besieged landlords](#)

Do you remember the story about the three little pigs that refused to vacate their homes despite being asked to do so by the big bad wolf?

(@www.busrep.co.za)

### [Sars has got it wrong over nominee transactions](#)

Seeff has drawn the attention to an article in a law journal which argues that the SA Revenue Service (Sars) has misinterpreted section 16 of the Transfer Duty Act 40 of 1949 in respect of nominee transactions.

(@www.busrep.co.za)

### [JV aiming for May 2004 completion](#)

Construction and engineering company, Group Five Kwazulu-Natal, in a joint venture with two empowerment companies, Umpheme and Pandev, has been awarded a R55-million contract for construction work at Mondi's Richards Bay mill, in Kwazulu-Natal.

(@www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [This train is on time](#)

South African petrochemicals giant Sasol is putting the finishing touches to the world's largest air-separation unit (ASU), constructed at its synthetic-fuels production facilities in Secunda, Mpumalanga.

### SPONSORED LINKS



*Exclusive furniture for working, learning and living*

To subscribe to the Twice newsletter "Design Despatches" [please click here.](#)

Sponsorship of the Weekend Property and Construction News will assist ASAQS and ensure that the newsletter remains a free-issue to you.

### Benefits of Sponsorship

- \* We will place your logo in this area with a link to your website.
- \* We will assist you to bring your news to the attention of our readers.
- \* You will receive 3 banner ads on

### Update your information

First Name:

Your profession  
Quantity Surveyor

We wish to collect the names and professions of our old subscribers in order to personalise our newsletter in the future. All you need to do is submit your name and select your

profession... our computers will do the rest!

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

Subscribe to The Weekend Property and Construction Newsletter

First Name:

E-mail:

Your profession  
Quantity Surveyor

Subscribe:

Un-subscribe:

Please make sure that you are connected to the Internet before you press the GO! button. We value your subscription.

### [Piping network contract completed in September](#)

An intricate network comprising several kilometres of piping interconnects Sasol's 15th air-separation unit (ASU) to the rest of the plant infrastructure at the petrochemical group's synthetic fuels production facilities in Secunda, Mpumalanga.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [Sasol's Mozambique pipeline to deliver new gas soon](#)

THE first gas will arrive at Secunda along Sasol's Mozambique pipeline early next year, with the pipeline already 95% complete, the petrochemicals and synthetic fuels giant announced yesterday.

(©www.bday.co.za)

### [Wild Coast road to take toll on nature?](#)

Go-ahead for controversial route scupper move to create conservation area. PROVINCIAL authorities have scuppered efforts to create a megaconservation corridor along the unspoilt Wild Coast by putting pressure on national government to drop its plans to declare a national park in the Pondoland region.

(©www.bday.co.za)

### [January start for paper project](#)

Preparation for the R1,43-billion Mondi Merebank mill conversion and environmental project is currently under way in Kwazulu-Natal. The project entails the complete rebuild of paper machine one (PM1) at the mill, at a cost of R1,1-billion, and the implementation of an emission-reduction programme, at R330-million.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [Large basement excavation a challenge](#)

The largest basement excavation yet done in Johannesburg has been at Constitution Hill, located between Braamfontein and Hillbrow, where 250 000 m3 of soil was removed.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [The new court is more than a building, it is a work of art](#)

Artwork and architectural design have been two of the most vital components incorporated into the construction of the new Constitutional Court.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [History Justice](#)

The Constitution Hill project is well under way, with the Constitutional Court already 95% complete.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [R4.5m walkway construction project nears completion](#)

The Ekurhuleni Metro, in partnership with Caesars Gauteng, has undertaken a R4,5-million intensive walkway construction project, inspired by Ekurhuleni's Walk A Ward programme.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [132 000-t/y Hillside expansion project completed](#)

The world's largest diversified miner, BHP Billiton, yesterday announced that the expansion project at its wholly-owned subsidiary, Hillside Aluminium smelter, in Richards Bay, reached full commissioning this week.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

the ASAQS-website which currently records about 150,000 hits per month.

\* Your products and/or services are brought to the direct attention of quantity surveyors and other role-players in the built environment.

\* You are kept abreast of developments within the quantity surveying fraternity and will be granted opportunities to interact with our members.

A standard sponsorship will only cost your company R5,000.00 (exclusive) per annum.

Interested?

[Contact Bert van den Heever](#)



The International Cost Engineering Council (ICEC) was founded with the objective of promoting co-operation between national and multi-national quantity surveying, cost engineering and project management organisations worldwide. ICEC has access to more than 40 000 professionals in over 30 countries. Following the established pattern of biennial World Congresses, ICEC has granted South Africa the privilege of hosting their 4th World Congress.

The ICEC World Congress 2004 will be held in Cape Town from the 17th to 21st April 2004. The congress is proudly co-hosted by the Association of South African

### [Will monument honour all SA heroes?](#)

GOVERNMENT is soldiering on with the construction of a Freedom Park at Salvokop Hill in Pretoria to celebrate nation-building.  
(©www.bday.co.za)

### [KwaZulu tourism revamped](#)

DURBAN Tourism KwaZuluNatal became the first structure to change its logo in line with the national tourism strategy, as South African Tourism aims to identify the demands of international tourists and ways for SA to raise its destination profile.  
(©www.bday.co.za)

### [Wilson's Wharf acts to keep the area beautiful](#)

Wilson's Wharf is often referred to as one of Durban's "premier flagship projects", but the development is attracting complaints about pollution in the area and incomplete landscaping.  
(©www.busrep.co.za)

### [Durban's Point suffering huge stock shortages](#)

The development of a massive marine theme park and aquarium in Durban's historic Point district has prompted a huge run on property ownership and rentals in just over a year.  
(©www.rodneyhayter.com)

### [City a project of the century](#)

The teams of engineers and planners involved in the development of Richards Bay should be proud of their achievement over the past 40 years - the city has been recognised by the SA Institution of Civil Engineering as a "Project of the Century".  
(©www.busrep.co.za)

### [Building eats up Chinese farmland](#)

BEIJING China announced a plan yesterday to protect its limited farmland. Grain production is falling as local governments requisition croplands to cash in on a nationwide real estate and development boom.  
(©www.bday.co.za)



[Back to Index](#)

Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS) and the Cost Engineering Association of Southern Africa (CEASA). For further details [click here](#).

---

## **ASSOCIATION OF ARBITRATORS (SOUTHERN AFRICA)**

The Association has been presenting correspondence courses in arbitration since 1985. The qualifications gained by those studying these courses are well respected in the construction industry locally and internationally. We have pleasure in announcing that the following courses will commence in February 2004:

- Certificate Course in Arbitration
- Specialisation in Construction Law
- Fellowship Admission

For further information, kindly contact the Association at:  
PO Box 653141, Benmore 2010,  
2nd Floor Digital House, Park Lane,  
Sandown  
Tel: (011) 884-9164/5  
Fax: (011) 884-9167  
Email: [arbitrators@icon.co.za](mailto:arbitrators@icon.co.za)  
Website: [www.arbitrators.co.za](http://www.arbitrators.co.za)



[Join SpamArrest](#) and assist us. ASAQS will receive 50% of your subscription fee as commission.

## RETAIL ROUNDUP

### [Edcon to put Boardmans in its shopping bag](#)

Johannesburg - Pick 'n Pay confirmed on Friday that speciality fashion retailer Edcon will acquire its retail chain Boardmans for about R94 million, pending approval from the competition authorities.

(©www.busrep.co.za)

### [Cheers and beers for Laugh It Off victory](#)

Cape Town - The satirical Cape Town T-shirt company Laugh It Off has won the latest round of its court battle with multinational beer giant SABMiller.

(©www.busrep.co.za)

### [Tense Pepkor vote ends on a poignant note](#)

Cape Town - Pepkor's boardroom has probably never been as packed as it was yesterday. And it is doubtful whether any meeting in the company's history of more than 30 years has dragged on for over three hours, as it did when shareholders voted on the offer of R12 a share by Castellina, financed by Old Mutual and Brait.

(©www.busrep.co.za)



[Back to Index](#)

## NEWSFLASHES FOR ARCHITECTS

Welcome to the last newsflash for this year. As you are aware the PIA office will be closing at 12:00 on Friday 12 December 2003 and will re-open on Wednesday 7 January 2004. Ishara and I are certainly looking forward to our well-deserved rest and time of renewing our energies for the year 2004.

### **NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: TERMS FOR APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONALS:**

The following note was received from the SAIA, who had received it from F J Pretorius, Act. Director: Quantity Surveying Services:

Colleagues,

## Business

### BUSINESS INCENTIVES

[Cash Grants](#)  
[Cash Sharing Grants](#)  
[Competitive Enhancement](#)  
[Development Finance](#)  
[Empowerment](#)  
[Export facilitation](#)  
[Human resources](#)  
[Investment incentives](#)  
[Matching grants](#)  
[Sectoral](#)  
[Small, Medium](#)  
[Social Benefit](#)  
[Tax Incentives](#)  
[Technology \(research](#)  
[Tourism](#)

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

[Government Tender Bulletin](#)  
[Trade by Industry](#)  
[SA Business Brief](#)  
[Worldwide telephone directories](#)

## The ASAQS Webshop

[Visit our new online Webshop](#) to purchase DOCUMENTS and SOFTWARE online.

**Series 2000 Major Works** - your solution for the preparation of JBCC payment certificates, advice statements, N/S subcontractor notifications and recovery

Please take note that we, the National Department of Public Works, have approved the latest Fee Scales for Architects and Engineers as well as new hourly rates, uniform for all building professions. We have, however, amended these scales to suit our needs and requirements. We will incorporate these in our new Standard Letter of Invitation for Consultants: version 7/2004-01 (version 7, dated January 2004), which will be applicable from 1 January 2004. This new version 7 will be available from us at the beginning of January 2004. You are welcome to make use this letter for your own purposes.

F..J. PRETORIUS, Act. Director: Quantity Surveying Services, 8 December 2003

### **IMPORTANT INVITATION - PPP Course offered by Pretoria Technikon**

The new Professional Practice Programme will be presented by the Pretoria Technikon next year. This course is aimed to assist those preparing to sit the Council exam. The course is also available on video as well as Telematic, and therefore candidate architects throughout the country can benefit from this programme. For further information please go to the Technikon website <http://www.architec.co.za> - on-line registrations are available.

Please note that as from the 1 January 2004 the Pretoria Technikon, together with the Technikon Northern Gauteng and Technikon North West will be known as the Tshwane University of Technology.

Thanks to the PIA for the information - drop them a note at [admin.pia@saia.org.za](mailto:admin.pia@saia.org.za)  
A REMINDER OF THE PIA'S OWN WEBSITE FOR INTER-MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS, FORUMS, DISCUSSIONS, ETC. [www.pia.org.za](http://www.pia.org.za)

 [Back to Index](#)

## SAFCEC NEWS

### [From the Safcec newsletter:](#)

#### **MEDICAL AID**

During the 1998 wage negotiations it was agreed that a suitable and affordable Medical Aid would be made available to permanent employees in the bargaining unit in the industry. This agreement was reiterated in this year's wage agreements with the unions.

#### **CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY SECTORAL DETERMINATION: PROMULGATION OF AMENDMENTS**

The Employment Conditions Commission (ECC) met on 10 December 2003 to discuss the proposed amendments to the Determination to reflect the 2003 wage agreements entered into with the unions. If the ECC approves the report prepared by the Department of Labour then the amendments would be submitted to the Minister for his approval and publication. It is expected that the amendments will only be published at the end of January 2004

#### **WAGE NEGOTIATIONS 2003: TASK TEAMS**

During the 2003 wage negotiations certain issues were referred to Task Teams for discussion and decision. The Task Team that will

statements - ***AT THE INCREDIBLE PRICE OF R565!*** Usual price is R995 Unlimited packages available.

investigate the problems of the risk benefits offered by the CIRBF met on 4 December 2003 and will again meet on 14 January 2004 where reports, currently being prepared by the fund administrators, would be discussed.

**SAFCEC EXPORT**

Strategic Briefing for all Members: Early in the New Year, SAFCEC EXPORT will present a one-day briefing on the effects of the UNRESTRICTED INTERNATIONAL MARKET, where The AFRICAN UNION along with WTO and FTA's (Free Trade Agreements), are rapidly changing the trading dynamics.

The President, the SAFCEC Council and SAFCEC Staff wish all SAFCEC Members a Happy and Safe Christmas and a prosperous, busy and profitable 2004.

(©www.safcec.org.za)



**VISIT SAFCEC**

Sixty three years constitute two generations. [The South African Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors](#) has celebrated over sixty years of being the "midwife" of the development of South Africa. Its members were intimately involved in the creation of the infrastructure that became the envy of our continent. In the same spirit, SAFCEC has prepared itself for the challenges awaiting us in the new millennium.

To catch up on the latest news [click here](#)



**NEWS FROM AFRICA**

**[Numbers of Ethiopians needing food aid falls](#)**

Some 7.2 million people in Ethiopia, more than 10 percent of the population, will require food aid in 2004, but the figure is down.

(©www.bday.co.za)

**[Fourth time wrong for economists](#)**

The SARB repo rate cut of 50 basis points was the fourth time this year that the traditionally conservative central bank has caught economists by surprise.

(©www.bday.co.za)

**[Explorer wants full control of Namibian gasfield](#)**

African oil and gas exploration and production company Energy Africa says it intends to exercise its option to assume 100% inter- est and operatorship of the Kudu gasfield project in the Orange Basin off Southern Namibia.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

**[AfDB gives funds](#)**

AfDB announced two multi-million-dollar loan packages for Sierra Leone and Nigeria.

(©www.bday.co.za)

**[Ethiopia records negative growth](#)**

Inflation rose from 7.2% in the previous financial year to 15%.

(©www.bday.co.za)

**PC Assistant**

**VIRUS OR HOAX?**

In case you ever receive an e-mail containing a virus warning please check carefully whether it refers to a real virus or a hoax. Usually e-mail warnings encouraging you to forward the information to all and sundry are hoaxes. You can make sure by visiting the [Virus or Hoax?](#) web site or by visiting the hoax list on [Symantec](#)

Be an informed Internet user and check the facts before forwarding an e-mail hoax to others!

If you suspect that you have opened an e-mail containing a virus visit the virus information section on [Virus or Hoax?](#) The site also links to free virus-removal programs.

[You can also try the BitDefender online virus scanner](#)

**FREE ANTI-VIRUS**

Free Anti-Virus Protection!  
Use our unique offer - AVG 6.0 Free Edition. Download, install and use AVG 6.0 Anti-Virus system to reliably protect your computer and data free of charge. Go to [Free Download Page](#) to get more information.

### [Namibian oil firm joins Kudu project](#)

The National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (Namcor) and Energy Africa have announced terms of a deal that will see Namcor acquire a 10% interest in the Kudu gas field project.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

### [Africa seeks action, not promises, on digital solidarity plan](#)

Geneva - Africa, the instigator of the world's first information technology summit, wanted rich countries to put their money where their mouth is to develop its nascent technology, but its delegates were to leave the three-day meeting Friday with only vague promises.

(©www.busrep.co.za)



[Back to Index](#)

### PC PITSTOP

At PC Pitstop they will help you get your PC in top form -- running fast, stable and secure. PC Pitstop runs diagnostics on your PC to identify things that might help improve performance.

[Visit PC Pitstop](#) - it's free.



[Receive weekly property news updates via e-mail.](#)  
[Click here to register.](#)



## MINING NEWS

### [Reality versus wishful thinking](#)

For mining companies there are significant risks inherent in the black economic empowerment requirements of the mining charter.

(©www.bday.co.za)

### [Blood on the tracks](#)

AngloPlat's decision to delay its expansion programme is negative for itself and the platinum market.

(©www.bday.co.za)

### [Sasol Oil, Exel merger approved](#)

The Competition Tribunal has approved the merger of Sasol Oil and Exel Petroleum.

(©www.bday.co.za)

### [Technology gets its toe in a big door](#)

Sasol's joint venture with Qatar Petroleum took off this week, the \$900m project represents a significant presence for an SA company in the desert country

(©www.bday.co.za)

### [Namakwa to start diamond production soon](#)

Australian-based Namakwa Diamond Company expects to be producing diamonds within the next two months, said chairperson Karl Simich.

(©www.miningweekly.co.za)

### [New ferrochrome smelter approved for SA](#)

London-listed miner Xstrata said yesterday it has given approval for the construction of a 330 000 t ferrochrome smelter in South Africa.

(©www.miningweekly.co.za)

### [Aflase choice: cut 600 jobs or shut up shop](#)

Johannesburg - Junior gold mining company Afrikander Lease (Aflase) said yesterday it was faced with a choice of halving production and

retrenching 600 mine workers or going out of business.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Sales at De Beers LV show sparkle after a slow start](#)

London - When diamond retailer De Beers LV opened the doors of its first store in London last December the timing could hardly have been worse, with the luxury goods sector at the mercy of a weak economy and a war looming in Iraq.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Gilbertson steps back into the limelight](#)

Johannesburg and London - There is no keeping a good man down. The local rocket scientist has done it again. Brian Gilbertson, the former chief executive of BHP Billiton and one of South Africa's most revered managers has taken Indian metals and mining firm Vedanta Resources straight to the top.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Empowerment miners look to Canada for investments](#)

Emmanuel Mbuyazi and Enoch Memela, former employees of Richards Bay Minerals and who formed Ascent Mining Services in July last year, are now pursuing opportunities with Canadian mining companies after Mbuyazi accompanied President Thabo Mbeki on a trade mission there.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Harmony to sell Canadian interests to San Gold](#)

Johannesburg - Harmony Gold Mining is planning to sell its Canadian gold interests to the San Gold Resources Corporation for just C\$7.5 million (R36.75 million) as part of its housekeeping.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Platinum power deal gets going](#)

Johannesburg - Another black economic empowerment opportunity has been created by a joint venture between Anglo Platinum (Angloplat) subsidiary Potgietersrust Platinum and a wholly owned subsidiary of Canadian junior Anoroaq Resources, which hopes to develop a deposit on the Northern Limb of South Africa's Bushveld Complex.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Angloplat to put brakes on expansion projects](#)

Johannesburg - Anglo Platinum's JSE counter continued sagging on Thursday as the group announced it would slow down the rate of its expansion projects.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Mineral Commodities to apply to mine along Eastern Cape coast](#)

Durban - Australian company Mineral Commodities, which has completed prospecting along a portion of the Eastern Cape coastline, will submit its application to mine this deposit next March.  
©www.busrep.co.za)

#### [Court gives liquidators of Tej permission to borrow R2.5m](#)

Cape Town - The provisional liquidators of Towles Edgar Jacobs (Tej), one of the largest clothing manufacturers in the Western Cape, got permission yesterday in the Cape high court to borrow R2.5 million from FirstRand Bank in order to pay wages and salaries.  
©www.busrep.co.za)



[Back to Index](#)

## **ProjectPro ...linking vision to reality**

### **PMBOK 2004 Draft Now Available**

The Exposure Draft of the Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) 2004 is now downloadable from the Project Management Institute (PMI) website at [www.pmi.org](http://www.pmi.org) as a 7Mb .pdf file.

### **Taipei 101 is Now World's Tallest Building**

Taipei 101, the world's tallest skyscraper at 510m high, towers above Taipei in Taiwan. The building is about 50m taller than the world's former highest office building, the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The highest free-standing tower remains the CN Tower, a 553m tall communications structure in Toronto, Canada.

[Visit ProjectPro® today](#)



## **NEWS FOR ESTATE AGENTS AND HOME OWNERS**

### **[Invest part of your bonus in home security](#)**

Security for most people is a grudge purchase, but it's worth investing in if you want to beat the odds against having your house broken into while you're away.

(©www.busrep.co.za)

### **[Keep bond repayments at old levels and save](#)**

Property owners who have maintained their bond repayments at November 2002 levels have halved the number of years it will take them to repay their loan.

(©www.busrep.co.za)

### **[New Luxury development for Umdhloti](#)**

Catering for a growing demand for upmarket, beachfront homes in the increasingly popular Umdhloti area, just north of Durban and Umhlanga, a luxury new residential development, "30° @ Umdhloti", is being launched this weekend by marketing agents Pam Golding Properties.

(©www.rodneymhayter.com)

### **[House prices record highest real increase in 22 years](#)**

South African house prices in November recorded their highest real increase since December 1981, according to Absa. The bank is also forecasting the mortgage rate reaching a level of 10 percent early next year, which will be its lowest since mid-1974.

(©www.rodneymhayter.com)

### **[A timely present from the Governor](#)**

With banks following suit on the 0,5 percentage point cut in the repo rate announced by Reserve Bank Governor Tito Mboweni this week, homeowners are going to have a little more money in their pockets to see them through the post-holiday "crunch" in January.

(©www.property24.co.za)

### **[Prices should not be based on interest rates](#)**

Home sellers who raise their asking prices each time there is an interest rate cut are not doing themselves any favours.

(©www.property24.co.za)

### **[New lease of life for Sasolburg](#)**

Air pollution in Sasolburg is expected to be reduced by 90 percent with the conversion of the Sasol I fuel production plant to run on natural gas from Mozambique instead of coal – and the demand for property in the Free State town is expected to rise significantly as a result.

(©www.property24.co.za)

**[Buyers starting to vote with their feet](#)**

Even in a low-interest rate environment, most buyers establish a ceiling price they are willing to pay before they start househunting.  
 (@www.property24.co.za)

**Tip of the week**

*Need a holiday? Jumpstart, first time homebuyers could qualify for a 3 month holiday from repayments after bond registration.*  
 (@www.property24.co.za)



PROPERTY LINKS	
<a href="#">Property24 real estate price indicator</a>	<a href="#">Residential property market 1q2003</a> 
<a href="#">Building statistics</a>	<a href="#">Home loan market share</a>
<a href="#">Household debt</a>	<a href="#">Survey of average monthly earnings</a>
<a href="#">National nominal flat rental growth</a>	<a href="#">Tourism and migration</a>
<a href="#">Calculators</a>	<a href="#">Transfer costs</a>
<a href="#">Transfer statistics</a>	 You will require the FREE Acrobat reader to enable you to read reports in this newsletter published in .PDF format
<a href="#">Consumer Advice</a>	
<b>BUILDING TERMS</b> Don't know your architraves from your dados? How about your flaunchings and transoms? <a href="#">GET TO GRIPS WITH BUILDING TERMS</a>	<b>REAL ESTATE TERMS</b> What is your cooling off right? What is an escape clause and when is something sold "voetstoots"? <a href="#">Get to grips with terms used in property sales agreements here.</a>
THE AGENTS TOOLKIT	
<a href="#">Homeloan Calculator</a>	<a href="#">Contract for the sale of a house</a>
<a href="#">Transfer Fees Guide</a>	<a href="#">Checklist for Moving Home</a>
<a href="#">Bond Registration Costs Guide</a>	<a href="#">Homebuyer's Checklist</a>
<a href="#">Capital Gains Tax</a>	<a href="#">Homeseller's Guide</a>
<a href="#">Contract for Housing and Minor Works</a>	

 **SPECIAL REPORTS**

**[Learning from other industries](#)**

As a project manager you are always looking for more logical, straightforward or effective ways to do your job and therefore improve your performance.

The RICS Project Management Faculty asked the College of Estate Management in Reading, to review how project managers in construction and development can do just that, by learning from the knowledge, experience and best practices of project managers in other industries. They examined what the barriers to learning from other industries were and the opportunities for overcoming them.

(@www.rics.org.uk)

**[Budgeting: Your Roadmap to Profitability](#)**

Most contractors understand the value of budgeting as a management tool, but many believe that budgeting just doesn't work in the construction industry – it's too difficult and impractical, they say. But these contractors often change their minds once they recognize that a

budget is not a precision tool.  
(©www.contractorresource.com)

### [Organising for Change: conflicts and dilemmas in surveying and consulting](#)

Professional service firms are scanning their practices for conflicts of interest in the wake of the Enron scandal. As surveyors increasingly eye the management consultancy market, they too must respond to difficult questions about conflicts of interest.  
(© www.rics.org.uk)

 [Back to Index](#)

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

The indicators as on 12 December 2003 17:16		
	This week	05/12/03
Rand/\$	6.4163	6.3900
Rand/£	11.2075	11.0049
Rand/€	7.8588	7.7155
R150	7.85%	7.24%
Gold/oz	\$406.70	\$400.70
Gold Mining	2339.70	2256.90
JSE All Share	9769.20	9666.20

### [CPI comes down to 2.1%](#)

A slower rate of increase in the prices of consumer goods has been mainly responsible for the improvement in inflation  
(©www.bday.co.za)

 [Back to Index](#)

### [Expectations of cold snap drives oil prices higher](#)

London - Oil prices edged up on Friday in generally quiet trade as market players prepared for more cold weather to head across the United States.  
(©www.busrep.co.za)

### [New media group for SA](#)

A new black-owned media investment group, Mediavest Africa, has emerged in South Africa.  
(©www.finance24.co.za)

### [Reserve Bank spells out inflation outlook](#)

The situation is rosy now but the Reserve Bank's forecasting models indicate that inflation pressures could start to build up in 2005  
(©www.bday.co.za)

### [Rate cut: What economists say](#)

The South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) monetary policy committee (MPC) decided on Thursday to cut the repo rate by 50 basis points to 8%, SARB governor Tito Mboweni announced at the end of the two-day meeting.  
(©www.mg.co.za)

## ASAQS NEWS

### **ASAQS offices close during the coming festive season**

The ASAQS offices in Midrand will close on the 12th December and open again on the 5th January 2004.

## **Did you hear?**

### **A Jewish President**

The year is 2012 and the United

## **PRIZES AND AWARDS**

The annual prizes and awards offered by the ASAQS to deserving students at our Universities will again be offered for the 2003 academic year of study during the early part of 2004. The Board has however decided to substantially increase the value of these prizes and awards to emphasise the high esteem placed on such awards and to encourage students to aspire to higher levels of academic excellence.

---

## **MEMBERSHIP STATUS**

As at 2 December 2003 the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS) had a total of 3220 members of which 561 are student members. Of the 3220 members, 351 are outside of South African borders and abroad. There are 689 registered Quantity Surveying practices of which 19 are outside South African borders. There are 2340 members registered with the Council and of this number 572 are Candidate Quantity Surveyors.

---

## **CALL FOR PANEL OF ARBITRATORS**

The Association frequently gets calls from members of the public requesting names of suitable Arbitrators to assist on projects where disputes have arisen. Although many of our Quantity Surveying members may be well qualified for such appointments, no complete list of registered Arbitrators exists on the database of the Association. This being the case, it is extremely difficult to remain fair to all and not to favour only the few currently known members.

An appeal is therefore now made to all our members who are qualified, willing and able to act as Arbitrators to contact the Executive Director, Mr Egon Wortmann (telephone 011 315 4140) so that you may be placed on panels of potential arbitrators on a region by region basis.

---

## **REGISTRATION AS PROJECT MANAGERS**

Where members intend to perform project management services on building contracts, they are encouraged to apply for registration with the "South African Council for the Project and Construction Management Professions" (SACPCMP). During the current preliminary period, the application for membership from suitably qualified Quantity Surveyors is relatively simple. After a future deadline date still to be determined by the Minister of Public Works, the entrance criteria will become more stringent. Members wishing to join are therefore encouraged to make application to their Registrar, Mrs Thoko Machimane, at earliest convenience. Contact details are as follows:

- Telephone (011) 642 1150
- Facsimile (011) 643 4632
- E-mail registrar@sacpcmp.co.za

Application forms may also be downloaded from their website <http://www.sacpcmp.co.za>

---

## **OFFICE STAFF**

States of America has recently elected the first woman as well as the first Jewish President, Ms. Shirley Vineberg.

So the President-elect calls up her mother in Brooklyn a few weeks after Election Day.

"So ma, I assume you will be coming to my inauguration?"

"I don't think so. It's a six hour drive, and your father isn't as young as he used to be, and my gout is acting up again."

"Don't worry about it Mom, I'll send Air Force One to pick you up and take you home. And a limousine will pick you up at your door."

"I don't know. Everybody will be so fancy; I don't know what on Earth I would wear."

"Oh mom," replies Susan, "Don't worry about it. I'll make sure you have some wonderful dresses by Christian Dior."

"Honey," Mom complains, "you know I can't eat those rich foods you and your friends like to eat."

The President-to-be responds, "Don't worry Mom. The entire affair is going to be handled by the best caterer in New York, kosher all the way. Mom, please, I want you to come."

So Mom agrees and so on January 21, 2013, Shirley Vineberg is being sworn in as President of the United States of America.

In the front row sits the new

Although some of the ASAQS staff members have been with the Association for many years and may be known to most members, it would be appropriate to once again introduce the current members of staff. The hard-working team comprises the following:

Egon Wortmann Executive Director  
Renny Moodley Acting Office Manager/Financial Manager  
Barbara Morgan Membership Manager  
Mathilda Nel Minute Secretary  
Pat Adcock Accounts  
Lisa le Grange Functions Co-Ordinator/Administration  
Ingrid Krause Receptionist  
Sumaya Jeewa Filing/Administration  
Alfred Nhlapo Postage/Stock  
Sarah Moloji Filing Clerk

I would like to thank my team for the hard work and dedication over the year and wish them a blessed and restful Christmas break - Egon Wortmann Executive Director

[Click here to put a face to the name](#)

---

### **REDUCED SUBSCRIPTION FEES**

Following on numerous requests from members to consider reduced annual subscription fees for retired members and members practising abroad, the Board has agreed on the following reductions:

- (a) PMAQS and MAQS members practising abroad - 80% of normal fees.
- (b) MAQS retired members - 50% of normal fees.
- (c) Honorary, Life and Senior members - no charge.

These charges will only come into effect during the 2004/2005 year. Please contact Mrs Pat Adcock in the Association offices should your fees be incorrectly invoiced, if applicable.

---

### **HOURLY CHARGES FOR 2004**

The Board has approved the revised recommended hourly charges for Quantity Surveyors applicable for the year 2004, effective as of 1 January 2004 (copies available in the CUG). These revised charges are calculated on the basis of the salary survey conducted earlier this year, according to an agreed formula.

We are indebted to and thank all QS practices who participated in the survey and who have made the revised hourly charges possible. It must be stated that the low response from QS practices was however cause for concern and must be improved in future.

---

### **MODEL BILLS OF QUANTITIES**

Due to renewed calls from our members, the Board has decided to employ the services of a panel of members from the University of Pretoria, under the Chairmanship of Prof Gerhard Brümmer, to update

President's mother, who leans over to a Senator sitting next to her; . . .  
"You see that woman over there with her hand on the Bible, becoming President of the United States?"

The Senator whispers back, "Yes I do."

"Her brother's a famous doctor."

---

It's always darkest before dawn. So if you're gonna steal the neighbour's newspaper, that's the time to do it.

---

### **Government in action**

Once upon a time the government had a vast scrap yard in the middle of the Kalahari.

Parliament said, "Someone may steal from it at night." So they created a night watchman position and hired a person for the job.

Then Parliament said, "How does the watchman do his job without instruction?" So they created a planning department and hired two people, one person to write the instructions, and one person to do time studies.

Then Parliament said, "How will we know the night watchman is doing the tasks correctly?" So they created a Quality Control department and hired two people. One to do the studies and one to write the reports.

Then Parliament said, "How are these people going to get paid?"

and prepare the ASAQs Model Bills of Quantities for our members. This new-look document will be available to our members in electronic format hopefully mid-year 2004 and will be prepared in conjunction with the new "Pro-Spect" venture. The initial version will be in English, but this will subsequently also be made available in Afrikaans. We look forward with great expectation to these new documents, which will no doubt be of great help and assistance to our practicing members.

---

### **REVISION OF JBCC CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**

The JBCC suite of contract documents is currently being updated and the revised 4th Edition will be made available to members during February / March 2004. The supporting documents (Preliminaries, etc.) will similarly be updated to line up with the changes incorporated in the main contract document.

The Board has decided that the new 4th Edition suite of documents will subsequently also be translated into Afrikaans. The Afrikaans version will be available to members shortly after the issue of the English version. This translation is undertaken under the initiative of the Association.

---

### **Classifieds**

#### **Mid Level QS**

Large PQS Company in Johannesburg is urgently looking for a young, dynamic QS with min 5 yrs QS exp. Must have own transport. Bills of quantities, valuations, contractor payments, measuring, site visitations, attend site meetings etc. Will be an advantage if you've worked on Commercial Projects (Hotels/shop centres/casino etc)

#### **Junior QS**

Large PQS company in Johannesburg is looking for a Junior QS with min 2yrs exp. Must have own transport. Bills of quantities, valuations, site visits/measuring etc. Will be an advantage if you worked on commercial projects (hotels/office blocks/casino's etc)

#### **Junior QS**

A progressive Construction Company situated in Durban requires the services of a degreed QS with at least 2 yrs experience in a construction environment. Excellent opportunity and remuneration.

Browse to [Classifieds](#) for full details

---

### **Seen on the Calendar**

#### **Date : 28 January 2004**

Event: CBM - Introduction to Project Management (JHB)

Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Information: An intensive 1-Day course that will provide the most important information needed to initiate, run and manage a project from start to finish. You will cover the most important phases of a project, and the actions you as a project manager need to take to ensure your project's success.

So they created the following positions, a time keeper, and a payroll officer, then hired two people.

Then Parliament said, "Who will be accountable for all of these people?" So they created an administrative section and hired three people, an Administrative Officer, Assistant Administrative Officer, and a Legal Secretary.

Then Parliament said, "We have had this command in operation for one year and we are R1,800,000 over budget, we must cutback overall cost."

So . . . they laid off the night watchman.

---

### **Jellybean and Smartie**

This JellyBean walks into a bar and gets talking to a Smartie. After a few beers the Smartie says "Ere, do you fancy going to that new club in town?"

JellyBean says "No mate, I'm a soft centre, I always end up getting my head kicked in."

So Smartie says "Don't worry about it, I'm a bit of a hard case, I'll look after you."

So JellyBean says "Fair enough, as long as you'll look after me."

And off they went. After a few more beers in the club, three Vicks Drops walk in.

As soon as he sees them, Smartie hides under a table, the Vicks

**Remember:** Visit the [ASAQS website](#) for new updates!

We wish to welcome the following new members to the ASAQS Closed User Group:

*New members will be announced next year*

**Please note** : Only paid-up members of the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors are allowed entrance to the CUG. We still receive a number of applications every month from non-members. If you have any questions regarding membership contact Mrs Barbara Morgan on 011-3154140

**Also note** that your registration to the CUG will remain in force as long as you remain a member of ASAQS and there is no need to register every year. If you have not received an e-mail confirming your registration contact [ASAQS](#).

 [Back to Index](#)

Drops take one look at JellyBean and start kicking him, punching him and generally having a laugh.

After a while they get bored and walked out. Jelly Bean pulls his battered Jelly Bean body over to the table and wipes his Jelly Bean blood up and turns to Smartie and says:

"I thought you were going to look after me?"

"I was!" says Smartie, "But those Vicks Drops are \*\$#@!!! menthol!"



**Change of e-mail address?**

Do you wish to continue your subscription to the Weekend Property and Construction News? Then do

**Please Note:**

The Weekend Property and Construction Newsletter is at present only available in

the following :

1- unsubscribe your old e-mail address.

2- subscribe using your new e-mail address with our subscription box on the left

HTML format.  
Webmaster ASAQS

---

© [www.asaqs.co.za](http://www.asaqs.co.za). All content belongs to the respective media companies as referred to in each summary.  
All other information remains the ownership of [www.asaqs.co.za](http://www.asaqs.co.za).  
All rights reserved.

---