

The Weekend Property and Construction News

Published on behalf of

The Association of South African
Quantity Surveyors

Weekend 27 / 28 November 2004

Circulation : exceeds 2,400 subscribersProperty 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

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CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT NEWS

[Property charter ball gets rolling](#)

THE first draft of the much-discussed property transformation charter will be released by mid December. The long-awaited document hopes to meaningfully transform an industry that has long been the preserve of white males.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Forum on black women in property](#)

THE public works department together with Business Intelligence Company and Excellante International are hosting the first Black Women in Property conference at the Indaba Hotel in Fourways on November 29. The conference is part of Public Works Minister Stella Sigcau's initiative to establish a property transformation charter.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Engel & Völkers welcomes 'true black empowerment'](#)

Engel & Völkers Western Cape, which spearheaded South Africa's first black empowerment deal in the residential property market through its deal with Moshebi Investments, has welcomed last week's property charter launch announcement by Public Works Minister Stella Sigcau.

(©www.busrep.co.za)

[Property Still Investors' Favourite](#)

It's going to take a lot to dampen private investors' enthusiasm for property – despite the recent improvement in the performance of stocks and shares.

(©www.property24.co.za)

[John Konti may push Somerset West investment to R60m](#)

THE John Konti Property Group could see its investment in Somerset West swell to more than R60m if several new projects come to fruition. The group, which is negotiating projects worth R40m, is already developing a R14m multiuse industrial business park and its own R5m head office within the 12,8ha site it bought from Heartland Properties, a member of the AECI group.

(©www.bday.co.za)

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[Brits in demand as newcomers pour in](#)

THE steady influx of new residents to Brits as a result of the opening of a number of platinum mines over the past few months has drained the town's supply of residential property, says Johannes Botha, co-owner of the newly opened Realty 1 Elk franchise in Brits.
(©www.bday.co.za)

[Bazaruto goes Beverly Hills](#)

Developers target the rich and famous for island residential project. MOZAMBIQUE's Bazaruto Island will soon feature an exclusive residential development aimed at the world's rich and famous. It will be the first residential development on the island and the last, because Bazaruto is a nature reserve. Because of this the resale values of the properties will run into millions of dollars. Oprah Winfrey, Will Smith and John Travolta are among the potential buyers said to be interested in the development.
(©www.bday.co.za)

[Firms band together to sponsor bricklaying course](#)

Twelve people from poor communities on the Cape Flats are undergoing an intensive nine-week bricklaying course at the Corobrik Building Training Centre after being identified as suitable candidates for a career in the construction industry.
(©www.busrep.co.za)

[Kings of the Jungle](#)

If you live in the inner city, every minute of every day somebody somewhere is out to deprive you of whatever it is you have, according to an article by Ian Fife in the November/December edition of the Property Professional magazine.
(©www.rodneyhayter.com)

[Tokai In For A Hot 'season'](#)

Tokai, with a market entry level that brushes past the R1-million mark, is expected to feature high on the wish-lists of European-based buyers this summer in their annual dash south to acquire a slice of the fairest Cape.
(©www.property24.co.za)

[The miners are moving into Port Edward](#)

The town of Port Edward is abuzz with movement says Cathy Kay of the Save the WildCoast Campaign. According to local residents, the Australian based Perth Company, Mineral Resource Commodities is currently looking for real estate in Port Edward to set up offices.
(©www.sapoonline.co.za)

[Forty firms reportedly mull Coega as investment site](#)

While Alcan is yet to commit to setting up an aluminium smelter at the Coega industrial development zone (IDZ), there are more than 40 other investors in the pipeline for this Eastern Cape IDZ, says Coega Development Corporation (CDC) spokesperson Vuyelwa Qinga-Vika.
(©www.sapoonline.co.za)

[City growth outstrips all records](#)

Suppliers struggle to keep up with building demand. Cape Town is developing at such a frenetic pace that the city is fast running out of building supplies such as bricks, cement and even cranes. Building plans this year have increased by more than 70% on last year, which was already a record year.
(©www.sapoonline.co.za)

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[Property charter ball gets rolling](#)

THE first draft of the much-discussed property transformation charter will be released by mid December. The long-awaited document hopes to meaningfully transform an industry that has long been the preserve of white males.

(©www.sapoonline.co.za)

[Economic boost in Kommetjie](#)

The quaint Atlantic fishing village of Kommetjie has become one of the worst-kept secrets in the SA housing market, with prices rocketing over the past few years. Yet there seems no shortage of demand for new developments, writes ANNAMARIE SMITH.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Golf on the wild side](#)

Few golf estates can match the offering of Elements Private Golf Reserve, writes MICHELLE SWART. SET in a wildlife sanctuary surrounded by bushveld and mountains, Elements Private Golf Reserve is the South African golf estate with a bit of everything for both residents and visitors.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Property show](#)

Ocean Estates is completing the last in a series of property exhibitions, to be held at the Gateway Theatre of Shopping in Umhlanga Rocks from November 22-28, writes MICHELLE SWART. OCEAN Estates International will be capping an incredibly successful year after winning two awards at the prestigious Bentley International Property Awards in London.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Relief in sight for SA's troubled steel industry](#)

SA's troubled downstream steel industry is set to receive some relief from the strong rand and soaring steel prices, with the South African Iron and Steel Institute stepping up financial support for the sector.

(©www.bday.co.za)

['Capital spending key to growth for Gauteng'](#)

GAUTENG has to improve roads, telecommunications and electricity infrastructure if it needs to grow its economy, economist Iraj Abedian said yesterday. Transport congestion in Gauteng was already costing the economy millions of rands, he said.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Orange Farm boots up with new tech centre](#)

A TECHNOLOGY hub to serve the community of Orange Farm was officially opened last week by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and City of Jo burg Metro.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Local communities to benefit from Cape water project](#)

CAPE TOWN Work on the R1,5 bn Berg Water Project, aimed at increasing Western Cape's water supplies 18%, is on schedule and its funding agency is now devising a plan to ensure local communities in the area benefit from the development.

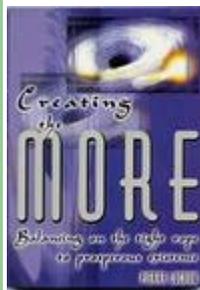
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Last Reminder!

You can win!!!



Stand a chance to win one of three copies of this book which is a guide to prosperity and a recipe for success by entering our 1 minute competition during November!

Written by Prof Pierre Lucouw a copy of this book will help you discover how to live a balanced and abundant life.

[Click here to enter!](#)

RETAIL ROUNDUP

[Roodepoort on a roll as developers splash out](#)

Clearwater shopping centre driving commercial wave. ROODEPOORT is booming with residential units and small commercial properties mushrooming in the area, particularly along Hendrik Potgieter Road. It appears that one of the big drivers for the development of townhouses, car dealerships and service stations is the recently completed R500m regional Clearwater shopping centre at the junction of Christiaan de Wet and Hendrik Potgieter and a burgeoning population.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[US retailers banking on early birds](#)

Merchants across the United States are trying to capture the crowds early into the holiday shopping season, offering bargain prices, early opening times and even free food and drink to lure customers in.

(©www.busrep.co.za)

[Smart Card brings rewards to shoppers in SA first](#)

Smart card technology has been harnessed for the first time in South Africa to reward and engage shopping centre customers. Shoppers belonging to One Club, a smart card based customer engagement programme, are now earning significant cash back on their purchases at more than 130 stores within Pretoria's Menlyn Park Shopping Centre.

BUSINESS INCENTIVES

[Tax Incentives](#)

[Research and development incentives](#)

[Competitive enhancement incentives](#)

[Export incentives](#)

[Industrial financing](#)

[Industrial participation](#)

[Social responsibility](#)

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[The planner](#)

Pareto is an unlisted company with an unashamed preference for big shopping centres Pauline Larsen with new Pareto MD Alex Phakathi at the Mugg & Bean, Sandton City, Johannesburg. The new MD of property loan-stock company Pareto Ltd insists on mixing his own café latte from froth and espresso served separately. Alex Phakathi (39) is a man whose thoughts are precise and, like his coffee, carefully blended. Its multibillion-rand portfolio consists of seven regional malls in SAs three largest cities. Apart from a minority stake in Sandton City, Pareto has majority holdings in Southgate, Cresta, Westgate and Southgate Value Mart in Johannesburg, Tyger Valley in Cape Town and the Pavilion in Durban.

(©www.sapoonline.co.za)

[JD Group beats the big drum in the retail boom](#)

WHEN will the boom in the retail sector end? Not for some time, say analysts and retailers. When the sector took a turn for the better a few months ago, it was assumed that it was little more than a recovery after a lengthy barren period.

(©www.bday.co.za)



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NEWSFLASHES FOR ARCHITECTS

[Past and present](#)

Akin to the varied and diverse history of SA, local architecture has developed from a plethora of various influences, writes NICOLINA MEERHOLZ. SA's present day architectural styles are a direct result of a design evolution that began in the country's earliest times and spans right up to the present day.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Designer: Jasper Morisson](#)

"Design is not done with rules, but with intuition. Intuition never lies." Jasper Morrison

Aligning himself from the start with the approach that spent designers often return to, Jasper Morrison has not associated his name with spectacular consumer design products. Instead, he has remained loyal to simple and durable forms that are functional and true to their materials. Arguing for utilitarianism as opposed to "uselessness", Morrison continues to apply himself to door handles, beer bottles and bus stops, regarding no aspect of daily life unworthy of consideration as a design problem.

[Click here for more about Jasper Morisson](#)

(©www.twiice.com)

SANS 10243:2004 THE MANUFACTURE AND ERECTION OF TIMBER TRUSSES

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Please note that the above mentioned standard has been published and is available from the Standards Sales Division (previously SABS). Enquiries E Coetzee 012 428 6101.

PIA OFFICE CLOSURE:

Please note that the PIA office will be closed on Friday 26th November until 11:00 to allow us to host the Annual Secretaries Breakfast.

Please reminder that the office will close on Wednesday 15 December 2004 @ 12:00 until Monday 10 January 2005 for the Christmas recess.

POSTS AVAILABLE FOR CANDIDATE ARCHITECTS

Natus & Cecilia Architects cc, Nelspruit have 2 available posts for candidate Architects, Technicians or someone between the 2 architectural degrees at the Universities. They offer valuable technical work experience for a young person and excellent design opportunities for a young experienced architect. Work starts on the 4th of January 2005 at their offices in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. Applicants can please send their CV to draw.ncvr@intekom.co.za or fax 013 744 1112 as soon as possible.

Thanks to the PIA for some of the information published in this section - drop them a note at admin.pia@saia.org.za

A REMINDER OF THE PIA'S OWN WEBSITE FOR INTER-MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS, FORUMS, DISCUSSIONS, ETC. www.pia.org.za



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PROJECT MANAGEMENT NEWS

ProjectPro

[Major Project Management Trends in the Next Five Years](#)

[New After-hours PMP Workshops from ProjectPro](#)

Three major PM trends are observed that will continue:

1. Linking strategic and project management through project portfolio management practices.
2. Broadening the application of PM to include the total project life cycle, from concept through to full realization of project benefits.
3. Continued discovery of new application areas for the PM discipline.

Experienced project managers are seeking international recognition of their competence by passing the Project Management Professional (PMP) exam. The exam is administered by the Project Management Institute based in the USA, but may be sat at a local South African venue.

Rather than continue to be developed as a separate specialty within organizational management disciplines, the principles and practices of PM will gradually merge with other areas of management and be an important part of every manager's responsibilities, much like financial management is today

[Read More](#)

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[10 Qualities of a Project Manager](#)

Summary: What qualities are most important for a project leader to be effective? Over the past few years, the people at ESI International, world leaders in Project Management Training, have looked in to what makes an effective project leader. With the unique opportunity to ask some of the most talented project leaders in the world on their Project Leadership courses ESI have managed to collect a running tally on their responses.

(©www.projectsmart.co.uk)

VISIT SACPCMP

SACPCMP was established to provide for statutory professional certification, registration and regulation of Project and Construction Management Professions in order to protect public interest and advance construction and project management education.

To visit the [The South African Council for the Project and Construction Management Professions.... click here](#)

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ENGINEERING NEWS

[R750 000 investment in BEE firm](#)

South Africa's Business Partners has announced it has invested an initial R750 000 in Fine Organic Chemicals, a black empowered cementitious and chemicals company based in Alrode.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

[Decision on R1,48-billion Durban Port project soon](#)

The Transnet board will make a decision on funding the R1,48-billion conversion of Durban Port's Pier One into a fully-fledged container-handling facility before year-end.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

[Time running out for Gautrain as soccer World Cup looms](#)

Time is running out for the Gautrain to be ready before the 2010 soccer World Cup kicks off.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

[SA revenue service seeks to build partnerships](#)

The South African Revenue Service (Sars) is currently in the early stages of improving efficiencies and changing the tax compliance culture of the country, but great strides are expected in these areas within the next five years, a senior Sars official said yesterday.

(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

[From the Safcec newsletter:](#)

INDUCTION OF VISITORS A MUST !!

Section 9(1) of the Occupational Health & Safety Act (85 of 1993) makes the Contractor (and other employers) responsible for the health & safety of any non-employees that may be affected by their activities. It is, therefore imperative that visitors are informed (inducted) regarding the hazards that may be encountered and regarding the rules and arrangements in dealing with these hazards.

[Click here](#) for the suggested Visitors Induction & Indemnity Policy.

NORTH BRANCH NEWS

CIDB : Malcolm Pautz (CIDB Procurement Manager) did a presentation on the Registration of Contractors yesterday at the Construction Centre. Some of the questions our members had were dealt with but a forty minute presentation cannot cover the process in enough depth. The need for proper workshops is apparent. We will keep communicating with the CIDB on this and inform our members.

GCC 2004 Workshop

Due to popular demand, we had to schedule yet another GCC 2004 Course before shutdown on 30 November 2004. [Click here for the registration form](#). RSVP : Rosette Cele (011) 455 1700-tel / (011) 450 1715-fax / rosette@safcec.org.za ; on or before Friday 26 November 2004.

WESTERN CAPE NEWS

Regional Members are reminded of a presentation of The Building & Construction Industry Medical Aid fund will take place on the 29th November at 14:00 at Chebo House before the HRCommittee meeting. Contact Daan Hurter / Sonja Hannan on (021) 976 8059 – tel / dhurter@absamail.co.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](#)



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NEWS FROM AFRICA

[Zimplats keen to expand](#)

Zimbabwe Platinum Mines (Zimplats) is an interesting operation where the marriage of a plant jettisoned by BHP with an embryonic mining operation has turned out to be a resounding success. (©www.miningweekly.co.za)

[Malawi economy in 'precarious position' – IMF](#)

Malawi faces grave social and economic conditions, but must make a much better job of controlling its budget deficit and debts to win future aid, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned this week. (©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

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

[SA group wins Mauritius airport security contract](#)

The security systems division of Grintek Ewation has been awarded a contract by Airports of Mauritius Company for the design, supply, installation, configuration, integration and commissioning of a fully integrated security system at the SSR International Airport in Mauritius.
(©www.engineeringnews.co.za)

[Bank announces \\$125m African loan](#)

The World Bank announced yesterday that it had approved a \$125 million (R750 million) loan to help build a natural gas pipeline stretching from energy powerhouse Nigeria through Benin, Ghana and Togo.
(©www.busrep.co.za)

[Zimbabwe's economic outlook good, finance minister says](#)

Zimbabwe's economic decline has been halted and the outlook for the coming year is good, the country's acting finance minister said on Thursday as he presented the budget for 2005.
(©www.bday.co.za)

[World Bank approves loan for gas pipeline](#)

The World Bank has announced that it has approved a \$125m loan to help build a natural gas pipeline stretching from energy powerhouse Nigeria through Benin, Ghana and Togo.
(©www.bday.co.za)

[EU body plans long-term aid to Swaziland](#)

An inspection tour to Swaziland this week by the Humanitarian Aid Office of the European Commission (Echo) has demonstrated the need for long-term development aid.
(©www.bday.co.za)

[Stuck in poverty after 40 years of aid](#)

If Ghana is failing, what hope for Africa? Ghana has been a model pupil as far as market reforms are concerned but the policies it has followed have not taken it to the next level of growth.
(©www.bday.co.za)

[Angola's diamond trade is bleeding](#)

Luanda - Angola is losing one million dollars (about R6 million) daily due to a flourishing illicit trade in diamonds, Mining Minister Manuel Africano said on Tuesday, as new sales plans were announced in Belgium.
(©www.busrep.co.za)

[De Beers's cultural U-turn in Namibia](#)

Windhoek - Months away from a five-year review on its Namibian joint venture, diamond giant De Beers has pledged to change its culture to create more jobs in the southwest African country.
(©www.busrep.co.za)

[Enviro consultancy gives Skorpion Zinc the green light](#)

Situated as it is in one of the world's top biodiversity hotspots in south-western Namibia, making it a highly environmentally-sensitive area, Skorpion Zinc has had to ensure that it complies with strict environmental legislation protecting the fauna and flora of the region.
(©www.miningweekly.co.za)



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section on [Virus or Hoax?](#) The site also links to free virus-removal programs.

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

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MINING NEWS

[Kumba sees big potential in Waterberg](#)

LEPHALALE Kumba Resources is hoping to double its coal output by 2010 with plans to build a new mine for export, persuade Eskom to expand its Matimba power station in Limpopo and build a new power station, which would be fed with Kumba coal from the new mine.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Gold Fields wins key legal victory](#)

South Africa's Gold Fields Ltd. won a key legal victory on Friday in its battle to fight off a \$6.7 billion hostile takeover bid from Harmony Gold on the closing day of a partial offer by Harmony.

(©www.miningweekly.co.za)

[Going deep at South Deep](#)

It is no small coincidence that the South Deep gold-mine carries the title it does. Not only does the mine boast one of the deepest single-drop shafts in the world, at just under 3 000 m, but stakeholders also claim that the mine's larder of resources is deep enough to have justified the R5-billion twin-shaft project.

(©www.miningweekly.co.za)

[Gold-mine's mammoth twin-shaft complex](#)

If you really wanted to impress at your next braai you could tell everyone that you travelled via the underground to the Eiffel tower and all it cost you was the price of petrol from Johannesburg to Westonaria.

(©www.miningweekly.co.za)

[BHP Billiton completes share buyback](#)

Sydney - Anglo-Australian mining group BHP Billiton said on Tuesday it had completed an off-market share buyback worth A\$2.27 billion (\$1.77 billion, R10.63 billion).

(©www.busrep.co.za)

[WMC says Xstrata bid 'materially inadequate'](#)

Sydney - Directors of Australian mining giant WMC Resources have rejected a renewed A\$7.4-billion (\$5.7 billion, R34.2 billion) takeover offer from British-Swiss Xstrata as "materially inadequate".

(©www.busrep.co.za)

['Harmony's Gold Fields offer ratio unfair'](#)

Gold Fields has announced that Absa Corporate and Merchant Bank has provided its opinion on the fairness of the offer ratio, as offered by Harmony

(©www.bday.co.za)

[SA mines reeling from Aids pandemic](#)

South Africa's staggering Aids rate is severely impacting on the profits of nearly two-thirds of mines surveyed in a study released on Thursday.

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[Oil prices rise in London, New York still closed](#)

GET ACROBAT READER



You will require the FREE Acrobat reader to enable you to read reports in this newsletter published in .PDF format

Analysts gauge the impact on key markets of a possible dearth of US heating oil stockpiles during the northern winter
(©www.bday.co.za)

[Yukos shareholders to vote on bankruptcy](#)

Russian oil giant teeters nearer to collapse as the company said its shareholders would vote on whether the company should file for bankruptcy or liquidation next month.
(©www.bday.co.za)

[Skorpion on track for full production](#)

The Anglo American half-year interim report for 2004 reported a record base-metals performance with headline earnings that increased sevenfold to \$455-million.
(©www.miningweekly.co.za)



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NEWS FOR ESTATE AGENTS AND HOME OWNERS

[News for estate agents](#)

Nearly two dozen estate agents have reported suspicious or unusual transactions to the Financial Intelligence Centre during the past year.
(©www.rodneyhayter.com)

[Landlords may need new battle plans](#)

With interest rates staying low, it is getting harder for landlords to keep their tenants, and some "lateral thinking" may be necessary.
(©www.rodneyhayter.com)

[Blue Flag status expected to underpin property demand](#)

The awarding of Blue Flag status to Durban's South Beach and Umhlanga beach has been hailed as positive news for both areas and particularly for their respective residential property markets.
(©www.rodneyhayter.com)

[Holiday homes need year-round security](#)

Low interest rates and the current popularity of property as an investment has made the purchase of a holiday home an attractive option for many families today. But they need to bear in mind that good security for their second home is just as important as for their primary residence - and perhaps even more necessary.
(©www.property24.co.za)

[Pennington Set For Huge Growth](#)

Over the next five years, at least 1000 new homes are to be built in various developments in and around Pennington, on the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast.
(©www.property24.co.za)

[Investors Must Have Purpose Now](#)

Rental property can still be excellent investment, even at this stage of the property market cycle, but investors should be wary now of investment for its own sake - or just "climbing on the bandwagon".
(©www.property24.co.za)

THE AGENTS' TOOLKIT

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BUILDING TERMS

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[Agents Start Telling All To The Fic](#)

Almost two dozen estate agents have reported suspicious or unusual transactions to the Financial Intelligence Centre during the past year.

(©www.property24.co.za)

[A new Domain enters Durban's property market](#)

Not surprisingly, with up to 70 percent of units in new residential developments being snaffled up by investors the opening years of this century will probably best be remembered by the property industry for its dedication to catering for the needs of investors.

(©www.rodneyhayter.com)

[Pam Golding scoops top awards in London](#)

Pam Golding Properties (PGP), South Africa's largest independent real estate company, has been awarded three five-star awards at the Bentley International Property Awards 2004 in London in the categories of Best South African Estate Agent, Best Advertising Agent (worldwide) and Best Estate Agency Marketing (worldwide).

(©www.sapoonline.co.za)

[Metropolis is rising](#)

Metropolis, a new residential development, is set to elevate the standard of city living to new heights, writes MICHELLE SWART. DEVELOPED jointly by Aquacor Property Developers and Rabie Property Projects, the new building, named Metropolis, will offer style-conscious buyers an outstanding location, combined with an authentic New York loft design not to be found anywhere else in Cape Town.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Buying off plan](#)

With the plethora of new housing developments springing up it has become increasingly common for home owners to buy off plan, writes ALLISTER LONG. THE advantages of buying off plan include being able to select a house design ideally suited to your family circumstance as well as being able to choose your own fittings. If you get in at the building stage, you also will pay far less for your home compared to buying in an established complex.

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[Freehold homes in Fairmount](#)

The Fairlands, a new residential development in Fairmount, has a good selection of homes on offer, writes MICHELLE SWART. FAIRMOUNT is a well located area close to medical facilities, schools and shopping centres.

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THIS WEEK'S ECONOMIC INDICATORS

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

[Key monthly economic indicators](#)

[Economic perspective](#)

[ABSA house price index](#)

The indicators as on
27 Nov 2004 11:04

	This week	19/11/04
Rand/\$	5.8400	6.0020
Rand/£	11.0500	11.2000
Rand/€	7.7500	7.8400
R150	8.54%	8.54%
Gold/oz	\$452.15	\$446.15
Gold Mining	1848.90	1987.20
JSE All Share	12438.50	12337.50

[Rand powers to best level since 1999](#)

The rand powered to 5.8126 to the dollar in late trade - its best level since January 1999 - on the strong euro.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[No end to rand's run](#)

Johannesburg - The rand powered to R5.8126 to the dollar in late trade on Friday - its best level since January 1999 - on the strong euro, which retreated slightly from its overnight record high but remained strong against the dollar.

(©www.finance24.co.za)

[Hot rand fires economy](#)

Cuts in interest rates and lower inflation are forecast for SA, as economists predict that the rand will hold current levels well into 2005.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Rand fuels economic boom](#)

Cuts in interest rates and lower inflation have been forecast for South Africa, with economists predicting that the rand would hold current levels well into 2005.

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[Dollar shakes global markets](#)

The dollar accelerated its downward spiral, sending gold racing to fresh 16-year summits and weighing on Asian and European stock markets.

(©www.bday.co.za)

[Oil moves closer to \\$50 again](#)

London - Oil prices rose in London on Friday in thin trading as analysts gauged the impact on key markets of a possible dearth of US heating oil stockpiles during the northern winter.

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FREE CONTRACTS

[Domestic Employment](#)

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[Lease agreement](#)

[Loan agreement](#)

[Agreement of sale](#)

[Will](#)

[An Agreement giving General Power of Attorney](#)

[Contract for Housing and Minor Works](#)

HOLIDAY PROPERTIES AS INVESTMENT

Can you believe it is already December! It is amazing how quickly the time passes. This month many of us will go on holiday. We will visit places we don't normally get to see and these places will seem more beautiful and pleasant than the places where we usually live. We will also be exposed to many temptations... And what greater temptation can there be than buying a place of our own in our favourite holiday town?

(©www.coertonproperty.com)

Common Sense Prevails

It has been suggested that common sense is the least used of the senses. One can therefore feel a glow of satisfaction to read that in a recent judgement involving a construction dispute the court in making a decision called upon common sense to aid it in making a judgement. The law may be an ass but not all the time.

(©www.jrknowles.co.uk)

CLASSIFIEDS

Senior/Junior Quantity Surveyors

How would you like to work for one of the top Commercial QS Firms in Durban? Positions exist for both senior and junior QS's to work in a unique environment where excellence and dedication are awarded. Our offices are located in our own award winning office park development in La Lucia, Umhlanga.

Senior QS, Saudi Arabia

HOD position as part of a design engineering team. Must be Degree qualified with experience of infrastructure projects - high rise buildings, complexes, hotels, shopping malls, etc
Arabic would be an advantage. Long term renewable contract paying Dollars TAX FREE with normal expat benefits.

Quantity Surveyors

OUR CAPE TOWN AND JOHANNESBURG OFFICES ARE EACH LOOKING FOR YOUNG QUANTITY SURVEYORS TO JOIN OUR TEAMS. THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES MUST HAVE POST GRADUATION/DIPLOMA EXPERIENCE OF AT LEAST 2 YEARS (AT A PROFESSIONAL QS FIRM). YOUR ENTHUSIASTIC AND CONFIDENT PERSONALITY WILL BE A GUARANTEED PLUS!

Browse to [Classifieds](#) for full details

CALENDAR

Date : 29 November - 2 December 2004

Event: DEC COST ENG

Time: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Tailpiece

The power of the mind!

This looks weird but believe it or not you can read it and next time when you look at a new property, listen to your instincts, because that is the mind speaking to you!

"I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid. Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttar in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is that the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it wouthit a porbelm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas thought spleling was ipmorantt!"

Build Muscle Strength

I just came across this exercise suggested for seniors to build muscle strength in the arms and shoulders. It seems easy, so I thought I'd pass it on to some of my friends.

The article suggested doing it three days a week. Begin by standing on a comfortable surface where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 2-Kg potato sack in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there

Information: First step to become an International Certified Cost Eng Focus on Detailed Estimating, Escalation and Cost Control

Contact: [Marié Voogt](mailto:Marié.Voogt@asaqs.co.za) 011 478 1540

Remember: Visit the [ASAQS website](http://www.asaqs.co.za) for new updates!

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

Wai Lok Au - Wise Rich (Hong Kong)

D.H. Mills - Mills International (England)

Daryn Phillpots - Balfour Beatty Construction

Prins Kodicara - Mace International Ltd (Dubai)

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 Pat Adcock 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](http://www.asaqs.co.za).

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as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, then relax.

Each day, you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 5-Kg potato sacks, then 10-Kg potato sacks, and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 50-Kg potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute.

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each of the sacks; but be careful.



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