**PRESS RELEASE**

Major industry recognition testament to Zutari’s successful approach to co-create impact

**24 November 2021:** As an engineering consultant and a trusted advisor, [Zutari](http://www.zutari.com) co-creates an engineered impact that enables environments, communities and economies to thrive. Recently, the company racked up an impressive number of wins and commendations at some of the industry’s top awards.

Key to Zutari’s success in this regard has been its approach to promote an ‘engineered impact’ for its clients. “Our teams are from diverse professional backgrounds, with different skill and experience levels. Our multidisciplinary service offering definitely contributes to what we can provide as complete solutions for clients,” comments Co-CEO **Dr. Gustav Rohde**.

“As the largest infrastructure consultancy firm in Africa, our focus is on co-creating engineered solutions based on shared value for business, communities and environments resonates well with Daka. Infrastructure development is an important catalyst for growth and positive change,” adds Co-CEO **Teddy Daka**.

At the CESA Aon Engineering Excellence Awards 2021 on 10 November, **Confidence Mukovhe Tshilande** (PrEng Meng) was named Young Engineer of the Year. Zutari was a winner for the Kuils River upgrade in the Western Cape in the category for projects with a value less than R50 million. The project saw the upgrading of a 2-km-long section of the Kuils River in the Stikland/Bellville area, undertaken by the developer of a private sector industrial development in collaboration with the City of Cape Town.

The developer commissioned a multidisciplinary project team to prepare a river corridor plan. Zutari provided hydraulic engineering design consulting services, together with a freshwater ecologist and environmental, civil and landscaping consultants. The plan was workshopped through several iterations with the relevant stormwater, parks, environmental and maintenance departments of the City of Cape Town prior to being approved and adopted for implementation.

Zutari also won in the category for projects with a value between R250 million and R1 billion for 16 on Bree for FWJK Developments. At 120 m or 36 storeys high, 16 on Bree is the tallest residential and second-tallest mixed-use development in Cape Town over the last 20 years. In addition to the height, the project faced a challenge to obtain the necessary development approvals for the site due to an existing historic structure at ground level, combined with limited available street parking.

Zutari therefore had to design a solution for retaining the 12 m historic façade at ground level, while keeping to the project budget and timeframe. A steel bracing system with large counterweights on the street side stabilised the façade wall, allowing uninterrupted construction of the building while the wall was kept safely in place.

To be able to accommodate the required number of parking spaces with the building’s footprint, Zutari designed a compressed central lift and stair core as an alternative to the decentralised lift and stair core on traditional high-rise buildings. Outrigger walls were used to stiffen the core. The access walkway was also reconfigured to give some apartments direct access from the lift lobby, freeing up sellable area and allowing for uninterrupted connection between the outriggers and lift shafts.

Zutari’s third win was in the category for projects with a value between R50 million and R250 million for the Kruisvallei hydropower project. It involved the engineering and construction of two small run-of-river hydropower plants on the Ash River between Bethlehem and Clarens in the Free State. The Power Purchase Agreement was awarded to Independent Power Producer Zevobuzz, which is majority-owned by Red Rocket. The project was part of Round 4 of South Africa’s successful Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Programme.

Red Rocket tasked Zutari to assist with the final stages, including review and optimisation of the previous design, assistance in procuring contractors, costing and eventual construction. Zutari undertook all necessary grid code and network compliance studies, witnessed the factory acceptance tests of the electromechanical equipment, and lastly provided management and supervision for the project commissioning.

At the 2021 IMESA/CESA Excellence Awards held on 12 November, Zutari was a winner in the Community Upliftment Job Creation category for the Mossel Bay Upgrading of Informal Settlements Programme (UISP) Emergency Shared Basic Services project. The scope of works included the rehabilitation of 372 existing toilets and 76 water points and installing 326 innovative new toilet designs and 112 water points, including the link to connect the toilets to the municipal infrastructure network.

The success of the project was due largely to innovative engineering design development on-site, informed by close and meaningful community collaboration. This was achieved by involving the community in the design and employing local labour in the construction. More than 6 000 households living in over 28 identified informal settlement areas within the municipality benefited from improved living conditions due to this project.

In the Environment and Climate Change category, Zutari was a winner for the Boy Louw & Parys Sport Boreholes Water Treatment Plants for the Drakenstein Municipality in Paarl in the Western Cape, which experienced its worst drought in over a century from 2017 to 2019. Several short-term drought measures were implemented to prevent a Day Zero, of which the exploration of alternative water resources was critical.

The development and utilisation of borehole water was found to be the quickest, most feasible and sustainable water resource to assist potable water security. The first 40 boreholes were drilled in November 2017 and four high-yield borehole sites were developed. The Boy Louw & Parys Sport sportsfields are the two largest wellfield sites with a sustainable groundwater yield of 5 megalitres a day and 1.5 megalitres a day respectively.

The groundwater at both sites contain high iron and manganese levels, which are removed by containerised and automated water treatment plants. A borehole monitoring programme is followed to optimise the wellfield and to protect the water table. The project was completed on time and within budget.

In addition, Zutari won second place in this category for the Vopak Terminal Lesedi Admin Building for the Heidelberg Local Municipality. The design of this building incorporates an extensive range of well-integrated sustainable initiatives that achieve outstanding indoor environmental quality, energy efficiency and water saving technologies that are not commonly found in the local commercial building market, allowing it to achieve 5 Star Green Star certification. This project also clinched Zutari a win at the Construction World Best Projects Awards on 3 November. In addition, it received a Special Mention and a Highly Commended award for 16 on Bree in Cape Town.

At the 2020 SAPOA Property Development Awards for Innovative Excellence, Exxaro’s iconic new headquarters in Centurion was this year’s big winner. The ConneXXion triumphed with a trio of trophies, including being named the overall winner. Zutari provided Environmental Sustainable Design (ESD) services for the project, which achieved a 6-Star As-Built Green Star South Africa Design certification.

At the SAICE Awards 2021 on 26 November, Zutari’s **Alice Chang** was named Young Engineer of the Year. Zutari was also highly commended for being part of the professional team on the R512-PWV3 Pampoennek Road in Brits in the North West Province. Zutari was responsible for the Design and Construction Supervision (Project Management and Quality Control).

Motorists will now enjoy a free flow of traffic, as well as there now being a better link between the North West Province from the west of Pretoria and Johannesburg. The completion of this 30-month project demonstrates the ongoing commitment by SANRAL in investing in road infrastructure as part of its Horizon 2030 proactive response to improve the national road transport system.

Other accolades include **Alan Chemaly** winning an award from the South African National Committee on Large Dams (SANCOLD) in recognition of his outstanding contribution to dam engineering in Southern Africa. Zutari’s most recent win was for its work on Assmang’s new iKhaya housing policy, which received a Gold Award at the 2021 Facilitation Impact Awards (FIA). Zutari partnered with Assmang as technical advisor and facilitator for the ambitious co-design project.

***Ends***

**Notes to the Editor**To download hi-res images for this release, please visit <http://media.ngage.co.za> and click the Zutari link to view the company’s press office.

**About Zutari**

As engineering consultants and trusted advisors, Zutari co-creates an engineered impact that enables environments, communities and economies to thrive. Few others can match our local capacity, long-standing presence and understanding of the challenges required to operate successfully across various regions in Africa.

We have created an impact across Africa for the past 88 years (1932 to 2020) and remain committed to this continent, making us the perfect partner to those less familiar with working in Africa. We are experienced in international projects and our Global Design Centres allow us to bring world-class solutions to our clients.

As a private management-owned company, our commitment is true and we have vested interest in our clients’ success. Our strong relationships allow us to connect the right expertise, processes and resources to match client’s needs and bring stakeholders that have shared interests together.

We blend the old and the new. We have moved beyond traditional engineering and work collaboratively to integrate technical and creative thinking. This process of co-creation allows us to unearth new opportunities with our clients and partners.

Zutari’s broad collective of in-house, industry-recognised engineering consultants and trusted advisors provide seamless and integrated delivery. This unique ability to offer scaled engagement allows Zutari to solve complex challenges more efficiently.

Grounded in digital engineering, we continuously deliver better results.

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