



The Engineering Professions Association of Namibia

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PRESS RELEASE

EPA's Young Engineers' Construction Project: Bridge Building Competition 2015

The Bridge Building Competition is an annual event hosted by the EPA to promote engineering as a career. Senior Secondary schools throughout Namibia offering Mathematics and Physical Science are invited to partake in the Bridge Building Competition. This year's event took place on 6 March 2015 at the Polytechnic Engineering Department Hall.

EPA Council member, Mr. Ako Al-Jaf officially opened the event, welcoming students and teachers and wishing them all success in the competition. Mr. Dirk Reed of the City of Windhoek then went ahead to explain to the students the rules and guidelines by which the competition gets judged and wished all the students success in their endeavors. A total number of 25 teams from all corners of Namibia consisting mainly of three members each participated in this competition.

This year's winning bridge weighed 242.0g and carried a load of 41.7kg. The winning team, made up of Gizella Bezuidenhout; Brian Walkers and Calvin Keduwetswe of Karibib Private School. The team from Otjiwarongo Secondary School took the second place and another team from Windhoek High School took third place. The first three teams received cash money for each team member and a cheque for their school, the prizes amounting to N\$750.00 per team and school for the first prize together with a floating trophy, N\$600.00 for the second prize and N\$450.00 for third prize respectively.

Our congratulations go to all participants in the competition for their enthusiasm and camaraderie, but in particular to the winning teams and respective schools. A special word of thanks goes to the EPA judges, Mr. Frederick Muketi of the Department of Works, Mr. Ndeutapo Kaulinge of Knight Piesold Consulting (Pty) Ltd and Mr. Ako Al-Jaf of Roads Authority Training Department, as well as Mr. Dirk Reed of the City of Windhoek, the Polytechnic of Namibia, Dr Samuel John and Mrs Maria Philander for the venue and assistance rendered. A special thank you as well to Mr. Rianco Vorster of Roads Authority who assisted Mr. Dirk Reed with the weighing machine.

The Engineering Professions Association is a non-profit organisation that amongst other aims and functions promotes engineering as a career at schools, career exhibitions and projects of this nature. The EPA relies on sponsorships from consulting firms and related businesses to make such events possible. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following firms for their generous sponsorships:

VKE Consulting Engineers – Mr. B. Boshoff



Polytechnic Engineering Department

Subject to sufficient funding being secured the winning team, accompanied by an adult, is qualified to partake in the international bridge building competition hosted by SAICE in August in Pretoria, South Africa.



1st prize winners: Karibib Private School: from left to right: Mr. Ndeutapo Kaulinge; Mr. Ako al-Jaf; Mr. Rianco Vorster; Calvin Keduwetswe; Brian Walkers Mr. J. Beukes; Gizella Bezuidenhout; Mr. Volker Fischer-Buder; Mr. Dirk Reed and Mr. Frederick Muketi.



2nd Prize winners – Otjiwarongo Secondary School: from left to right: Mr. Ndeutapo Kaulinge; Mr. Ako Al-Jaf; Ms. Foibe T-Nghishitewa; Marc Epler; Christian Diekmann; Victor Grensing; Mr. Frederik Muketi.



3rd Prize winners from Windhoek High School: from left to right: Mr. Ndeutapo Kaulinge; Mr. ako al-Jaf; Kaushiweto Kiiyala; Christina Perny; Lipitua Shiimhopileni; Mr. Frederik Muketi.