



*The Engineering Professions Association  
Of Namibia*

**YOUNG ENGINEERS' CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

**EPA Young Engineers' Construction Project 2008**  
**Bridge Building**

**EPA's Young Engineers Construction Project:  
Bridge Building Competition 2008**

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 Saturday 21 June 2008 at the Academia Secondary School in Windhoek. The EPA President Mr. Braam Cilliers officially opened the event, welcoming students and teachers and wishing them all success in the competition.

A total number of 46 teams from all corners of Namibia consisting of three members each participated in this competition. The rules together with the material and tool kits are handed to each team on the day of the competition, the kit consisting of wooden dowels, a hacksaw, a cutter, glue and string. The teams commence planning and building at 9:00 in the morning. Cut-off time is 15:00. A panel of judges weighs and evaluates the bridges on workmanship and ingenuity, before the bridges eventually are being put to the test as to much load they can carry before breaking.

This year's winning bridge weighed 238.7g and carried a load of 114.9kg. The winning team, made up of Hercules Koortzen, Mario Koegelenberg and Jennilee van der Merwe, was from the Etosha Secondary School in Tsumeb. The team from DHPS Windhoek took the second place and another team from the Delta Secondary School in Windhoek 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.

In his closing remarks the EPA President encouraged students to consider engineering as a career. Some of these scholars are our country's future engineers. Competitions such as this help to stimulate additional interest in those, who may consider engineering as a profession besides promoting the industry as a whole to scholars, laymen and current engineers alike.

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. Dirk Reed, Mr. Francois le Roux and Mr. Braam Cilliers, as well as the headmaster and teachers of Academia Secondary School for the facilities and assistance.

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:

S A I C E

V K E (Namibia) Inc. Consulting Engineers

Lund Consulting Engineers

Pro-Services

Element Consulting Engineers

Emcon Consulting Engineers

Bicon Namibia Consulting Engineers  
WML Consulting Engineers  
PPS Namibia  
Association of Consulting Engineers (ACEN)  
JS Hardware & Hobby

Qualified to partake in the international bridge building competition hosted by SAICE on 29 August 2008 in Pretoria the winning team accompanied by an adult is scheduled to fly to South Africa.

Pictured: the winning team with their teacher from Etosha Secondary School flanked by EPA President Braam Cilliers (on the left) and Past President Günter Seydack (on the right):

