



The Engineering Professions Association of Namibia

PO Box 21885 • Windhoek • Namibia • Tel/Fax: +264-61-223009
Website: www.engineers-namibia.org / E-mail: epa@africaonline.com.na

PRESS RELEASE

EPA's Young Engineers' Construction Project: Bridge Building Competition 2013

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 8 March 2013 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. He 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. 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 52 teams from all corners of Namibia consisting mainly 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 was 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 180.0g and carried a load of 133kg. The winning team, made up of Eduardo Riobo, Laraine Brink and Anica Profitt of Walvis Bay Private School. The team from Tsumeb Gymnasium took the second place and another team from Otjiwarongo Secondary 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. Henock Ntinda of the Roads Authority, Mr. Günter Leicher of Knight Piesold Consulting (Pty) Ltd and Mr. Ako Al-Jaf of InWent, as well as Mr. Dirk Reed of the City of Windhoek, Mr Theo du Toit of Windhoek Technical School, Mr & Mrs Braam Cilliers of Element Consulting Engineers for the use of their projector equipment and the Polytechnic of Namibia, Dr Samuel John and Mrs Rita Olivier for the venue and assistance rendered.

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:

V. Fischer Buder Consulting Engineers
Lund Consulting Engineers
Element Consulting Engineers
PPS Insurance Brokers
Danie Nel Consulting Engineers
Aurecon Namibia (Pty) Ltd
Mr. Ako Al-Jaf

Polytechnic Engineering Department



aurecon

Please consider your environment before printing this e-mail

Leading. Vibrant. Global.



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: Walvis Bay Private School, participants Laraine Brink, Eduardo Riobo and Anica Profitt with judge Mr Gunther Leicher (Vice-president of the EPA), Mr. Ako Al-Jaf (Council member of the EPA) Mr. Theo du Toit of Windhoek Technical School, Mr Henock Ntinda of Roads Authority, Teacher, Deon van Zyl of Walvis Bay Private School and Mr. Dirk Reed of the City of Windhoek.



2nd Prize winners – Tsumeb Gimnasium – Mr. Ako Al-Jaf (EPA Council member), Mr Henock Ntinda of Roads Authority, Mrs. Carin Burger of Tsumen Gimnasium, scholars: Herman Mouton, Gerhard Sachse and Ferdinand Grobbelaar, Dirk Reed of the City of Windhoek and Theo du Toit of Windhoek Technical School.



3rd Prize winners from Otjiwarongo Secondary School with Mr. Ako Al-Jaf (EPA Council member), Ms F. Amutenta, Mr Henock Ntinda of Roads Authority, scholars: Felix Adam, Nico Thomas, Zemuel Marais, Mr Gunter Leicher (EPA Vice President) and Mr Joel Chigudu of Otjiwarongo Secondary School.