



*The Engineering Professions Association  
Of Namibia*

**YOUNG ENGINEERS' CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

**EPA Young Engineers' Construction Project 2005**  
**Bridge Building**

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 25 June 2005 at the Windhoek Technical High School in Academia. The EPA President Mrs Sophia Tekie, welcoming students and teachers and wishing them all success in the competition, officially opened the event.

Thirty-two 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 how much load they can carry before breaking.

This year's winning bridge weighed 260,3g and carried a load of 144,5kg. The winning team, made up of Glen Brown, Oliver Bause and Timo Roemer, was from the Deutsche Höhere Privatschule in Windhoek. Another team from the DHPS in Windhoek took the second place and a team from the Gobabis Gymnasium 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 Vice-President, Mr Fritz Jeske, 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. C Davy, Mr. K Detering and Mr. F Poolman, as well as Mrs. Retha Landsberg and Mr. T du Toit of the WTHS for their kind assistance and Mr. D Reed for his technical support on the load testing of the bridges.

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 event possible. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following firms for their kind and generous sponsorships:

- W M L Consulting Engineers;
- V K E (Namibia) Inc. Consulting Engineers;
- Windhoek Consulting Engineers;
- Africon Namibia Consulting Engineers;
- Lund Consulting Engineers;
- Pupkewitz Megabuild; and
- Democratic Media Holdings.

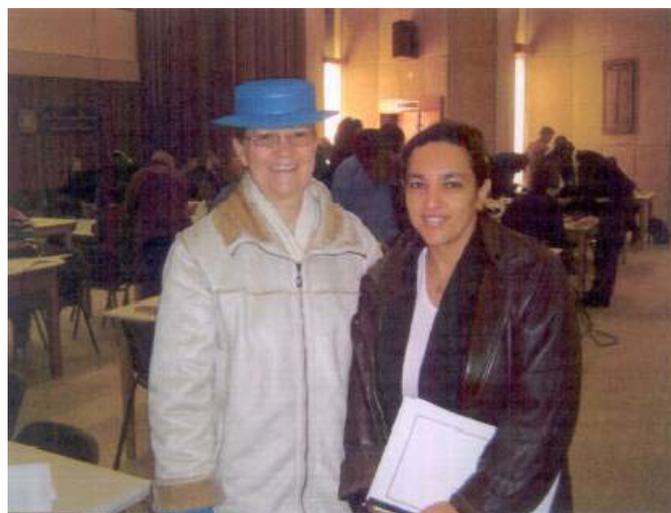
The day ended with a small cocktail function to which the participating teams, accompanying teachers, parents, sponsors, guests and members of the EPA were invited.



Some of Namibia's future engineers with their model bridges



The winning team from DHPS (from left): Oliver Bause, Glen Brown and Timo Roemer



Mrs. Retha Landsberg, headmistress of Windhoek Technical High School (left)  
and Mrs. Sophia Tekie, President of the EPA