



**PRESS RELEASE – SEMINAR ON “ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE AND
MANAGEMENT IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY”**

The Association of SA Quantity Surveyors (North West) held a very successful seminar on 19 August 2010 at the Kumkani Country Lodge as part of their continuing professional development programme being offered to quantity surveyors, architects, engineers and other professions that have to adhere to it.

This seminar was highly informative and speakers are well known on a national and international level.

- Professor Andre’ Duvenhage (PhD - Political Science, UFS) of the NW University, Potchefstroom presented a paper on “Investigating The Political Environment – Perspectives for the Building Industry” .

Professor Duvenhage covered the South African political landscape starting in 1993 up to date. He created scenarios providing a positive political landscape as well as a negative landscape which he called the “black hole” scenario. The building industry has a dynamic future if the country would be lead towards dynamic growth and prosperity.

- Professor Eben Mulder (PhD - Ing, RWTH, Aachen) of the NW University, Potchefstroom addressed the topic of providing electricity to the world for the future under the topic “Is Nuclear Energy a Sustainable Source of Energy?”

Professor Mulder came to the conclusion that nuclear energy is the source of energy for the future while reducing carbon emissions. The threat of nuclear waste could be addressed by means of technology utilizing radioactive waste in secondary nuclear plants to such an extent that the “nuclear waste “problem could be totally eradicated.

- Mr Eric Noir as an international architect of the WSP Group, Green by Design (B. Arch - Univ. of the Wits. and Dipl. Of Engineering Architecture - Geneva addressed the topic of “Sustainability of Green Financial Construction Management”.

Mr Eric Noir has 20 years experience as a sustainable architect consultant and urbanist and worked on various well known South African building projects such as 2010 World Cup Stadia and others. The Nedbank Phase II obtained a five star environmental rating in South Africa.

He discussed various aspects and methods of obtaining green rating status for projects during its planning and construction and also sustaining it.

- **Jan-Albert Wessels (Magister in Environmental Management) of the NW University, Potchefstroom addressed the topic “Ensuring Environmental Performance and Compliance During the Project Life Cycle”**

For the past five years Jan-Albert has been involved in the planning, construction and operation of the MooiRivier Mall development in Potchefstroom that recently won the prestigious National Retail Design and Development Award for Super/Regional Malls and Shopping Centers as well as the Spectrum Award that celebrates retail excellence across all disciplines and sectors, including environmental management in South Africa.

Mr HJ Schoeman, the convener of the seminar and chairman of the Association Of SA Quantity Surveyors (North West), is of the opinion that the event was well attended and successful. All parties involved in this event are thanked and more such seminars should be held to inform the public of important issues and developments in their close environment.

**HJ Schoeman
Chairman ASAQS (NW)**

24 August 2010