

Construction Industry Development Board

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MEDIA RELEASE

TUESDAY, 31 AUGUST 2010

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

In honour of women contractors who are successful in building sustainable, growing enterprises against odds in the construction sector the Construction Industry Development Board (cidb) and the national Department of Public Works are hosting the national Women in Construction Excellence awards in Johannesburg on 31 August 2010. The national awards bring to a culmination, provincial celebrations to recognize women achievers on the cidb Register of Contractors who are performing exceptionally well in delivering infrastructure projects whilst building successful enterprises.

The awards recognize outstanding achievements by women-owned contractors in three categories namely: contractors in the Expanded Public Works Programme, Contractors in Development Programmes and Contractors in the mainstream of the construction economy. The 2010 Women in Construction Excellence Awards are the second in two years, held in August to celebrate the women's month and to recognize the tough role of women to succeed in a predominantly male sector.

The objective of the awards is to encourage women to rely on performance and best practice for success as the basis for self empowerment and sustainability in the highly competitive construction business.

There are currently more than 100,000 registrations on the cidb Register of Contractors, which categorizes contractors according to capability to carry out construction projects. Whilst forty seven per cent of these are women-owned, they are also in the lower grades 1 to 4, emphasizing the need for efforts to increase their capacity to grow.

By categorizing and grading contractors according to capability to carry out construction projects the cidb Register of Contractors also reflects the nature, size and distribution of contractors operating in the sector, thus enabling targeted development of enterprises. The cidb is a statutory body established in terms of the cidb Act 38 of 2000, to lead stakeholders in construction development for improved performance and to support construction's improved contribution to the country's social and economic development.

The national 2010 Women in Construction Excellence Awards are proudly sponsored by the PPC.

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