



Nocwaka Ntshangase (Vice Chairman Sassda), Dillan Fernando (Afrox), Gerhard Holtshauzen (HLAKANI), Que Naidoo (HLAKANI), Hermann Brümmer (HLAKANI), Hennie van Rhyn (Afrox), John Tarboton (Sassda Executive Director).

## Hlakani shines at Sassda Awards

Hlakani Engineering Services (Pty) Ltd won three accolades during the Sassda 2018 Awards.

20 September 2018 was the due date for entries for the bi-annual Sassda (South African Stainless Steel Development Association) Awards.

Columbus Stainless is one of the main sponsors of the event. In total 53 companies entered and there were 189 entries for 17 categories. A local company, Hlakani Engineering Services, entered five categories. The project entered was the Eskom Camden PF (pulverised fuel) burner project that was completed in early 2018.

On the night of 25 October 2018, the award banquet was hosted by Sassda in

Fourways. Much to everyone's surprise, as a first-time entrant, team Hlakani walked away with three awards in different categories. These were:

- Winner – Welding.
- Runner-up - Most transformed company.
- 1st Runner-up – Environmental.

Technical highlights of the PF burner project as follows:

Eskom replaced old burner technology with new environmentally friendly Low Nox burner technology.

This newly designed burner also improved safety aspects as the old burners had started to wear out and posed an operational safety risk due to leaking coal fines. The new burners have already been installed in

four units at Camden and are performing successfully.

Hlakani mainly utilised 16Mo3 and stainless steel 314 for fabricating these components. SS 314 is very difficult to work with. Acceptance criteria by Eskom in terms of the tolerances were very tight for a welded construction.

The SS 314 was imported from Outokumpu Germany. There was difficulty experienced in welding, in particular, hot cracking with distortion, shrinkages and tolerance achievement. These challenges were overcome by training welders in specific methods of stainless steel welding. This also ensured an x-ray failure rate of

below 1 % for the project.

Some welders did not have a single x-ray failure during the three-year project execution. Hlakani invested a lot of time and money in their personnel, which paid dividends as 164 burners were fabricated and delivered to Camden.

Team Hlakani is particularly proud of being awarded first place for the welding category, as welding in stainless steel is very challenging.

Two other Middelburg companies that won awards are:

- 1st runner-up – Agro Processing food and beverages: Mpumalanga Stainless Initiative.
- Runner-up – Art: Coster Mkoki.

## Optimum production with Babcock and Volvo

Babcock customers can now look forward to achieving production targets faster as the new range of Volvo Construction Equipment rigid haulers, has now become available with the launch of the new 95-tonne R100E Rigid Hauler at Babcock last Thursday. The launch follows on the back of the official launch in Scotland in April.

The R100E, a completely new rigid hauler suited to local conditions, features brand new technologies and a striking new design.

The R100E rigid hauler was launched to the great astonishment of attendees who witness the machine's power and speed during a demonstration at the launch.

David Vaughan, Managing Director for Babcock's equipment business, says that the R100E rigid hauler, built for surface mining and quarrying applications where operational costs are critical, expects a strong following in Southern Africa.

"Despite the fact that the R100E will be competing in one of the most contested segments of the rigid hauler market, this top-performing machine with optimal production and minimal operational costs will be a strong contender in the mining and quarry market segment," he says.

The groundbreaking R100E is engineered to perform and is built on strong Volvo DNA. Offering a true 100t/95-tonne payload, the R100E allows operators to meet production rates faster while simultaneously providing low cost of ownership and ease of serviceability.

The R100E's 60.4m<sup>3</sup> capacity V-shaped body, for optimum load retention and minimal material carry-back, enhances cost saving and customers can expect to spend less per haul, while the industry-recognised load profile policy enables the operator to meet a consistent average target payload of 95-tonnes.

Central to its powerful and efficient performance is the R100E's new fully electronic 783 kW Cummins QST30 engine for superior power and fuel efficiency, backed by an improved connected drivetrain

delivering high torque capabilities, excellent pulling performance and class-leading rimpull. The Volvo Adaptive Shift Control provides automated adaptive shift schedules for excellent performance and fuel efficiencies in all operating conditions.

Intelligent monitoring systems such as the On-Board Weighing (OBW) option ensures the machine moves the optimum safe payload to further boost production and minimise operational costs.

Other features that make the R100E more durable, cost-efficient and more comfortable than any other rigid hauler in its class includes a speedy body-tipping system, ensuring fast cycle times for an all-round efficient performance, a new suspension design and wheel track configuration to absorb high levels of ground impact shocks, and an ergonomic cab layout for improved operator experience and a 360-degree visual system for safe and efficient operation.

Vaughan says that the R100E has undergone extensive field testing at mining sites in both Sweden and South Africa, a key market for rigid haulers, with the machine tested in both cold and hot climates and in hard rock and coal environments. The R100E is built to the highest safety standards for the protection of both the operator and site staff.

The three D-Series rigid haulers – the R45D, R60D and R70D – are all based on the existing and well proven Terex Trucks TR-Series, now with Volvo updates and modifications to meet the brand's exacting standards. Covering payload capacities from 41 to 65 tonnes, the D-series rigid haulers are designed to reduce fuel consumption while promoting safe operations and ease-of-use. Also powered by premium engines, the R45D, R60D and R70D rigid haulers achieve high-performance torque and up to 567 kW (760 hp) power, even at low engine speeds. With impressive tractive effort, generated by the complete drivetrain design and configuration, the R45D, R60D and R70D rigid haulers are the ideal machines

to traverse the steep slopes often found on mining and quarrying worksites.

The R100E and the D-Series machines will be backed by the same aftersales support, immediate access to parts and qualified service technicians, and well laid out service points for quick maintenance and increased machine uptime that is standard for all Babcock-distributed machinery.

Babcock's aftersales service has earned the company the EMEA (Europe, Middle East, Africa) Best Dealer Volvo Services Award, announced earlier this year at the Volvo International Conference held in Portugal.

The company now also offers in-house financing options.



Volvo Construction Equipment specialist Mr Scott Pollock was flown in from Scotland to provide training and conduct demonstrations on the brand new R100E Rigid Hauler.



The new Volvo Rigid Hauler power team: Paul Douglas (Volvo Construction Equipment), Carl Slotte (Volvo Construction Equipment), Roger O'Calaghan (Group CEO Babcock Africa Services) and David Vaughn (Managing Director Babcock Equipment).