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CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY UNITES TO FORM A NATIONAL UMBRELLA BODY

South Africa's construction industry has united to form an umbrella body, Construction Alliance South Africa (CASA) that is made up of 29 of the sectors' professional, contractor, supplier and other bodies. The alliance was officially launched on 21 January 2021.

Industry stalwart, John Matthews who is the Chairperson of CASA explained that the alliance was an important step towards uniting the voice of the industry and in facilitating smooth dialogue with government. *"The need for unity in the sector cannot be over-emphasized, and because we all have the shared vision of an innovative, competitive and transformed industry, the formation of CASA is a historic and welcome achievement. It is also important as it comes at a crucial time when the industry is in engagements with the Presidency on the rollout of Strategic Integrated Infrastructure Projects to revive the economy"* said Matthews.

Emphasizing the need for a united industry voice in confronting the industry's challenges, Gregory Mofokeng of the Black Business Council in the Built Environment (BBCBE) who is the Deputy Chairperson of CASA, said it was important for the industry to forge a united front to demonstrate a serious commitment to collectively respond to industry issues.

CASA is made up of different industry bodies from across the sector with the broad objective of having joint representation in engagements on matters of mutual concern. It is expected that the alliance will not only lead a post-COVID recovery of the industry, but also tackle other long-standing industry issues that include accelerated transformation of the sector, protection of the industry from subsidised foreign competition as well as dealing with corruption and unethical business practices.

The construction industry successfully formed a COVID-19 response team at the beginning of the pandemic in April 2020. The Construction COVID-19 Rapid Response Task Team (CC19RRTT) was key in developing a well-co-ordinated industry response to the coronavirus pandemic including the safe re-activation of construction sites as lockdown restrictions were eased. The Task Team was also instrumental in co-ordinating and presenting the industry's thinking on the national economic recovery plan. Following these recorded successes of the joint effort, the industry was in agreement on the need to form an alliance built on the shared goal of re-building the sector.



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Construction Alliance South Africa membership consists of: Association of Architectural Aluminium Manufacturers of South Africa (AAAMSA), Association of Construction Health and Safety Management (ACHASM), Association of Construction Project Managers (ACPM), ASPASA, Black Business Council in the Built Environment (BBCBE), Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA), Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), Clay Brick Association of South Africa (CBA), Concrete Manufacturers Association (CMA), Construction Management Foundation (CMF), Cox Yeats Attorneys, Institute for Landscape Architecture in South Africa (ILASA), Master Builders South Africa (MBSA), National Construction Incubator (NCI), National Spa & Pool Institute of Southern Africa (NSPI), South African Affordable Residential Developers Association (SAARDA), South African Association of Consulting Professional Planners (SAACPP), South African Black Technical and Allied Careers Organisation (SABTACO), South African Geomatics Institute (SAGI), South African Green Industry Council (SAGIC), South African Institute of Architects (SAIA), South African Institute of Black Property Practitioners (SAIBPP), South African Paint Manufacturing Association (SAPMA), South African Property Owners Association (SAPOA), South African Women in Construction and Built Environment (SAWIC & BE), The Association of South African Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS), The Concrete Institute (TCI), The South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE), Western Cape Property Development Forum (WCPDF),with Master Builders KwaZulu-Natal as the Convenor.

ENDS

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