

Phunga Holdings eyes infrastructure and LNG opportunities in the Western Cape

MULTI-disciplinary engineering consulting group Phunga Holdings is broadening its national footprint with the opening of an office in Century City, Cape Town to serve the public and private sector with a comprehensive range of engineering consulting and construction engineering services, with a focus on the fledgling

LNG to Power industry. Phunga Holdings is a 100% black owned and operated enterprise established in 2012 and managed by a young dynamic leadership team from its headquarters in Irene, Centurion.

Through strategic partnerships with international expert engineering firms principally from the USA, Europe,

Russia and the Philippines it brings state of the art technology to South Africa and is the local experts for the provision of consulting services on LNG and nuclear projects.

Heading up the new Western Cape operation is Phunga Holdings Business Development Executive Nico Bezuidenhout. Bezuiden-

hout is a certified IBM hardware Engineer with qualifications in electro-mechanical engineering and telecommunication obtained from the Tshwane University of Technology. He is an energy expert and member of the Altresco Institute for Water & Power with its headquarters in Denver Colorado.

Phunga Holding's main subsidiaries are Phunga Construction Engineers - a EME (Exempted Micro Enterprise), level 1 BEE company.

Phunga Consulting Engineers, which is a QSE (Qualifying Small Enterprise), having ISO 9001:2008 certification.

"Our focus up to now has been on the traditional engineering sectors but we have developed insight and expertise in the hydrocarbons oil and gas sectors and the LNG to Power sector" said Bezuidenhout.

"South Africa is at energy crossroads – the gov-



Sindiswa Ndungane and Nico Bezuidenhout at the new Phunga office in Century City.

ernment has mandated that 50% of our electricity production must be produced by alternatives to coal by 2050 and there is a demand for sustainable clean energy which cannot be supplied by renewable energy like wind and solar alone" explained Bezuidenhout. "The answer lies in micro grids which includes renewable energy sources together with a LNG to Power plant. The Gas to Power plant can be switched on and off to Balance the Plant load. The world has an abun-

dance of cheap Liquefied Natural Gas and South Africa should utilize these until we are in a position to explore and economically produce the indigenous gas resources in our own back yard.

"It will still take years to produce indigenous gas in South Africa, so the answer to South Africa's energy crises lies in the import of LNG and converting it to power and clean fuels" he says.

Phunga Holdings is positioning itself to exploit the delivery of LNG by sea and developing

storage and regasification facilities on-shore. Through our partnerships with AG&P (Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Company) from the Philippines and Altresco from the United States, it can provide the entire LNG supply chain and has the technology and manufacturing capability to built modular LNG to Power plants of any size within short delivery times.

"The agreement with AG&P enables us to execute all types of LNG and Hydrocarbons Oil/Gas projects: it further offers us Membrane Technology, which gives Phunga Holdings a massive advantage over any competitors chasing the same LNG small, mid and large scale projects. Any project that involves a FSU, FRU, FSRU, LNGC or inland storage depot, will require membrane technology, to ensure applicability to the evolving LNG technology trends" commented Bezuidenhout.

LNG to the Saldanha Bay will be by sea and it is envisaged to construct an on-shore storage and regasification facility. Natural Gas will be piped to the Ankerlig power station which is less than 100km away. A pipeline to the City of Cape Town is envisaged to enable the City to execute their Green Cape strategy.

Skills available in oil and gas sector, particularly related to LNG, is so far lacking in South Africa. "We have formed strategic partnerships with several international LNG specialists to bring that design and technical expertise – including artisan skills training – to South Africa. We aim to be in the forefront of the swing to LNG and the promotion and adoption of micro-grids" said Bezuidenhout.

"Our aim is to become the preferred engineering consulting firm to provide advisory services to the private sector and to government for executing bundled Gas to Power projects.

"With our eye on oil & gas, the Western Cape is the obvious place to commence this exciting development," he concluded.

Rand-Air docks at Saldanha Bay

LEADING compressor and generator hire company; Rand-Air recently opened a branch in Saldanha Bay as part of its strategy of making its products and services available throughout the country. The company has been in business for 44 years and has a strong presence across South Africa.

The move recognises

the opportunities presented by the steel industry and the related contractors around the sector such as marine contractors and surface finishers such as sandblasters.

"We service a niche market and we want to make our equipment more readily available where there is a need," explains Lou-

rens Erasmus, General Manager at Rand-Air.

Located in the expanding Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone (SBIDZ) Rand Air is ideally placed to service industries that associate with the promise of making the SBIDZ an internationally recognised and respected hub of marine engineering.



Phunga Consulting Engineers (PCE) is a subsidiary of Phunga Holdings and an emerging consulting engineering company with 100% ownership and management by HDI. The company is headquartered in Pretoria, Centurion and also has branch offices in Eastern Cape (East London) and Western Cape (Cape Town).

Phunga Consulting Engineers is a multidisciplinary company with specialist focus in Consulting Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, Civil and Structural Engineering); Architecture; Quantity Surveying; Immovable Asset Management and Programme/Project Management.

PCE is accredited and recognised by the professional industry associations and is in possession of the following certifications: Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA), ISO 9001:2008 Certification, NOSA Four (4) Certification, South African Facilities Management Association (SAFMA), South African Black Technical and Allied Careers Organisation (SABTACO) and Green Building Council South Africa (GBCSA).

The company prides itself with experienced professionals whom together have over 100 years of experience in infrastructure delivery projects. Our team is a true reflection of a transformed South African society with 98% HDI participation and involvement in the day to day running of the business and 98% HDI employees.

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