Of the many discoveries and lessons learned over the last eleven years, the most valuable has been the fact that no single person would be able to deliver what the community had been yearning for. While South Africa celebrated the excitement of the 2010 Soccer World Cup, we too celebrated the birth of our business and have since diligently pursued our vision and plan. Some individuals called us crazy for undertaking such a massive task, but even more joined us on this challenge.

By 2013 we had approximately 30 industry experts working on the contents of the first book and after three years of intense research, checking, double checking and re-checking again, Building Construction Standards for South Africa is available to everyone. It is inevitable for publications such as Building Construction Standards for South Africa to be revised and updated on a regular basis, other equally significant publications are being researched and developed for the AEC community.
Easily the most comprehensive and authoritative technical reference of its kind on the market today, Building Construction Standards for South Africa will see you through every stage of your project. The authors and contributors have distilled lifetimes of experience and expertise into a readily accessible resource for AEC industry professionals, students, developers and owners. Authors and contributors include, but are not limited to:

Institutes
ITC (Institute for Timber Construction South Africa)
SAISC (Southern African Institute of Steel Construction)

Associations
AAAMSA (Association of Architectural Aluminium Manufacturers South Africa)
SASFA (Southern African Light Steel Frame Building Association)
SAGGA (South African Glass and Glazing Association)
TIASA (Thermal Insulation Association of South Africa)

Companies
Corobrik (Pty) Ltd
PG Glass
Cemcrete

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Our flagship publication, complete with more than 3,000 illustrations, has been expertly written and edited to address the latest advances in materials, building technology, and municipal requirements. Special features of this 590-page publication include integrated coverage of environmentally friendly materials, sustainable building construction strategies, as well as the inclusion of a wealth of contemporary information throughout.

With its clear presentation of the essential concepts underlying building construction, Building Construction Standards for South Africa, equips professionals and students in all areas of architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) with valuable guidelines for a practical approach to any new materials or techniques they may encounter in building planning, design, and construction.

“Building Construction Standards for South Africa” is for everyone who is involved in the AEC industry, even building owners. Our media partners, such as Specilink, SACAP, SAIA and IID, share our passion for this project and are also driven to delight their audience with the announcement of this publication.
Comprehensive and up-to-date, Building Construction Standards for South Africa offers an outstanding introduction to the principles of building construction. This essential reference guide covers practically every principle, material, and method used to design and construct most buildings. Students and professionals will rely on the visual presentation to understand the complex processes of building construction, and it will become a standard go-to reference for those in the industry.

Over 60 illustration-packed sections make up the 30 chapters of this new work. Topics and themes include:

Chapter 1 > THE RELATIONSHIP
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  02 The Client and the design process

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  03 The role of SACAP and voluntary associations
  04 The role of SACLAP and voluntary associations
  05 Legislation applicable to the South African built environment
  06 Introduction to Architectural office practice
  07 Introduction to Landscape architectural office practice
  08 The Green Building Council of South Africa

Chapter 3 > DRAWING CONVENTION GUIDELINES
  09 Drawing conventions

Chapter 4 > DESIGN ART AND SPATIAL DATA
  10 Anthropometrics
  11 Ergonomics
  12 Spatial comfort

Chapter 5 > UNIVERSAL ACCESS
  13 Universal access

Chapter 6 > CLIMATE
  14 Climatic zones, SANS 204 and Passive design strategies in SA
  15 Thermal mass principles
  16 Natural ventilation principles
  17 Acoustics

Chapter 7 > SITE WORK: LANDFORMS
  18 Topography

Chapter 8 > SITE WORK: SOILS
  19 Soil classification

Chapter 9 > SITE WORK: SITE AND BUILDING ECOLOGY
  20 Fundamentals of site analysis

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  21 Stormwater drainage
  22 Greywater and rainwater harvesting

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  23 Site preparations

Chapter 12 > SUB-STRUCTURE: FOUNDATIONS
  24 Basic foundation design

Chapter 13 > SUPER-STRUCTURE: MASONRY CONSTRUCTION
  25 Masonry construction

Chapter 14 > SUPER-STRUCTURE: DOORS AND WINDOWS
  26 Doors and windows

Chapter 15 > SUPER-STRUCTURE: GLASS
  27 Glass, glazing and polycarbonate sheeting

Chapter 16 > SUPER-STRUCTURE: INTERNAL CONSTRUCTION
  28 Drywall partitioning
  29 Ceilings

Chapter 17 > SUPER-STRUCTURE: STAIRS AND BALUSTRADES
  30 Steel, timber and concrete stairs

Chapter 18 > SUPER-STRUCTURE: ROOFS
  31 Roofs and planted roofs

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  32 Spans and ratios

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  33 Hot and cold water systems
  34 Sanitary fixtures
  35 Drainage
  36 Electrical wiring systems
  37 Lighting

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  38 Furniture dimensions
  39 Floor finishes
  40 Plaster
  41 Paints
  42 Fasteners

Chapter 22 > CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION
  43 Fundamentals in concrete construction
  44 Concrete waterproofing

Chapter 23 > TIMBER CONSTRUCTION
  45 Fundamentals in timber construction

Chapter 24 > STEEL CONSTRUCTION
  46 Introduction to steel construction
  47 Light steel frame building
  48 Cargo containers

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  49 Earth construction and cement stabilization

Chapter 26 > LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT
  50 Site inventory and analysis
  51 Concept development

Chapter 27 > LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION
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  53 Irrigation
  54 Boardwalks and decks
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  56 Street furniture

Chapter 28 > VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
  57 Paving and hard landscape surfaces
  58 Vehicle dimensions and plant equipment

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Chapter 30 > METRIC SYSTÈM
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