

Press release from Jan de Beer, cell 082 456 3677:

PROJECTS GALORE FOR GAUTENG PILING AS BUILDING SECTOR REVIVES

MBA North member, Gauteng Piling, has bounced back from the lows of the lockdown to secure several major contracts to provide foundations for a building industry finally relieved of growth restrictions.

The Johannesburg company, led by industry veteran, Nico Maas, was contracted to provide piling for four major new contracts:

- Forest Mansions apartment block in Bramley;
- Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) campus in eMalahleni;
- Capital Hotel in Mbombela; and
- Offices for the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) in Mahikeng.

For the Forest Mansions apartment at 96 Forest Road in Bramley, being developed by HB Realty, Gauteng Piling is providing 188 auger piles to provide the foundations for the four-storey building with 186 apartments. Keoatlaletse Tema, contract manager for Gauteng Piling, says the piles are up to 15m deep with diameters ranging from 250 to 1000mm. Steel reinforcement cages from 180 to 850mm in diameter are being inserted into the piles being provided on the 6 000m² site.

“The main challenge on this project is to ensure that installed water and gas pipes on the site, where a previous structure has been demolished, are not damaged during piling drilling,” Tema stated.

The foundations for the TUT campus’ new five-storey student hostel - being built by Zidlaphi Kgomo Associates on a site of 14 000m² - require 117 auger piles, with diameters of 600 and 650mm, says Loveness Mashala, Gauteng Piling’s contract manager for this project.

She is also managing the piling operations for the new Capital Hotel and Apartments in Mbombela, the latest addition to the Capital Group’s expanding network of corporate accommodation venues. “The foundations for this project, on an area of over 132 000m², calls for 131 auger piles to secure two new buildings: a two-storey structure and five-storey building requiring piles with diameters of 300mm to 1 150mm, respectively. The average depth of the piles is about 6m,” Mashala explained.

Gauteng Piling is also providing 78 auger piles for the new five-storey SASSA offices after being appointed by construction turnkey specialists, DMR Group. Here, on a 1 260m² site next to the Mega City Mall in Mahikeng, the capital of the North-west Province, the depth of the piles vary considerably with diameters ranging from 600 to 750mm. “The major challenge for this project is the ground conditions. We have encountered hard rock which is posing some drilling challenges,” Mashala added.

Among the many current or recent contracts recently secured by Gauteng Piling are specialised piling projects calling for pipe piling for a new lift at Clearwater Mall in Roodepoort, and the SAPS premises in Welkom; and friction (floating) piles for a new residential complex at Greenstone. Standard auger piling contracts include:

- The new luxury Tree Tops apartment block being developed by Tricolt in Houghton;
- A new entrance and expansion of Cresta Shopping Centre in Randburg;

- A new facility for diving rescue training for the University of Johannesburg's Medical Rescue students in Auckland Park;
- Storage tanks of Coca-Cola Beverages Africa in Nigel; and
- Expansion of the Africa Floorcare warehouse in Alberton.

For more information, contact Nico Maas on email nicomaas123@gmail.com or cell 082 651 8182.

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Caption: 'site photo' and 'site close-up'

Gauteng Piling's order book is showing huge signs of improvement as demand for the company's services increase post-lockdown. Pictured: work in progress providing 188 piles for the foundations of the new Forest Mansions apartment block in Bramley.

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