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Addressing the skills shortage

With the critical shortage of engineering skills in South Africa, GIBB, a multi-disciplinary consulting engineering company, are making a difference through investing time and resources in future talent development.



GIBB is doing their part and showing they care by helping to educate and develop engineering students through site visits and exposure to actual projects. This initiative is being championed by GIBB senior associate, Wouter du Toit, on behalf of the company. Du Toit has a direct understanding of the need for students to be exposed to real life situations and site inspections, in order to fast track their learning and understanding of the industry

Du Toit has launched an initiative that sees GIBB hosting students from the Nelson Mandela Municipal University (NMMU) in the Eastern Cape on a regular basis, exposing them to a variety of projects.

"Because of GIBB's diverse portfolio of clients and projects spanning 11 sectors, we are able to arrange site visits ranging from building construction projects to dams and roads," says Du Toit.

The first of these student visits recently took place through the GIBB Port Elizabeth Office. Thirty NMMU students were invited to attend the rock blasting taking place at The Boardwalk Casino's new multi-storey parkade, conference and 5-star hotel construction site. The location visit included a walk around the proposed new site area, accompanied by Brink Botha, senior lecturer and acting head of the Department of Construction Management.

"We find that giving the students the opportunity to experience a project on-site gives them the opportunity to witness firsthand what they are being taught in the class room", added Du Toit.

