

## GIBB's bright young stars shine on

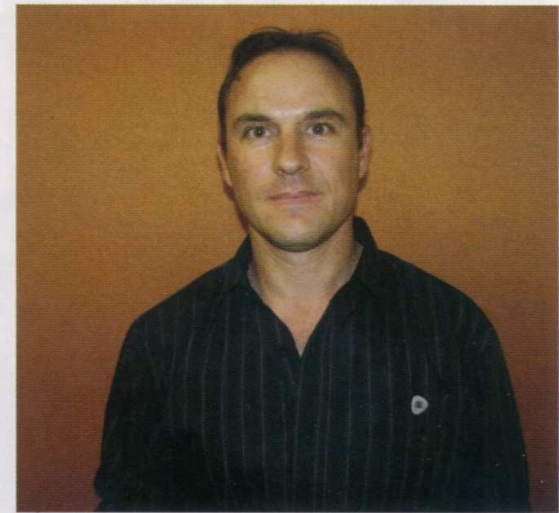
**A**T ONLY 34 YEARS of age, Colin Logan of GIBB leads the mammoth Braamhoek Consultants Joint Venture (BCJV). Logan is project manager for the design team that is responsible for the development of a hydropower pumped storage scheme (Ingula pumped storage scheme). The BCJV is a joint venture between GIBB, Knight Piésold and Stewart Scott.

The leadership required and responsibility needed for a project this size is by no means diminished by Logan's youth. He has risen to the challenge of not only getting the buy-in from the JV stakeholders, but also that of the client, Eskom, which resulted in him being nominated for the CESA Young Engineer of the Year Award last year. Logan manages more than a 100 GIBB employees on site, plus 30 people in GIBB's design office in Johannesburg, as well as numerous designers

internationally who are specifically contracted to the BCJV. The project employs close to 4 000 people.

Although most of Logan's time is committed to the Ingula project, he is also involved in the development of GIBB's heavy engineering group strategy. The group focuses on dam engineering, hydropower, geotechnical engineering and tunnelling and water resources, and is targeting both local and international markets. Logan is a registered professional engineer who received a BSc engineering (civil) degree from UCT. He also has a diploma in civil engineering.

His strong commitment to environmental sensitivity in all of the projects that he has been involved in for GIBB is commendable, as is his being passionate about business ethics. As far back as 2004, he was delivering speeches to schools about the need for



**ABOVE** Colin Logan of GIBB

business to find their moral compass again – something that has become hugely relevant and topical right now. Logan hopes to one day be successful enough to influence the way business is conducted in general. **35**



HOUSING

# Housing project wins award

With their involvement in a joint venture, low-cost housing development project, GIBB, along with M5 Developments Cape, recently won the Housing Project of the Year Award from the Southern Africa Housing Foundation.

**THE PROJECT, NOMINATED** by the Overstrand Municipality, comprised a low-cost, 88-house development in the small town of Overstrand, just outside Hermanus and it came out tops in the category for low-cost housing under R80 000 per unit. The aim of the award is to identify, encourage, and promote housing design, development, and management, and submissions were evaluated in terms of the innovative use and management of human resources, financing options and technologies, as well as the contribution to community management and the sustainability of the development.

GIBB was appointed by the Overstrand Municipality as the project managers as well as consulting, civil and electrical engineers on the project. Sean Molloy, project manager at GIBB, comments on the planning and design of the house: "The design of the house incorpo-

## The environment and quality of life of the community was sustainably uplifted

rates the economic use of cement blocks, with T-blocks and corner blocks being specially manufactured to suit a modular design. This resulted in very little wastage and therefore extra spend for other pertinent products, such as concrete-frame windows with aluminium closures, which are of a higher quality than previously used steel products. Additionally, a specially designed window-sill block and a Meant back door with a recessed glass panel were used to provide more natural sunlight inside the house."

The completed product was a 40 m<sup>2</sup> houses, built with a practical layout on the ground with challenging soil conditions, aluminium windows, a bathroom with high-quality fittings and maximum use of natural light.

Although the project originally began on 4 May 2009, with the contracted completion date being 31 August 2009 owing to red tape and the granting of 14 rain-day delays, the completion date was rescheduled for 30 September 2009. However, thanks to the combined expertise of M5 and GIBB, the project was ultimately completed a full five weeks before schedule, with all 88 houses being handed over to the mayor and provincial government Mass on 26 August 2009. Significantly, especially on a project of this scale and with such a short construction span, all NHBC and building control requirements were met and there was not a single non-compliance issue on the whole project.

"What was unique about this project – and very rewarding to GIBB, which always strives for maximum community involvement – was that the intended beneficiaries of the project had a direct involvement via an organisational structure coordinated by the municipality.

This meant that 60% of the labour and subcontractors used in the construction phase were from within the local community, with only 40% outsourced," says Molloy. "The environment and quality of life of the community was sustainably uplifted and at the end of the project, all parties were exceedingly happy with the high-quality of the house and the ongoing benefits to the community. GIBB is incredibly proud to have brought happiness to 88 families in such an inclusive, collaborative, and sustainable way."

The houses were integrated into existing suburbs, which also have bank-financed houses, enabling the new residents to integrate and harmoniously coexist with other families and avail themselves of existing facilities such as parks, schools, crèches, libraries and sport facilities. Molloy concludes: "This is a prime example of a successful integrated human settlement that is fully aligned to our ethos, namely that 'GIBB changes lives'." 35

## BELOW The floor plan

