

# CONSTRUCTION WORLD  
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## Engineers attend Hydro 2010 Conference in Portugal

As a multi-disciplinary consulting engineering company, GIBB realises that they need to be proactive and innovative in South Africa, but also the rest of the world. Instead of following the latest industry trends, GIBB is always aiming to set new standards for those around them.

**ONE WAY OF ACHIEVING** this, is visiting other countries and expanding their global footprint. Because of the company's eagerness to constantly learn, develop and evolve – especially where their promotion of global partnerships are concerned – GIBB engineers Colin Logan and Michel de Rauville recently attended the annual Hydro 2010 Conference and Exhibition in Lisbon, Portugal.

Organised by the *International Journal on Hydropower and Dams* and taking place in Lisbon, the Hydro 2010 conference was the perfect showground for everyone from consultants and engineers to postgraduate students and researchers to come together and attend what is regarded as one of the most significant conferences in the world.

"About two years ago, GIBB identified exhibitions such as the Hydro 2010 Conference and Exhibition as an ideal platform to establish a solid marketing presence, and we started actively participating in them," says Logan. "For this year's conference,

approximately 250 exhibitors were chosen to submit abstracts, and I was one of the lucky few amongst those to get chosen to present."

Logan had the opportunity to present an abstract paper on the highly acclaimed and spoken about Ingula Pumped Storage facility, which will be one of the largest pumped storage schemes in the world (in the top 20) and is currently the largest tunnelling project under construction in South Africa. This was also a wonderful opportunity for Logan and De Rauville, as representatives and ambassadors for GIBB, to network and rub shoulders with some of the largest players in the same global industry.

"We were really pleased by the positive response and interest we got for our stand," comments De Rauville. "Our stand was among 250 exhibitors and it was the perfect place for GIBB to get exposure on fields like technology, as well as environmental and renewable energy resources."

Both Logan and De Rauville believe that the Hydro 2010 Conference and Exhibition



GIBB engineers Colin Logan (pictured) and Michel de Rauville recently attended the annual Hydro 2010 Conference and Exhibition in Lisbon, Portugal.

served a great purpose in the regard that it was very helpful and interesting to see what their industry peers were doing.

"At the conference, there were quite a few visitors from Africa, so it was vital for GIBB to have a very strong presence and exhibit to the main players in and around Africa and display our combined knowledge on Hydro and Dams," adds Logan. "One of the other South African delegates at the exhibition were the Department of Water Affairs, so we felt very confident about our presence."

