

Inyatsi Construction well positioned for Swaziland infrastructure projects

Existing and promised project pipelines in one of Africa's developing countries have seen a well-established civil and roads construction company finding support from a trusted original equipment manufacturer.

Inyatsi Construction Group Holdings (Pty) Ltd is the largest local construction company in Swaziland. Founded in 1982, the company has set its project bar high and wide. Apart from working countrywide in Swaziland the group also operates freely in South Africa, Zambia, Botswana, Namibia and Mozambique where it has made and retained its reputation of providing quality services in the construction and upgrading of roads, multi-storey buildings, water purification works, shopping malls, airports, bridges, dams and township development.

Vitor Oliveira is the Plant Director at Inyatsi Construction Group Holdings (Pty) Ltd and he is tasked with seeing that the group has the correct complement of yellow machines to bring projects in on time and on budget. "Even before I had joined the company, Inyatsi Construction had realised what the benefits of operating Articulated Dump Trucks (ADTs) from Bell Equipment would be when, they bought four Bell B18A ADTs in 1991," Vitor says. "These would be the first Bell ADTs in Swaziland and they were soon followed by Bell 2406 Articulated Haulers that were used to haul 18 000 litre water tankers and grid rollers."

"I have often been asked why we bought and keep buying ADTs designed, manufactured and sold by Bell Equipment, and the answer is simple. On so many of our projects we are tasked with bulk earthworks and considering their road legality, Bell B18 and B20 sized ADTs can't be beaten for their rugged reliability and longevity, something we've proved over and over again," he says.

"We still have one Bell B20B ADT that was part of a fleet of four bought for projects in Swaziland in 1996 and we're still using it despite the 30 000 hours that it has clocked," he adds. "The only time we've bought larger trucks is when we bought two Bell B25D ADTs for a Zambian quarry operation and these two reliable workhorses are now running in a quarry in Swaziland."

Vitor is of the opinion that Bell Equipment has kept track with modern day technological advances and this is clearly evident in the new-generation Bell B18E ADT. His company recently bought four of these machines specifically for their road-legal status in Swaziland after seeing them on display at the Bell

Equipment stand at Bauma. "No other manufacturer in the ADT market has such an advanced ADT in the 20-tonne range as Bell Equipment and this is the ideal sized ADT for us."

Inyatsi Construction's four Bell B18E ADTs were bought for a highway project linking the new King Mswati III International Airport with the city of Manzini. They were also used on a desilting project on the Lusushwana or Little Usutu River.

The company's Bell ADT fleet now numbers 10 ADTs and consists of B20B, B20D, B25D and B18E models. Inyatsi Construction also owns a large fleet of Bomag compaction equipment comprising BW212 Smooth and Padfoot Rollers, a Pneumatic Tyred Roller, Bomag Tampers and Walk-behinds as well as a new Bomag MPH125 Soil Stabiliser / Asphalt Recycler. The latter is the first of its kind in Swaziland and has proved invaluable on the link road between the new airport and the city of Manzini.

"We've enjoyed really good results from the Bomag MPH125 as it processes the base layers of the new road so much better and faster than when using a grader," Vitor says.

Vitor recalls encouraging Bell Equipment to establish a fully-fledged Customer Service Centre in Swaziland and the company is committed to supporting it as well. "We do have access to Bell Equipment in South Africa but we specifically choose not to buy our spares and components there, instead supporting the Swaziland Customer Service Centre for the benefits that are created for the local economy."

This should come as no surprise to those who are familiar with the Inyatsi Group, a company that really lives out its promise to give back and uplift. "We believe in training and, in doing so, leaving a legacy of skills transfer," he says. "As an example I can mention our workshop staff where every qualified mechanic has an apprentice working with him and learning as he goes



Vitor Oliveira (left), Plant Director of Inyatsi Construction Group Holdings, and Charlie Boucher, of Bell Swaziland, in front of a colour mural at the Inyatsi head office in Manzini, Swaziland.

along. This is our way of giving back to this country that has supported us over all the years of our existence."

According to Vitor, many tradesmen leave the company once qualified only to return at a later stage with more experience.

Vitor echoes the views of his fellow directors when mentioning that exciting times lie ahead in terms of mega-projects. "It is said that a major regional high-speed rail project, which will link Mozambique, Swaziland, South Africa and Botswana, is planned for the not-too-distant future and when that happens, along with other infrastructural projects, the Inyatsi Construction Group plans to be there. With this in mind, we can already tell you that we'll have to add to our fleet of yellow machines and we're bound to be talking to Bell Equipment about that," he smiles.



The Bomag MPH125 Soil Stabiliser / Asphalt Recycler in action on the new highway linking the King Mswati III International Airport with Manzini.