



MEDIA RELEASE FROM GIURICICH BROS CONSTRUCTION

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Giuricich Bros build expertise in retail development and celebrate new WWF green building landmark

Giuricich Bros Construction – a leading South African independent and family owned construction firm – has increased its presence in the retail development sector by securing the lucrative building contracts for the new 45,000m² Springs Mall at Blue Crane Eco Park and the 15,000m² expansion of the well-established Vaal Mall.

While construction on these major Gauteng mall projects are well underway, Giuricich Bros are celebrating their work done on the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) South Africa's ground-breaking new Johannesburg green office building. The building in Braamfontein in the Johannesburg CBD, which was completed by Giuricich Bros earlier this year, was recently awarded a 6 Star Green Star SA Office Design rating by the Green Building Council of SA (GBCSA).

"Giuricich Bros being the main building contractors on these landmark developments are big feathers in our cap. We are immensely proud to be involved in these developments, which cap off 2015 as a milestone year for the group," says Gerard Giuricich, a Director at Giuricich Bros Construction.

"Together, Springs Mall and Vaal Mall represent projects of over R1.4 billion. While we have undertaken retail developments in the past, these new mall projects are our largest retail developments to date as the main contractors. Springs Mall is an all-new regional shopping centre and a particularly significant project for Giuricich Bros and the family, as we are also shareholders in the development," he adds.

Giuricich says the group has played a key role in helping to unlock the Springs Mall development, which was first punted by the Springs-based D'Arrigo family several years back. Construction on the mall finally broke ground earlier this year. Besides the Giuricich and D'Arrigo families, the other shareholders in the development include leading shopping centre developers and leasing specialists, Flanagan & Gerard Property Development & Investment; and, noted JSE listed retail focused REIT, Vukile Property Fund.

"It is great to be associated with experts in the retail development and investment sector through the Springs Mall project. As a billion rand retail development with over 150 stores, the mall is a major investment in Springs and is going to be a world-class regional shopping destination in the area when it opens in March 2017," says Gerard.

"Our association with Flanagan & Gerard on the Springs Mall development saw Giuricich Bros Construction tendering for the Vaal Mall project. We secured the construction contract for the expansion of Vaal Mall, which is jointly owned by Flanagan & Gerard and Sycom Property Fund/Growthpoint Properties. This 15,000m² expansion will take the mall to 65,000m² in size and entrench it as a dominant regional shopping centre in the Vaal Triangle," he adds.



Giuricich believes the company's involvement as the main contractor in construction of both the Springs Mall and Vaal Mall projects puts it in good stead for the future, by increasing its expertise in larger scale retail developments. Giuricich Bros has a construction industry pedigree going back seven decades and has been involved with several landmark construction projects across South Africa.

These include, amongst others, the redevelopment of the iconic Oyster Box Hotel in Umhlanga Rocks, Durban; building McDonalds restaurants countrywide; the 20 West Street Capital Hotel building in Sandton; the original BMW head-office in Midrand; recent motor dealerships for Mercedes Benz, KIA and Hyundai; switch-centres country-wide for MTN; and, as one of the contractors in the original development of well-known shopping centres such as Fourways Mall, Southgate and Rosebank Mall.

The new WWF offices, in Johannesburg, is one of the group's latest office developments. Nicky Giuricich, a fellow Director at Giuricich Bros Construction, led this WWF project. He comments: "This was both a challenging and hugely rewarding project, due to the ambitious green building goals of the development. We tendered for and won the contract for this prestigious construction job in 2012 from the WWF. It was not a big contract in terms of value, however, was of significance because WWF is a high-profile client and the cutting-edge nature of its new green office building."

He adds: "Besides its green building design features such bigger windows for more natural light, rain water harvesting and a sewage treatment plant on site, what made this project unique from a construction side is that the old building on the site could not be demolished, but rather deconstructed. We had to keep the original façade of the old building and re-use all the old bricks and even the wood in construction of the new building. It was an incredible project to be involved with, and the reuse of materials from the original building was one of the main contributing factors to its green star rating."

The three-storey WWF building getting a 6 Star Green Star SA Office Design certification from the GBCSA signifies world leadership in green building and is the highest green rating that a building can receive. It was designed by architect Simon Cretney, with the green building consultants on the project being Richard Duckitt from Bornman and Associates.

Giuricich Bros Construction was established in 1940 in Johannesburg by the late Nicolò and Cesare Giuricich, and has become one of SA's largest privately owned and managed construction companies. Celebrating 75 years in business, Giuricich Bros Construction today is based in Gauteng and Cape Town, and undertakes contracts countrywide.

In line with South Africa's empowerment policies, Giuricich Bros Construction has been at the forefront of empowerment in the construction industry, and recently maintained its Level Three BEE rating.

Concludes Gerard Giuricich: "We have established a reputation in the industry for the quality of our work, our owner-managed hands-on way of doing business, and delivering projects within budget and on time. As an independent, family-owned construction company that is committed to SA, Giuricich Bros Construction are committed to our BEE credentials and are looking forward to continued growth."

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