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## HC Heat Exchangers, Pamodzi Win Big At Fifth Seifsa Awards For Excellence

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**Johannesburg, 23 May 2019** – HC Heat Exchangers and Pamodzi Unique Engineering were amongst the big winners announced at the glamorous SEIFSA Awards for Excellence ceremony held at the Sunnyside Park Hotel in Parktown, Johannesburg last night.

The ceremony attended by metals and engineering sector movers and shakers saw HC Heat Exchangers walking away with the Most Innovative Company of the Year Award and Pamodzi Unique Engineering voted the Most Transformed Company of the Year Award.

Other winners were Babcock International (Environmental Stewardship Award), Howden (Health and Safety Award), Vesco Plastics (Customer Service of the Year Award), SNC Lavalin (Artisan Development of the Year Award) and Schneider Electric (Best Customer Service of the Year Award).

Former Cape Engineers and Founders Association Executive Director Colin Boyes was honoured with the CEO's Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Industry, Koketso Lekganyane got the CEO's Award for Student of the Year for excelling at the SEIFSA Training Centre in 2018, KSB Pumps and Valves was named Company of the Year for its outstanding support for SEIFSA and the Constructional Engineers Association got the nod for being the Association of the Year.

The judges were impressed by the work done by HC Heat Exchangers's improvement of its offering by using its expertise to afford clients an opportunity to replace existing equipment that had an insufficient life cycle.



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“Through designing and supplying this solution, the company moved away from being one of the many suppliers offering a commercial product to becoming a partner supplier and offering a complete solution to suit customers’ needs,” the judges stated.

SEIFSA CEO Kaizer Nyatsumba said an exciting development in this category is the donation by the SA Innovation Summit of three tickets for the upcoming Innovation Summit scheduled for 11-13 September 2019 in Cape Town. The top three entries in this category will be part of the conversation with a global network of innovators, discover new technologies and connect with fellow global leaders.

Pamodzi Unique Engineering was praised for having embraced transformation fully by not only focusing on just the ownership aspect of the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment codes, but also making significant progress in the employment equity as well as the enterprise and supplier development elements. This saw Pamodzi moving from level 6 on the scorecard in 2014 to level 2 in 2017. The judges were also impressed by the work the company has done to entrench its company culture, which is centred around the theme of “Togetherness”.

Babcock International’s victory followed the company’s initiative to protect, control and conserve water usage. This included the company’s monthly monitoring of its own water usage, its use of water meters through its different sites as well as its recycling and re-use of its own water. These initiatives, among others, resulted in a saving of approximately 5000 litres of water.

To win the Health and Safety Award, Howden demonstrated a multifaceted approach to risk management by implementing several programmes to influence positively the safety culture within the organization. Cognisance was



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taken of the influence of technology as a communication tool and customised software was used effectively to raise health and safety awareness.

In the artisan development category, SNC Lavalin stood out from its competitors as exceptional for a number of reasons, including the fact that the company not only committed to building its own training centre, but also committed to training key artisan trade skills that will both benefit itself and address South Africa's scarce and critical skills needs such as the electrical, boilermaker and welding trades.

Vesco Plastics's victory in the Customer Service of the Year category followed the company's demonstration of improved customer service excellence and its resourcefulness based on specific customer requirements, while Schneider Electric's "Isiboniso: creating access to education and energy programme" – situated at the semi-rural Isiboniso Primary School in Orange Farm – which addressed numerous challenges faced by the school won the company the Best Corporate Social Responsibility Award.

Schneider Electric donated to the school two large, fully-furnished classroom containers with solar lighting products, joined by a roof structure that provides protection from extreme weather conditions. It also donated a solar street to assist with visibility and security on the school grounds at night and to provide a well-lit area for children to play.

SEIFSA CEO Kaizer Nyatumba commended all the companies that had entered for the awards and congratulated the 2018 winners in the respective categories. He also thanked Rand Mutual Assurance for its support as a sponsor in one of the categories.



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“SEIFSA maintains that it is critically important for those companies which excel at what they do to get the acknowledgement and recognition they deserve from their industry peers,” Mr Nyatsumba said.

He encouraged all companies operating in the metals and engineering sector – and not only those which are members of employer associations affiliated to SEIFSA – to continue to work hard to excel.

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SEIFSA is a National Federation representing 23 independent employer Associations in the metals and engineering industries, with a combined membership of 1600 companies employing around 200 000 employees. The Federation was formed in 1943 and its member companies range from giant steel-making corporations to micro-enterprises employing fewer than 50 people.