LAUBSCHER, JACQUES

Jacques Laubscher is a senior associate at Gibb and head of the Northern Water division. He is responsible for business development for the Water division in the integrated infrastructure sector. He holds a B.Eng. Hons from the University of Stellenbosch and a Certificate in Advanced Procurement and Supply Chain Management from Unisa. He is a member of SAICE, IMESA and WISA. He has 35 years’ experience in both the private and public sectors, with a special interest in supply chain management. In recent years, he has provided consulting services and training in this field to a number of local authorities.

BOTES, FRANCOIS

Dr Francois Botes has 24 years’ professional experience in providing specialist financial and economic advice in the transport sector. He has undertaken assignments for private, government and international agency clients in 10 countries. Francois is a specialist in leveraging engineering, planning, operational, environmental and other technical inputs for financial and economic modelling.

Before joining Hatch Goba early in 2014, Francois managed a team of traffic engineers, transport planners, placemaking professionals, travel demand modellers and economists as regional team executive at Parsons Brinckerhoff Australia. During this time he positioned the Melbourne Transport Planning Team as a truly integrated transport advisory group covering traffic engineering, economics and planning in passenger and freight markets for the full spectrum of land-based transport modes (road, rail, pipeline, shipping and non-motorised transport).

As principal evaluation officer (infrastructure specialist) at the African Development Bank’s (AfDB) Operations Evaluations department, Francois was responsible for managing independent evaluations of AfDB’s infrastructure operations. During this time he also represented the AfDB at the Evaluation Cooperation Group (including independent evaluation departments of the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development), the Network of Networks for Impact Evaluation, and the Leading Edge Group, which, under the auspices of the Centre for Global Development, was responsible for establishing the International Institute on Impact Evaluation.

Francois was also responsible for preparing the department’s annual three-year work programme and budget, which included an outcome-based performance monitoring mechanism that he developed. Prior to working with the AfDB, Francois was an executive associate: transport economist at Jeffares & Green Consulting Engineers, and senior transport economist at the Metropolitan Transport Planning branch of the City of Cape Town. Here, he undertook assignments on policy, pricing and project feasibility, either as a project manager or multidisciplinary team leader.

MCDONALD, ANDREW

Andrew has recently joined Arup as a senior engineer in the water infrastructure team. Prior to this, he was in the asset management team at Thames Water Utilities in the UK. Andrew has a MSc Hydrology from Imperial College, and a chartered water and environmental manager with 11 years of experience in the UK water sector. He has extensive experience in utility business operations and infrastructure asset management. His broad range of cross-functional skills, qualifications and experiences enable him to develop sustainable and effective solutions to a client’s water and asset challenges.

He has a holistic understanding of all aspects of the water cycle, including aquatic systems and catchment management, water and wastewater treatment, reticulation assets and processes, capital investment planning, strategy and policy development, risk assessment, auditing, and capital programme management. Furthermore, he has managed technical teams and projects and has a proven ability to drive and manage performance, identify improvements and implement change.

COLEMAN, GARETH

Gareth Coleman is an accomplished leader and strategist in regional economic development, business development and corporate governance. His career has focused upon developing policy and strategy, and then building the administrative and organisational capacity required for the governance and delivery of these policies and strategies in both the public and private sectors, in and outside of South Africa.

Over the past 20 years, Gareth has led project teams and helped design funding programmes for the delivery of public infrastructure (water, electricity, roads and public works) and local and regional development. He has over 10 years’ hands-on experience in establishing and leading programme management units. Gareth was the project director for UWP Consulting for the ABAQULUSI Local Economic Development Initiative between 2010 and 2013. Between 2004 and 2009, he was the team leader of the EU KZN LED Support Programme – a €37 million programme funded by the European Union—which was the first of its kind in Africa, and the largest EU funding commitment in South Africa at the time.

Gareth has a Master of Town and Regional Planning, Master of Arts, and a postgraduate degree in economic principles. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and has over 10 years of experience as the CEO/executive director of successful organisations responsible for pioneering public-private sector partnerships in the built environment. Gareth joined UWP Consulting in 2009 as their commercial director with responsibilities for business development, company strategy, corporate governance, quality management and enterprise development.
STEVENS, FRANK

eThekwini Water & Sanitation/Herenknecht

After matriculating in Germiston, Gauteng, Frank obtained his BSc Civil Engineering from the University of Natal in Durban. His early post-graduation experience included 10 years with consultants Campbell, Bernstein and Irving and several years with contractors Murray and Roberts. The experience gained in these early years included a mix of structural design and site experience, which led to a five-year stint in Swaziland.

His involvement with municipal engineering spans some 28 years –two years as town engineer of Pinetown and the rest with eThekwini/Durban Metro. He held the post of deputy head: eThekwini Water and Sanitation, in charge of technical support, for the past 15 years and has recently retired from eThekwini Municipality. Stevens is the immediate past president of the Institute of Municipal Engineering of Southern Africa (IMESA), is registered with ECSA and is a Fellow Member of both SAICE and IMESA. He intends on spending the next few years assisting Herenknecht Tunneling AG as a technical representative and guiding candidate engineers towards registration on a part-time basis.

LEBITSA, MONTSO

Hatch Goba

Montso Lebitsa has more than 20 years of post-graduate experience. His experience spans from planning, conceptualisation, feasibility, design and design reviews, construction and commissioning, to asset evaluations, project management and engineering due diligence. He has worked on multinational and prestigious projects in Lesotho, South Africa, Botswana, the United Kingdom, Namibia and Zambia. Montso grew up in Lesotho and graduated in Russia. His career started as a section engineer on the Delivery Tunnel South of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. Since then, he has worked on numerous projects, from large hard-rock and soft-ground tunnels to small microtunnels. Showcase projects include the Durban Harbour tunnel, Gautrain Rapid Rail Link tunnel, Mahatma Gandhi Road sewer microtunnel and the East London sewer diversion tunnel. Montso has been with Hatch Goba for almost 10 years. He is currently regional manager at Hatch Goba responsible for the tunnelling and trenchless technology business. He also serves on the SANCOT committee.

VAN RIJN, HENDRIK

WorleyParsons

Dr Hendrik van Rijn has MEng and DBA degrees from the universities of Stellenbosch and Pretoria respectively. He has also published and presented numerous water-related papers nationally and internationally. Hendrik’s field of specialisation for the past 37 years has been the design, contract management, construction and commissioning of water and wastewater treatment plants and infrastructure in Africa, North America, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. The majority of his career was spent with major international consultants and contractors with his experience progressing from hands-on design to project management of multidisciplinary projects. Hendrik has been responsible for a range of assignments for both Government and private sector clients. These have included financial and risk analysis, D&C tendering, contract management, Alliancing and acting as an independent engineer and expert witness on largely water-related infrastructure projects worldwide. Hendrik was also involved in the leadership team of a large international company, responsible for new business development and client liaison in Australia and New Zealand, before joining WorleyParsons.

He was employed by Sydney Water as part of a contract management group on the 250 Ml/d Sydney Desalination Plant at Kurnell. Since joining WorleyParsons, he has been involved in projects in Indonesia, Singapore, Africa and Australia. Hendrik and his water team in Sydney recently finished the Water Treatment Options Study for AGL on the coal seam gas (CSG) flow testing programmes at Longreach, Queensland. Hendrik is currently engaged by AGL to provide a FEED design and strategy for the Gloucester CSG project in NSW. He is also engaged with Deloitte in an Alliance arrangement to win more water-related work in Australia. In South Africa, he is responsible for the detail design of a SWRO plant at Saldanha. He is also working on the 3 x 150 Ml/d SWRO plant concept studies for the Cape Town Council, where a pilot plant is contemplated for Cape Town at the Koeberg nuclear power plant.

SIBANDAIS, GAMELIEHLE

International Labour Organisation

Gamelihe Sibandais a civil engineer, whose professional experience spans over 23 years, working in various capacities in over 12 countries –liaising with governments, infrastructure authorities, employers’ organisations, unions, donors, United Nations agencies, universities, consultants, contractors and communities on the policy, financing, feasibility, research, design, training and implementation of infrastructure and environmental projects in both rural and urban environments. He is the chief technical adviser to the Expanded Public Works Programme infrastructure sector.

VAN DEN BERG, JOHAN

Aurecon

Johan van den Berg is based in Aurecon’s Tshwane office. He is a qualified town and regional planner, specialising in strategic and integrated planning, and has over 20 years of experience in project and account management for government clients. This experience includes the application of strategic planning principles, and modelling and development of projection-based assessments for public and private sector clients locally and across Africa.

He is an expert in managing projects that implement strategic-level development solutions, combined with spatial, technical, financial and institutional components. He works closely with national, provincial and local governments to develop, implement and manage information and strategic-planning-related solutions. He is also well acquainted with projects on a municipal level to ensure the acquisition, analysis and reporting of informational components related to integrated development and the monitoring and evaluation of service delivery. Johan obtained a BSc in Town and Regional Planning from the University of Pretoria in 1992 and is
BASSON, JOHAN

Johan Basson is a professional engineer with more than 25 years’ experience in the civil engineering field. He holds a BEng degree from Stellenbosch University and a BCom degree from Unisa. He has experience in project management, and design and construction experience in the fields of roads, transportation, stormwater, water, wastewater, town planning and municipal infrastructure and services. He is currently the urban development function manager in the Cape Town office for SMEC South Africa. Johan worked for the Oudtshoorn Municipality from 1993 till 2005. From 1988 to 1993, he worked for the Roads Department of the Cape Provincial Administration, first as engineer in the bridge design section, then in the geometric roads design section, and later as engineer at the Grahamstown construction unit. He was also the office manager of Vela VKE’s George office for a short time during 2005, before moving to Stellenbosch.

MACKINTOSH, GRANT

Grant Mackintosh is an experienced water utilisation engineer with particular interest in water services, water quality management, water treatment, capacity development, regulatory governance and cooperative government. He has strong skills in project conceptualisation, development, and design using participatory methodologies, as well as feasibility study production and monitoring and evaluation work. Grant has played a leading role in a number of water services sector initiatives including the research, development and national roll out of the electronic Water Quality Management System, eWQMS, which received both national and international recognition.

He was also involved in the development and national roll out for the Department of Water Affairs of the Municipal Strategic Self-Assessment, or MuSSA, methodology for driving water utility business health improvement. Grant is passionate about performance-improvement oriented benchmarking, and is the project team leader for the SALGA/WRC national Municipal Benchmarking Initiative for Water Services. Grant has a BSc in Civil Engineering, and an MSc Engineering in Water and Wastewater treatment, and an MBA. Grant is a member of IMESA, and a fellow of WISA.

MYBURGH, PRISKA

Priska Myburgh has been a rrAMS manager with V&V Consulting Engineers since 2011, with extensive experience and management skills. V&V Consulting Engineers was originally formed in 1984 with the prime objective of specialising in pavement management systems for surfaced as well as gravel road networks. Over the years, V&V’s services have broadened to include the design of new roads, the upgrading, maintenance and rehabilitation of existing roads, as well as the design, implementation and upgrading of municipal infrastructure. As a rrAMS manager, Priskais responsible for the implementation of the rrAMS programme governed by DoRA. She has a BComHons in Informatics from the University of Pretoria with certifications in, among others, Microsoft Server Administration, Project Management, Infrastructure Asset Management and GIS.

During 2004, he was appointed deputy head: pollution control and risk management in the eThekwini Health Unit. During 2002, he was appointed programme manager of the National Cabinet-endorsed South Durban Basin Multi-point Plan. The successful implementation of this plan by the government has achieved more than a 70% reduction in industrial pollution in the South Durban Basin. Siva is committed to a carbon-friendly future and testimony to this is the several green energy projects he is leading, such as the Northern WWTW methane gas-to-electricity project, a bankable feasibility study for an organic waste-to-energy plant using carbon-friendly anaerobic digestion technology and work in the area of nutrient recovery from wastewater.

Siva views the development of the carbon footprint DIY tool is an important step in helping organisations compute their carbon footprint and take the next step to implement carbon reduction strategies. Siva has spent many years engaging with international experts in Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands and the USA, exploring and engaging on contemporary topics in environmental management such as waste to energy, renewable energy, circular economy and strategies towards a green economy and sustainable future.

MUKWAMATABA, MASHEKE

Masheke “Mash” Mukwamataba is a highly accomplished developer, business analyst and account manager with a venerable track record of creating innovative technology solutions while simultaneously managing complex IT projects, most recently in the South African local government market.

Mash has worked with IMQS for three years during which he has excelled in understanding the challenges faced by officials within Local Authorities in the management of infrastructure assets and defining leading edge technology solutions to address these challenges. Specifically, Mash has managed to bridge the silos often found in local authorities between the various stakeholders, finance, engineering, IT and Operations. In doing so he has created integrated solutions for some of South Africa’s largest metropolitan municipalities whereby engineering information, together with financial information, is brought together in software solutions to optimise the management of assets across a client environment.

CHETTY, RAJENDRA

Siva Chetty is a principal consultant, registered professional engineer and an accredited green building professional. He is a specialist in the field of wastewater treatment and management, air quality management, waste management, waste to energy and environmental engineering. He has worked within local government in Durban for 23 years in the fields of wastewater treatment and environmental management. Siva has an MSc Environmental Management from the UK and a BSc Chemical Engineering from the University of Natal.
RICHTER, MARK
WorleyParsons

Mark Richter is an engineering geologist with 29 years’ experience in geotechnical engineering consulting and engineering geology. He has broad and extensive experience with onshore, near shore and offshore geological and geotechnical studies and investigations, both in South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa.

His experience ranges from numerous projects in South Africa to internationally funded road, rail and related infrastructure projects in Swaziland, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Botswana, the DRC, Kenya, Gabon, Sudan, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Namibia, Gambia and Tanzania. Mark’s specialty work includes geotechnical investigations and related design work for harbours and offshore construction works, airports, roads, railways, tunnels, LNG processing facilities, pipelines, tailings dams, water supply infrastructure and dams, solar, wind, mining infrastructure, gas and coal power generation plants and associated powerlines.

ISAAC, GRAHAM
WorleyParsons

Graham is a manager of engineering with WorleyParsons, and a professional engineer with experience in the management of project delivery, design, supervision and project management of multidisciplinary engineering projects. He is a technical director responsible for special projects, nationally and internationally, with the latest portfolio being design manager for the £230 million St Helena Airport project.

Other project experience includes the design and construction management of the rehabilitation of harbour infrastructure in Angola, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa, and participation in the drafting of master planning infrastructure proposals for the $630 million rehabilitation of Southern Sudan's 10 provincial capitals. He has extensive experience in the design and rehabilitation of roads and freeways, stormwater systems and town infrastructures.

His expertise covers all major facilitation of feasibility studies, planning, detailed design, specification compilation, tender documentation, evaluation and adjudication as well as contract administration. He is also experienced in the design and supervision of projects involving shopping and sport complexes, flood attenuation, waste management and the environmental rehabilitation of sites containing contaminated soils and groundwater. Graham has worked for various clients such as state departments, provincial and local authorities as well as private developers.

KRIEK, MARIEKE
GIBB

Marieke Kriek is a town planner at GIBB, where her focus is strategic planning projects specifically related to land use and transportation with an emphasis on rail. She obtained an honours degree in Town and Regional Planning at the University of the North West. She has recently been exposed to projects in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, as well as projects in South Africa, where the importance of the integration of land-use and transportation planning as a means to city improvement has led her and the people she has worked with to develop a specific model towards city improvement. The projects referred to above include the Rivers Monorail development in Port Harcourt, the Rea Vaya BRT project in Johannesburg, PRASA passenger rail corridor studies, specific tasks related to the Gautrain project, and the preparation of spatial development frameworks for the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality.

Her mission is to contribute to the development of suitable and sustainable environments that will create improved living conditions for the rapidly urbanising population of our cities.

GIBSON, STEWART
GIZ

Stewart Gibson is an independent Pretoria-based consultant working in the area of municipal management and service delivery. He is currently assisting the GIZ programmes on Water Stewardship and SADC Transboundary Water Management to implement specific projects within South Africa.

He is a registered professional engineer and a Fellow of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering. He spent 25 years with BKS (now Aecom) working in various technical areas including highways, township development, water and sanitation, and project management, as well as being highly involved in the management of the company covering areas such as finance, HR, legal and IT.

Stewart subsequently set up his own company with a focus on assisting municipalities to better provide their services – mainly in the area of water and sanitation. His particular interest is the effective involvement of the private sector in the delivery of municipal services, either through effective outsourcing, the development of partnerships or by encouraging municipalities to apply private sector principles to service delivery.

VENTER, IAN
Marley Pipe Systems

Ian Venter kicked off his career in 1990 when he started working with polymer conversion/production design. In 1997, he obtained a National Higher Diploma in Polymer Technology from Pretoria Technicon (Tshwane University of Technology). Later, he was formally Technical Product manager PVC, HDPE and Weholite structured wall HDPE pipe, all forming part of the Petzetakis Africa (Pty) LTD product range. Being an active member of the SAPPMA (Southern African Plastic Pipe Manufacturing Association) technical committee, Ian has been involved in various projects to draw up new revised standards regarding the manufacture and design, installation and end use. In 2008, he was awarded a SAPPMA MERITORIOUS AWARD. Ian joined Marley Pipe Systems in January of 2013 where he currently specialises in Petroplas/petrochemical pipe systems.
CHETTY, LEON  
eThekwini Municipality

Dr Leon Chetty, Pr. Eng. has a PhD in Electrical Engineering. Professionally, he is a Registered Engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa. Dr Chetty has over 10 years industrial experience in Eskom and University of KwaZulu Natal. Dr Chetty has published more than 30 journal and conference proceedings both locally and internationally. More recently, Dr Chetty has been working in Infrastructure Asset Management at eThekwini Municipality as Chief Engineer (Asset Life Cycle Specialist).

DE MELO, ROBINSON  
JOAT Consulting

Robison de Melo is a Brazilian Engineer that has been working with water utilities since 1986. He commenced his professional career at Schlumberger/Actaris (now Itron) as a New Products Designer for water meters. In spite of having a mechanical and electronic academic qualification (in mechatronics), he has focused exclusively in this field for the last 25 years. Mr De Melo has worked all over in Brazil with several public sector water companies in WC/WDM projects, as part of which he has worked on large NRW reduction contracts, inventoried over 8000 water meters, and has implemented water demand management projects and water efficiency, and has focused exclusively in this field for the last 25 years. Mr De Melo has worked all over in Brazil with several public sector water companies in WC/WDM projects, as part of which he has specialised in training utility staff in Non-Revenue Water (NRW) Reduction Best Practices and Equipment Handling. He moved abroad to work with large water companies around the world, improving their operational efficiency through implementation of internationally accepted best practices. Mr de Melo expanded his international career to South Africa, when he arrived in the country in 2000 for a pilot Water Demand Management project for Msunduzi Municipality. This project was the first large-scale WDM project in the country at the time, and was a two year contract that ultimately resulted in a 15% reduction in real loss volumes. Since then he has worked on large NRW reduction contracts in The Bahamas, Canada and Malaysia. Mr De Melo moved back to South Africa in 2011 and joined the JOAT Group of Companies, one of the leading WC/WDM and NRW Reduction practitioners in South Africa, where he currently occupies the position of Project Leader in various contracts in KwaZulu-Natal and Free State. In total, he has 28 years of both management and practical field experience in NRW reduction projects.

HARRISON, JOHN  
eThekwini Water & Sanitation

Early in his career John realised that the Civil/Municipal Engineering profession is undervalued by society, and consequently worked out that the economic system was fundamentally flawed. For the last 20 years, John has been a Planning Engineer with eThekwini Water and Sanitation which has provided him with a close-up, insider’s view of both good and bad governance, which in turn has provided insight into the relationship between economics and governance. He has spent the last 30 something years developing what was initially an alternate economic system to address the issues faced by the Engineering profession, but in later years this has developed into a basis of a governance problem solving system that at least addresses, in a logical manner, some of the “wicked problems” facing society and two of its most pressing governance challenges, namely:

- The overharvesting of the environmental goods and services and
- The divergence between the “haves” and the “have-nots”.

His alternative economic system, aligns well with SAICE’s “Civilution” movement and consequently resolves many of the governance problems that face the Engineering Profession.

PRETORIUS, TOBIAS  
GIBB

Tobie is a traffic engineer/transport planner with 14 years of experience. He is registered as a Professional Technologist and completed a Masters of Engineering degree at the University of Cape Town in 2012.

He worked in the United Kingdom for 4 years doing traffic and transportation planning and design, in both the public and private sectors in the Greater London area, working mainly on Transport for London (TfL) public transport and non-motorised transport projects. These projects for example included public transport route studies, bus priority projects, London Cycle Network projects, controlled parking zones and traffic signal junction improvements.

He returned to South Africa in 2008 to continue his career. He joined GIBB (Pty) Ltd in 2013 and is now the acting Sector Unit Manager for the Eastern Region which includes the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu Natal. His project experience in South Africa includes the preparation of Traffic Impact Assessments (TIA); Public Transport Master Plans; Greenhouse Gas Emission studies; the Motherwell Passenger Rail Feasibility Study; and the planning and design of a public transport system for Kigali City, Rwanda.

Most recently he has been involved on a Department of Transport project as Project Leader and Transport Planner writing Guidelines for District Municipality Integrated Public Transport Plans (DPTP).

He is currently lecturing Traffic Engineering part time at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

MANYISANE, NONTYATYAMBO  
National Department of Public Works

Nontyatyambana Manyisane is a Director for EPWP Large Projects Programme at the National Department of Public Works, with more than 10 years experience in government. Prior to joining government, Ms Manyisane was involved in contract supervision and mentoring of emerging contractors on numerous road projects for UWP Engineers as a technician. Her previous professional experience includes planning and design of various water schemes for KNA Consulting Engineers. As a Director in the national government, she is involved at a strategic level in crafting policies that will realise the improvement of the lives of the poor. Ms Manyisane is an advocate for adoption of labour intensive methods of construction through implementation of Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), providing support to municipalities and other infrastructure departments.