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IMPORTANCE OF OUR WORK

Traditionally, and even historically, the general public has known little of the existence or importance of the architectural profession. CEO Obert Chakarisa hopes to remedy this.

Evidence of this ignorance is demonstrated through the constant justification and motivation of the applicable architectural fees to the general public, when such services are being procured.

The South African Institute of Architects will be embarking on a programme that profiles the importance of the profession to the general public. This mammoth task will require considerable resources in different fora to engage the public, including social and traditional print media.

We hope that through this public enhancement of the profession, the process of engagement and procurement of services will register a marked improvement. This should result in the upliftment of the general landscape of our building developments, at all the different scales of built projects.

In the same vein, we remain mindful of the need for our members to be able to conduct their business with ease. To this end, the Practice & Stakeholder portfolio has moved up a gear in delivering tangible member benefits – through the engagement of key stakeholders, who are keen on advancing the interests of all architects.

As usual, I pen off with a reminder of who we are:

MISSION

'A collective Voice serving the interests of Architects in pursuit of excellence and responsible design'

VISION

'SAIA Architects to be the Authoritative Leaders in the built environment'. ■



OBERT CHAKARISA

PROCSA 3.2 WILL REVISIONS BE TO YOUR ADVANTAGE?

What are the benefits for clients/architects of the latest changes to the PROCSA agreements? Executive of the Practice & Stakeholder Engagement portfolio at SAIA, Ludwich Ackermann, elaborates.

I take a keen interest in developments within the realm of contracts; those used by architects and those used by the construction industry at large. Appealing developments to the PROCSA suite of documents have recently come to my attention, and more specifically to the Client-Architect Agreement within the suite.

Latest amendments provide for ease of use of clauses when appointing the architect as principal agent and/or principal consultant, and achieve this at the click of a button (through intelligent publication software).

Furthermore, the services and deliverables of each of the stages have been clearly defined for each role player, be they the principal agent, principal consultant or, of course, the architect.

The PROCSA Client-Architect Agreement, and

other agreements, offer benefits in that they represent a consensus agreement that has been composed and accepted by all the constituent bodies of the built environment. Additionally, they provide for the services and deliverables required by each consultant across the six work stages, in an easily legible matrix format.

The lucidity of these agreements is also assisted by the rigidity of the terms and conditions now used across all disciplines, and this allows for an easily understandable document – especially for clients unfamiliar with the industry.

In closing, the Client-Architect Agreement also includes a Stage 0, giving the client (development manager) a clear indication of his role and responsibilities prior to engaging a professional team. ■



LUDWICH ACKERMANN