

Gert Coffee – Aspasa’s Man of the Year

Travelling around this past quarter, MQ has spoken to and met up with many interesting industry stalwarts with quarry dust in their veins; people who are well respected and regarded as mentors to the industry. No one more so than Gert Coffee, an industry leader who has made and continues to make a profound impact on the industry; a modest and humble man, quietly spoken, and a sound, capable leader.

At the recent Aspasa audit awards ceremony, he was given a special award by Aspasa director Nico Pienaar, for his contribution not only to the industry but to Aspasa in particular. “The person we are awarding is an industry leader who has come up with innovative solutions to some of the tough issues facing our industry and Aspasa as an organisation.

“Gert has supported Aspasa in its growth and its drive to develop into a leading association. He has supported our drive to expand our educational and training focus to the industry and has supported national issues through close negotiations with governmental departments on provincial and national issues.

“Despite the fact that he holds a very senior position at his company, he always has time to support the staff as Aspasa. As a very small team, it is difficult sometimes to find the motivation to stay positive, given the fact the industry often doesn’t see us as part of their teams,” Pienaar says.

“He has encouraged our office to perform at its utmost, helping us to steer clear of issues that detract from our focus of providing a valuable service to the industry; this has resulted in role players across the board wanting to become a part of Aspasa.”

He says Coffee has steered Aspasa’s strategic vision into a certain direction for the benefit of the entire industry. “There



Gert Coffee receives a special award from Aspasa director Nico Pienaar.

is nothing he doesn’t know about our industry; he is an expert in his field.

“For young members to mirror this man, they have to stay humble, they have to live this industry, never stop learning, and use him as a mentor – they can only benefit from this man’s vision and experience,” Pienaar says.

www.aspasa.co.za

IQSA diary

IQSA Golf Day: The Institute of Quarrying is holding its Annual Golf Day at the Irene Golf Club on 1 August. It is always a golf day not to be missed.

September conference: This event is taking place on 21 September at the Emperor’s Palace in Johannesburg. This will include a site visit to the AEL factory in Modderfontein. The IQSA is asking for abstracts for review, should anyone want to present a paper at the conference.

www.iqsa.co.za



Modern Quarrying eNewsletter

MQ’s regular eNewsletter is proving popular in the industry. The monthly eNews is sent out to MQ’s readers via email in the middle of the month. If you are not receiving it, please contact the editor directly on dalek@modernquarryingmagazine.co.za.

Our quarterly magazine is available on-line, and readers are updated via the website on the latest industry news. It’s as easy as visiting the website and to simply log on to register.

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