

# Recognising outstanding performance

Trenchless Technologies recently took top honours at the 2010 Construction Summit Awards ceremony, which was held at Gallagher Estate, Johannesburg.

The Construction Industry Development Board (cidb) and the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) selected Trenchless Technologies as the winner of the category for Innovation and Technology Excellence. The criteria for this particular award category is that the company must be a local cidb-registered construction company (targeting cidb grades 6 to 7), which has done well with respect to the application of innovative or non-conventional technologies in infrastructure development. This category is limited to the social infrastructure portfolio, i.e. schools, health facilities and roads infrastructure as well as bridges in rural areas. Consideration is also given to companies which have excelled in sustainable rural development in the critical areas mentioned that stand out in the general application of innovative technology in infrastructure development.

According to Sam Efrat, managing member of Trenchless Technologies, "Our focus is to remain on the cutting edge of new pipe-laying techniques, and to offer cost-effective no-dig solutions."

The company rehabilitates old water and sewer pipes by using techniques such as sliplining, pipe bursting, and other close-fit lining methods. New pipes are installed using horizontal boring, pipe ramming and directional drilling. "Directional drilling has been used to install piping under railway lines and roadways,



providing bulk water supply to many rural areas. To date, we have completed 240 km of trenchless pipelaying work throughout South Africa," says Efrat.

The company is currently involved in a challenging project with Umjindi Municipality (Barberton). The town's ageing and leaking water pipes are being replaced by using pipe-bursting methods to install new HDPE pipes. "Not only is this method efficient and cost effective, but it also requires a high degree of labour, which contributes to the development, training and employment of the local community," remarks Efrat.

The 2010 Construction Summit was attended by 580 delegates and invited speakers, and panellists included the Hon. Trevor Manuel (minister of national plan-

**FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:** Professor Li Shirong – president of CIOB International, Professor Raymond Nkado – (MCI OB) chairperson of cidb (South Africa), Marco Camarda – GM, Trenchless Technologies, Ronnie Khoza – CEO of cidb (South Africa)

ning), Hon. Geoffrey Doidge (minister of public works), Hon. Jeremy Cronin (deputy minister of transport), Hon. Ibrahim Patel (minister economic development), Cecil Rose (deputy chairperson of the cidb) and Michael Brown (deputy CE of the CIOB).

Other category winners were Group Five, and Murray & Roberts, who were winners of Category 1: The International Achiever's Award. NMC, and Italian-based company, CMC, were the winners of Category 2: The Innovation and Sustainability Award. **35**

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