



WESCOAL Staff Newsletter



Looking ahead: What's in store for 2015?

2015 literally got off the starting blocks at a sprinting pace, especially given our involvement in completing the Environmental Impact Assessment at Elandspruit. The acquisition of the Muhanga Washing Plant has also been successful, with that business now fully integrated into Wescoal operations. I'm pleased to say that the acquisition is bearing fruit, and is proving to be a valuable asset for our company.

Our Trading division is performing well, with new clients coming on board, and across the group we continue to supply coal to Eskom. This is particularly relevant given the current electricity crisis, and we're proud to be doing our bit to contribute to the difficulties facing Eskom and industry in general.

I recently returned from the McKloskey Coal Conference in Cape Town and from what I heard, I truly believe that Wescoal is uniquely positioned in the market, and will continue to benefit from this. There is no doubt too that international dynamics, especially those emanating from China, India and the USA, are nothing short of interesting. This is something we will need to monitor closely to ensure that we remain well informed of developments in international markets. Even though we do not export coal, we need to be aware of developments in the industry as a whole.

Andre Bojé
CEO, Wescoal Holdings

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As always Wescoal welcomes staff participation and reminds you to please forward your photos, news and contributions to:

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Helping our communities

First houses delivered to Arbor community

Our Corporate Social Investment (CSI) initiative in support of the communities around the Kendal area delivered its first three houses to the Arbor community in January. Building started at the end of September last year, and the hope is to have all 15 of the remaining homes completed by 2016.

"We had three families living at the mine site that had to be relocated, and so these first houses were built with them in mind. We were therefore delighted to hand them over to the families on Tuesday, 27 January," says Bonani Siko, the General Manager: Mining Operations.

The houses are being built with the support of people from the community as a means of job creation, with Wescoal purchasing the materials and paying for the labour. The average cost per house is R170 000. "The rest of the handovers will be done when the remaining houses have been built, and these will be allocated to disadvantaged members of the community. The houses will be built on existing stands located in the area."



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Helping our communities

New taxi service for community school children

As part of our continuing support of local communities, Wescoal recently contracted the services of a local taxi business to ensure the safe transport of children to and from school in the Intibane community. The taxis drivers are members of the Taxi Association of Ogies, and will be responsible for safely transporting 12 children from the informal settlement to and from the Imbalenhle Primary School, which is situated on our premises.

“In some instances, the children have been walking up to 10 km a day, and as a result have been exposed to the dangers of vehicles on the road. They’ve also been walking through the mine’s working areas, which has been a safety and security issue,” explains Bonani Siko, the General Manager: Mining Operations.

“This initiative ensures that the children won’t wander around the mine premises, which have a lot of mobile equipment, blasting and trucking activities. We hope that this is also a step in the right direction in playing a part in the upliftment of the communities in which we operate, and in maintaining a workable and healthy relationship with the community.”

He adds that this initiative has also given the company an opportunity to support local business.

In addition to the transport initiative, Wescoal has been supporting the school through the donation of cutlery, cooking utensils and refurbishing the school and sporting facilities.



Welcome to the Wescoal family

Waheed Sulaiman joins as Group Strategy and Commercial Executive Director



We bid a warm welcome to Waheed Sulaiman, who joined on 1 February as Group Strategy and Commercial Executive Director. Waheed holds a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cape Town, and one in Economics from the University of South Africa. He brings to bear his extensive experience in the chemicals, energy and mining sectors, having worked for Dow Chemicals as a process engineer, and at BHP Billiton in various roles since 2003. His most recent position was to lead the business development initiatives for BHP Billiton Energy Coal South Africa.

In addition to his sector experience, Waheed has worked in a number of different countries, including Australia, Chile and Turkey, and in different commodity sectors, including coal, copper, manganese, nickel and heavy minerals. He has also engaged extensively with government departments and other mining houses.

On the personal front, Waheed is married to Zahida, and they have three children, Ameera (9), Tayyibah (7) and Fayzaan (5).

He enjoys spending as much time with them as possible, as well as travelling, reading and watching movies.

Waheed, who describes his leadership style as collaborative, open, and outcomes-driven, says he is delighted to be working with the team to grow Wescoal and fulfil its phenomenal potential. “I think Wescoal has an exciting future ahead of it and feel privileged to be part of the journey.”

Welcome to the Wescoal family

Michael Falk appointed as Group IT Manager

We also welcome on board Michael Falk, who has joined us on 1 January 2015 as Group IT Manager. Prior to working for Wescoal Michael was the Group IT Manager for Genet Africa, having studied Information Technology (IT) at the University of Pretoria. Michael has in-depth experience of the IT industry, having developed software and security systems for Sasol, and worked in the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) industry as a R&D and technology manager.

“My goals here are to increase and promote IT interaction, reform and streamline IT processes to increase efficiency and performance, to improve acquisition and regulatory processes and to build long-term relationships.”

Born and raised in Pretoria, Michael now lives in Moreleta Park in Pretoria East – so he hasn’t moved too far away! He is

married to Anne-Marie or Annie, as she prefers being called, and their two sons, Michael, who is 13, and Matthew, who is 4.

His favourite sports and pastimes include motorbikes, spending time with his family, fly-fishing, off-road cycling, competing in team sports like the warrior race, and of course experimenting with new technology and gadgets.

Michael lists the top three highlights of his life as his faith, meeting his wife and becoming a father, and says the three things people would be most surprised to learn about him are the fact that he has a sweet tooth, a pilot’s licence and that he’s a Bulls supporter!

Training Officer appointed at Wescoal Mining



Congratulations to Silas Malose Morumudi, who was appointed Training Officer at Wescoal Mining on 1 December 2014. He will be responsible for the Khanyisa and Intibane collieries, as well as the Processing Plant.

He is currently studying towards a National Certificate in Occupationally Directed Education, Training and Development Practices, and is also enrolled in a Skills Development Facilitator Practitioner programme.

“A definite career highlight for me as a Training Officer has been establishing a Skills Training and Development Programme for all Wescoal Trackless Mobile Machinery (TMMs) Operators using Mining Qualification Criteria evaluations to verify their fitness and competence to operate TMMs. This has been both a challenging and interesting initiative,” says Silas.

This 39-year-old father of two lists his hobbies as watching soccer, reading current lifestyle magazines and engaging others on topics of interest.

Desiree promoted to Sales Consultant



Well done to Desiree Liberty who was recently promoted to Sales Consultant at our Coal Trading operation in Worcester in the Western Cape. She was previously based in Port Elizabeth.

“I would like to thank the management of Wescoal for this fantastic opportunity, and see it as embarking on a new venture, even relocating my family as part of my commitment. I am confident that this move was the right one for me and for the company,” says a thrilled Desiree, who describes herself as a “go getter”, firmly believing that no

situation is too difficult or too tough, and that there always has to be an alternative or “Plan B”.

“I hope that my colleagues will support me and I trust that the end result will be a successful one.” She adds that she may even design a high-heel safety boot as part of the challenge. “One that conforms to safety standards of course, but is in keeping with encouraging femininity in the coal industry,” she laughs.

“Watch this space. I have arrived and am ready for this challenge. And to my Port Elizabeth Wescoal family, I miss you and have not left in spirit.”

Keep love in your heart. A life without it is like a sunless garden when the flowers are dead. – Oscar Wilde

A celebration of love!

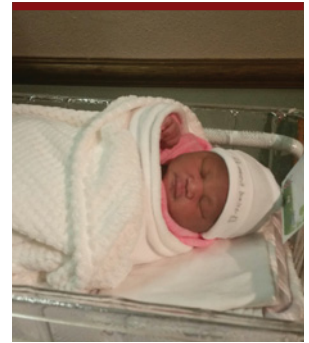


The lovely ladies at Wescoal Processing Plant were determined to make a splash for Valentine's Day, donning the colours of love in shades of red, white and black. Pictured are (from left to right): Tarnelle Solomon, Annalize Bekker, Belinda du Preez, Stefne Oosthuizen, Zuretha Martin, Marian Fourie, Nthite Manthata and Nthabiseng Mbekeni (front).

Pitter, patter little feet!

In this issue we celebrate two new arrivals, both born on the 2 January! Congratulations to Thokozane Seakgoe and his wife on the birth of their baby boy, Oarabile, and to Selina Matjola, on the arrival of SipheSihle (which means "beautiful gift").

Then on 16 February little Oritonda Rambau decided to join us in the world. The little lady weighed in at 3,4 kg and mom, Audrey and baby are doing well.



Wedding bells

Congratulations to Louise Jeacock's lovely daughter, Charnay, who got married to her handsome groom Chad, on 3 January. We wish the couple many years of happiness together.



In remembrance

The management and staff of Wescoal extend their sincere condolences to Dr Humphrey Mathe and his family on the recent passing of Dr Mathe's brother. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time.