

PROJECT: N3 CEDARA TO HEIDELBERG-TOLL ROAD CONCESSION CONTRACT

Client: National Roads Agency and N3 Toll Concession Company

Location: N3 Highway Between Cedara Interchange (Kwazulu Natal) and Heidelberg South Interchange Gauteng

Description: N3 Toll Road

Project Value: R 5,48 billion

Duration: 30 Year Concession

Independent Start date: January 2000

Concessionaire: N3 Toll Concession Company



THE PROJECT:

The N3 Toll concession involves the upgrading and rehabilitation of approximately 420km of freeway between Johannesburg and Durban. The concession was one of a series of planned Public Private Partnerships (PPP) that were targeted to assist Government with establishing sound infrastructure road networks around the country. The works included the enhancement of the road capacity by the addition of lanes on specific sections. Three new toll plazas have been constructed at Bergville, De Hoek and Tugela East. A complete new 100 km section of road has been constructed over a four year period that effectively reduced the distance between Johannesburg and Durban by 13 kms.

THE APPOINTMENT:

The appointment was that of the Independent Engineer (IE) and included the contract administration, preliminary and detail design approval, monitoring and auditing of the construction activity and financial control. In addition the IE was tasked to ensure compliance of the role-players with their respective ISO 9000 quality assurance systems.

Specialists in various areas of road construction and contract administration were engaged through the Joint Venture members firms to assist the Clients with the execution of the project and to ensure legislative compliance.

OUTCOME:

The concession contract is proving to be a huge success and further PPP concessions are being let. The IE has provided a significant expertise base for the benefit of both parties to the PPP. The IE concept, to control and guarantee contract compliance, is a trend that may be followed for all future PPP endeavours.