

South Africa's world-class property developments

The stylishly distinctive abstract "chequered" 15 Alice Lane Towers in Sandton Central has scooped top honours at the South African Property Owners Association (SAPOA) Innovative Excellence in Property Development Awards 2011, sponsored by Nedbank Corporate Property Finance.

This year five of the nine award-winning property developments are located in Sandton. Pick n Pay Nicol took the retail development category, Legacy Corner won the mixed-used development category, The Park Inn Sandton scooped the "other developments: hotels" category and Nedbank phase two won the overall green development category.

Overall winner and best in the office development category, 15 Alice Lane Towers is set atop a six-storey basement, with two towers that rise 17 floors into the Sandton sky. Co-developers Zenprop Property Holdings and Tiber Projects commissioned the exceptional addition to the Sandton skyline, designed by Paragon Architects. The 24 000 m² development is the new address for well-known legal firm Deneys Reitz.

Winning the retail development category is the striking new Pick n Pay Nicol, developed by Abland, owned by Pick n Pay and designed by Bentel Associates International.

Castle Walk Shopping Centre owned by the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) took top honours in the refurbishment category with Boogertman + Partners appointed to design the external refurbishment of the development to create a fresh and modern facelift to the building.



15 Alice Lane Towers in Sandton Central

Taking the winning title in the mixed-use developments category is Legacy Corner, developed by Legacy Development & Management, owned by Sandton Square Portion 7 and designed by Bentel Associates International.

The Park Inn Sandton was announced winner in the other development: hotels category. Developed by New City Group, owned by Crystal Lagoon Investments 53 and designed by GLH Architects, The Park Inn Sandton is a 273-room three-star hotel.

Winning the other developments category is the University of the Western Cape Life Sciences, developed by the university and designed by DHK Architects.

The winner of the social development category as well as scooping the award for the new transformation category this year is the Lebone II College of the Royal Bafokeng in Phokeng, in the North West Province, developed and owned by Royal Bafokeng Administration and designed by Activate Architecture and Afritects.

Securing the award for overall green development, Nedbank Phase II shone above all other green developments. ●

► from page 1 - Illegal estate agents beware

Agents who want to take advantage of the amnesty must submit an affidavit to the EAAB making full disclosure of all estate agency activities undertaken while they were not authorised to do so. These amnesty applications will then be considered by a special committee. "The committee will review the motive of bringing the application, the context of the admitted contraventions, the nature of the contraventions as well as the interests of both the public and general body of the estate agents and justice to the applicant as a fit and proper person," said Bolani. The applicants will then be given reasonable time to get their estate agency affairs in order, including finalisation of any administrative fees, the opening and maintenance by the applicant of a properly designated trust account, appointment of auditors, the necessary audits and obtaining the necessary estate agent qualifications.

The EAAB has been hosting workshops nationally in all regions suggesting since July 2011 to assist estate agents in filling out their application forms and answering their queries related to amnesty.

From an estate agency perspective, there is a perception that South Africa's tight regulatory environment is strangling the property industry's growth and estate agency principals are faced with a host of challenges due to regulations such as the Consumer Protection Act, the need for every agent to be qualified in terms of the National Qualification Framework and the Property Transformation Charter.

Detailed information on amnesty application is now available on the EAAB website at www.eaab.org.za ●