

Contracting in the Kingdom of Eswatini

A celebration of thirty years of excellence in construction

1988 - 2018



Stefanutti Stocks Construction Swaziland is celebrating thirty years of existence in the Kingdom of Eswatini. This milestone has been achieved through the support of His Majesty King Mswati III, Her Majesty the Indlovukazi, the Eswatini Government, clients and stakeholders, and the entire Swazi nation.











The cover photograph, taken in 1988 at a traditional sod-turning ceremony, shows His Majesty King Mswati III turning the first sod for the construction of the Nkoyoyo Royal Residence. This occasion also marked the beginning of a journey that would lead to the establishment of Stefanutti Stocks Construction Swaziland – a general contractor that is today one of Eswatini's premier construction companies.



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Printed 1 October 2018.

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Acknowledgements:

Stefanutti Stocks Construction Swaziland wishes to thank all companies and individuals who have contributed towards the contents and the imagery used in *Contracting in the Kingdom of Eswatini: a celebration of thirty years of excellence in construction.*

Other sources, not specifically acknowledged within the book include:

- Stefanutti Stocks Construction Swaziland newsletters (S&B Swaziland, S&B Construction Swaziland)
- Various issues of the *Benchmark* (Stefanutti Stocks publication)
- Project data sheets

Credits

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Your Majesty,

I'd like to take the opportunity to congratulate you on your fiftieth birthday, as well as the fifty year celebration of your Kingdom's independence. I wish you, your country and your people good health and prosperity in the decades to come.

I remember the long nights spent at Pondo with yourself, Luis Ferreira Da Silva and Mike Blake discussing plans and designs for the Nkoyoyo Palace, the first project that S&B were to build for you and, I believe, the first and only palace for a King I have ever constructed.

I also vividly remember the promise I made to you almost thirty years ago: We would not leave your country after completing the royal residence, but would stay and invest as a token of the great potential we knew was evident in your beautiful kingdom. And here we are: thirty years later ... and I do believe that Stefanutti Stocks is truly beginning to realise the essence of the vision we shared.

This year as we celebrate this major milestone in our company's history, I hope that the foundation we have laid these past three decades will continue to bear fruit far into the future, for our company and the people of Eswatini.







The picturesque Kingdom of Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland) borders on South Africa to the west, and Mozambique to the east. The country enjoys a fairly diverse economy, and is home to a proud, peaceful and easy-going nation.

The ruling monarch – His Majesty King Mswati III – was coronated King of Eswatini on 25 April 1986. At just twenty years of age, he was at the time the youngest ruling monarch in the world. He has, together with the Queen Mother Indlovukazi, jointly ruled the Kingdom for the past thirty-two years.

In 1988 His Majesty hired construction contractor Stefanutti & Bressan (S&B) to build the Nkoyoyo Palace. This royal residence was to be the first project that the company would build outside of South Africa, and it was the catalyst that led to the establishment of a local Eswatini company.

Over the decades S&B would grow from strength-to-strength as it participated in the construction of various types of infrastructure – including transport, water, agricultural, energy and building - for both the public and the private sector.

In 2018 the company, that was rebranded as Stefanutti Stocks in 2012, celebrated thirty years of construction excellence in Eswatini.

This coffee table book captures some of this rich history. It explores the culture of the company, the people that have accompanied it this far, and how this foundation will be leveraged on Stefanutti Stocks' continued journey into its fourth decade and beyond.





We sow. We grow. The nation will reap.



03 The Beginning

In 1988 South African construction company, Stefanutti & Bressan (S&B) arrives in the Kingdom of Eswatini to build the Nkoyoyo Palace for His Majesty King Mswati III. This contract is the catalyst that leads to the establishment of S&B Building Swaziland, and also marks the beginning of a journey that will see it becoming the country's premier general contracting company.

15 The Journey

Over the course of an eventful three decades the company makes the most of every opportunity afforded it. It participates in high-profile projects for the private and public sector (including Millennium and Vision 2022 projects) and builds a nation-wide reputation for delivering quality: safely and within programme. During this time the company is also renamed from S&B to Stefanutti Stocks – an event that results in the incorrect perception that there is a new player in the market. Still, the company and its people are resilient and the successful outcome of this thirty-year journey is largely driven by the company's people who have created and nurtured an organisational culture built on family values.

93 Our Family

As part of the greater multinational, multicultural and multidisciplinary Stefanutti Stocks family we share a common vision, mission, philosophy and values across our group. We are deeply grateful to every single member of our family, all of whom have contributed to our journey since inception: our founders, our directors and management, our employees and the workforce on the ground; our subcontractors; our joint venture partners; our stakeholders; our clients; the professional teams and the communities within which we operate.

141 Our Future

Having the right people in the right places is key to Stefanutti Stocks' future existence in Eswatini. Strategic decisions we have implemented during the past decade have begun to yield fruit as transformation in local representation, procurement of work and the implementation of technology (while remembering the importance of the basic principles of construction) become instrumental contributors to growth. Our milestones include opportunities within the Vision 2022 scope, attaining a local shareholding of sixty per cent, as well as grooming our Eswatini employees to steer the company forward ... many of whom are already writing the beginning of the next thirty years of our story.