

Ruthcon acquires Conform Construction

Civil engineering contracting company, Ruthcon, recently acquired Conform Construction, taking over both the company and its existing contracts for an undisclosed sum. The full transfer of contracts and assets became official in January 2007.

Conform, a concrete slidings and slip form construction specialist, based in Chlookop, has been in the industry for 26 years, opening its doors for trading on 29 February 1980. It has established itself as a strong and reliable brand in the construction industry. Keeping its current name, it will merge with Ruthcon's Concrete division, to form a consolidated division headed up by Ruthcon's James Cane.

"We believe that there is value in the brand and it is therefore important not to change the name. This was also one of the factors which contributed to our eventual decision to proceed with the acquisition. The Conform shareholders wanted to align themselves with a respected company that would keep the name and enhance the brand image. Added to this was James' excellent reputation in the industry and his affiliations with a number of high profile contracts over the past 30 years," says Archie Rutherford, MD of Ruthcon.

The purchase is in line with the company's strategy to expand into the sliding industry, an offering Rutherford and Cane feel is important to have in Ruthcon's portfolio.

"Since establishing the concrete division, we have been looking at opportunities to bulk up on resources and grow this division. This division is the perfect opportunity for us to increase our resources and expand on a well known brand with an established customer and contract base," Rutherford adds.

The call for concrete slip form construction has grown tremendously recently and the market feeling is



The changing of the guard: left to right, Ruthcon MD, Archie Rutherford, Conform shareholder John Cubley, and Concrete division general manager, James Cane

that this trend will continue into the foreseeable future. This acquisition will offer the market a well established, experienced and progressive black empowered company in the concrete sector of the construction industry. ■
