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**Welcome to the Design Institute's special e-Newsletter for October 2009
Announcing the 2009 SABS Design Excellence Award winners**

The SABS Design Institute publishes a regular e-newsletter with the latest news on the South African design scene to improve communication with the design fraternity. For any comments on the newsletter, email the editor, Esme Kruger at the SABS Design Institute at krugere@sabs.co.za. We look forward to hearing from you.



40 Years Design Excellence Awards - OCTOBER 2009

Of lamps and backpacks; of motorbikes big and small: Excellent design awarded

A total of 18 South African designed products received excellence awards at a function hosted by the SABS Design Institute last night. The function was attended by dignitaries from government and industry, the crème de la crème of South Africa's product design fraternity and the media.

Most of the design awards went to the home and office ware category, with the Kubic Innovator LED system, the Willow Lamp Moonflower Chandelier, the Vector gate-opening system, a range of innovative taps and the SKALA business furniture systems receiving awards.

On the medical and healthcare front, the Stimpod, a nerve-locating device and the Snuza Baby Monitor also received awards. Snuza is a well designed improvement on existing baby monitors and was a worthy recipient of the Chairperson's Award, the product deemed by the adjudicators to be the most imaginative of all the entries.

The Seawing Nova, new age flippers and the Ybike, a huge improvement on children's plastic scooters, received awards in the leisure and sport goods category, and this year again saw a pool cleaner, the Superbug, receiving an award. In line with products solving real South African problems, the Lifewise Eco-Loo was awarded. This cistern doubles up as a washbasin and clears the toilet bowl of urine, if the person using it washes his or her hand for 20 seconds. This innovative product solves two problems in one go – not only does it save water, but it also enforces hygiene through hand washing.

As is the case every year, engineering products stood out this year. These included the GALT Road / Rail Vehicle, the Kaoko Throttle Control for motorcycles, the South African designed Puzey, on-road, off-road motorcycle and the Stopak Jumbo Inflator that is used in the transport of produce in road freight vehicles. On the electronics front, the Command and Control Backpack, aimed at the military market, the Sola-lite, a solar-energy powered light for low cost housing and the Touchmart TAP, a solution to enable the general public to access a broad range of products and services using payment methods that are accessible to them, received design excellence awards.

2009 SABS DESIGN EXCELLENCE WINNING PRODUCTS

For more information on the winning products click [here](#)

Chairperson's Award 2009



Snuza Baby Monitor
designed by ...XYZ, Savant and ID&B

Snuza is a new generation baby monitor that allows mobile monitoring of a baby's breathing. The soft flexible sensor protrudes onto the baby's stomach for superior sensing. The vibration stimulator helps reassert breathing if apnoea is detected and an effective clip design results in good nappy grip .



Command & Control Backpack
designed by Marc Ruwiel, Derick Smith, Anesh Magan, and project managed by Alastair Knight of Redlinx

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The Command & Control backpack is a robust and ergonomic backpack to be used by a defence force commander for tactical oversight in the field. It is designed to be carried and interacted with in an ergonomically correct way.)



GALT Road/Rail Vehicle

designed by Hannes Fourie, Mike Parker, Daan Crause and Tyron Smuts

The GALT Road/Rail Vehicle is a device used to convert a standard vehicle to bi-modal operation, giving it the ability to drive and work both on road and on rail. The rail gear mass is approximately 65% lighter than that existing products and the ground clearance almost double that of competitors.



Kaoko Throttle Control

designed by Roy Mentis

The Kaoko Throttle Control is a mechanical device fitted to the throttle arrangement of a motorcycle to enable safe and easy cruising. It comes in a kit that consists of a simple and robustly designed friction nut that is integral with a special Kaoko™ handle bar end weight.



Kubik

designed by Dirk Durnez

The Kubik configures contemporary luminaries into illuminated walls, floors and ceilings, tailor-made to customer specifications. The separate luminaries are constructed into different configurations by means of a patented modular pre-engineered aluminium frame system.



The Cobra range of taps and accessories: Leading Edge, Callisto & Tapno

designed by Brian Steinhobel and from Cobra: Clive Shepherd, Karel du Toit, Ignatius van der Westhuizen and Anton Wessels.

The range of taps – Leading Edge, Callisto and Tapno – was designed for Cobra by external designer Brian Steinhobel for domestic and corporate applications. They are aesthetically pleasing with modern lines and boast a host of functional features.



Lifewise Eco-Loo

designed by Denis Futter, Reg Culbert and Deon Visagie

The Lifewise Eco-Loo is a closed-loop cistern and basin combination that reduces water use by up to 75% by channelling the water used to wash hands after toilet use into the toilet pan to flush urine.



Puzezy XTR LC2 250cc motorbike

designed by Michael Puzey

The XTR LC2 is a middle to high-level sport and recreational two-valve 250cc motorbike finished in full off-road namely MX Model and road-going (Road Legal) Motard trim. It has a full race moto-cross bike feel, while being a recreational light sport product.



Seawing Nova

designed by Rhys Couzyn, Mark Trevethan, Glyn Ogden and Nolan Couzyn.

Seawing Nova is a scuba diving fin that combines the best attributes of existing fins – the power, acceleration and manoeuvrability of a paddle fin and the speed, ease and efficiency of a split fin. Instead of the gradual curve of a traditional fin, the Seawing Nova has an articulated joint that enables the blade to pivot.



SKALA range of office furniture

designed by Brian Steinhobel.

SKALA is an office furniture desking system that uses minimal components and the latest material, such as solidcore laminates that allow for reversible desktops in the event of damage. The system is easy to install and non-handed applications allow for users to customise their workstations.



Sola-Lite™

designed by Steve Buckle and Kerry Buckle

Sola-Lite™ is modular and upgradeable a solar-powered LED Lighting System that comes in a DIY kit form with detailed instructions and is specifically designed for homes or buildings that require lighting but may not be connected to the national electricity grid.



Stimpod NMS 400

designed by Corlius Birkill, Roche van Rensburg, Jacques van der Merwe and Paolo de Risi, Hein Venter and Michelle Lazzari

The Stimpod is a precision nerve locating tool used for localising specific neural pathways in regional anaesthesia. It increases the success rate of procedures, minimises procedural time and minimises risks of infections and equipment failure.



Stopak Jumbo Inflator

designed by ...XYZ

The Jumbo Inflator is a cargo securing and protection bag inflator, incorporating an ambient air intake and digital pressure control system. It is used to inflate dunnage bags that are typically used to fill voids between merchandise packed into containers, trucks and the holds of ships.



Superbug
designed by George Victor Rissik

Superbug is a technologically advanced swimming pool cleaner. The main feature of the product is that the suction section is separated from the motor section, reducing its size without compromising its effectiveness.



Touchmart TAP
designed by team ...XYZ

The Touchmart TAP is a one-stop-shop self-service terminal which allows customers in a wide range of locations to purchase a predefined and broad range of products, services and information. It is a wireless network and can be deployed in any site that has cell phone reception.



Vector
designed by Lee Bonney, Teo Bührmann, Grant Rens, Tony Baia, Robin Davis, Robert Dickens, Anani Popov and Allan Ridley

The Vector is a linear operator that allows quick and simple automation of swing gates. It acts as a piston that extends and retracts to operate the gate. The operator offers battery back-up in case of a power failure.



Willowlamp Collection
designed by Sian Eliot and Adam Hoets.

Willowlamp creates a large range of chandeliers by arranging laser-cut, stainless steel sheet metal and ball chain into a variety of lighting designs. The patented notch in the steel allows unskilled workers to attach chains to form complex patterns.



Ybike Balance Bike
designed by Jean van der Merwe and Jaco Kruger

Ybike Balance Bike is a plastic injection-moulded balance bike assisting children between the ages of two and four with balance and gross motor skills. It has a single wide rear wheel (instead of the conventional two wheels) to teach the child to balance. The bike's design makes it a safer ride.

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