

Railway infrastructure rectification project undertaken for PRASA

Source: Chris Tshivhidzo

The Stefanutti Stocks Civils / 4Phase joint venture is undertaking platform rectification work for PRASA at its Durban and Pietermaritzburg stations. The project scope sees the joint venture undertaking work to rectify safety-critical deficiencies in the current system including the repair of the Pietermaritzburg platform, the installation of Tac-tiles to assist visually impaired commuters in navigating the dangerous platform edge and the replacement of the PY-precast sleeper track system with PY-concrete track slabs.

The current system is being replaced as rail formation movements due to temperature and loading eventually cause misalignment between the train exit and the platform edge with associated risks to commuters. PRASA has approved the PY-concrete track slabs developed by Railway & Civil Engineering (RCE) consultants for its commuter lines. These tracks are cast in situ and offer a stable track height and clearance from the platform and maintenance is minimised.

The work is being undertaken close to a live railway system and within confined spaces. The method of construction starts with the construction of a conventional track formation, followed by the construction of a concrete blinding layer. The construction jigs are then

set up, standard PANDROL shoulders are attached, the concrete slab is cast and the jigs and lay rails are removed. Using construction jigs to achieve the required tolerances was new to both site labour and site management who all underwent training in the method.

The project has progressed well and is on programme for completion in June 2015.

Caption:

1. The Civils team undergoes training on how to assemble the jig.
2. Bonela Ndanezile and Sefatsa Pule assembling the jig during training.



Bus Rapid Transport retrofitted with essential services

Source: Chris Tshivhidzo

Stefanutti Stocks Civils in joint venture with A Re Shomeng is nearing the completion of the retrofit works to Rea Vaya's Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) stations in Johannesburg and Soweto.

The scope of work, being undertaken for the Johannesburg Development Agency (JDA) includes:

- The installation of weatherproof panels to protect commuters at the stations from rain.
- The installation of Tac-tiles to guide visually impaired commuters on the bus platform edge and toward the station access points.
- The installation of back-up battery packs and new lights with day and night sensors.
- The installation of ticket and toilet kiosks.
- The installation of a totem pole (which will show the station's name and carry an interactive LED monitor displaying information on the routes).

"In the process of supporting the local resources and nominated sub-contractors Stefanutti Stocks Civils provided skills development training and assisted with time management scheduling" says contracts manager Chris Tshivhidzo. "This was done to firstly assist and develop workers from the community and secondly to guarantee achievement of project quality, safety and schedule requirements."

The 12-month project is due for completion at the end of June 2015.

Caption:

Finishing touches being completed to a completed Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transport station.

