

GREEN BUILDING *matters*

Green shopping

Gugulethu Square, the R350-million retail development due to open in Cape Town's Gugulethu next month, is setting high standards for SA green retail design. Mzoli Ngcauzele, from developers Mzoli Properties elaborates: 'Energy-saving alternatives used included an energy efficient water-cooled air conditioning system, a rainwater system, intelligent lighting and tilt-up concrete façade construction requiring no external painting and less transport.' Other measures were the use of on-site material for backfilling, re-use of 4 000m² brick paving from the site on which the centre has been developed, salvaging of demolished material for community use, and the introduction of operational waste management systems. PROFICA, development and project managers for Gugulethu Square, is part of the technical working group that is compiling the retail rating tool for the Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA). The GBCSA has already developed the 'Office v1' tool but is still working on the retail tool – their goal is to release a pilot version this month. As a result of not having a local retail tool, the design team applied a combination of the 'Office v1' tool and the Australian retail tool. When the GBCSA's retail tool is finalised, the developers will be able to work out whether the centre will get the official Green Star SA rating. PROFICA, Nyameko Magongo +27 (0)21 426 5224

