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02 March 2009

From: Errol Stoffberg-Verern Builders

To: Whom it may concern

**REFERENCE LETTER: SLABMASTERS**

During August 2008 *Verern builders and Developers* started a project of 475 houses in Joe Slovo Township, Port Elizabeth. The project entailed the complete house from foundation to handover.

I started working with *Wayne Brownlee* from *Tuscan Coatings* who was responsible for providing us the raft foundations as per specification. He then sub-contracted *Danie du Toit* from *diggerworx* to do the trenching with the K9 mini digger. They subsequently formed the company **SLABMASTERS** and now operate as such.

By fine tuning their processes and with the use of a very small but dedicated work team they delivered foundations of outstanding quality. They furthermore succeeded in drastically reducing the initial estimated concrete consumption per raft foundation. They completed, on average, 6 foundations per workday, and generally 48 foundations per fortnight, which can drastically increase with the use of more personnel. They never had any problem with working long hours even in adverse weather conditions, and were always the last to leave the site at night.

They did everything required for the foundation including:

- Ordering plastic sheeting
- Ordering steel for reinforcing
- Ordering concrete
- Laying out of shutters
- Trenching foundations
- Placing of plastic and steel
- Placement of concrete
- Screeding of foundation
- Hand floating
- Power floating

I never had to worry about any aspect of the foundations as it was done in an extremely professional manner. Their participation in the project reduced the need for me as contractor to have concerns such as labour and material issues.

I experienced them as very pleasant and respectable team that never hesitated to do contingency planning for possible obstacles that might arise. They never had to be prompted about matters as their provision for obstacles that might appear eliminated that. To illustrate this, they took the initiative to find a better product in terms of concrete for the foundations and eventually liased with Lafarge. This led to them using the Flowcrete from Lafarge, which reduced time spent per foundation, and therefor increased production.

I will definitely use them again in future projects, and do not hesitate to recommend them for any raft foundation work.

Kindly contact me for any other enquiries

**Signed**

**ERROL STOFFBERG**

for Verern Builders