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Renico Construction spots a gap

Identifying a demand for warehouse space in the burgeoning suburb of Lanseria, Renico Construction has recently bought three stands in the 90ha Lanseria Corporate Estate with a view to creating an industrial park. The stands are to be consolidated, and upon completion they will feature six units measuring 1 400m² each. Of the allotted space, 1 200m² will be dedicated to warehousing, while the remaining 200m² will be set aside for office use. The units will be available to let or purchase on a sectional-title basis. Nico Louw, MD of Renico Construction, explains the thinking behind the Lanseria purchases: 'We identified the Lanseria airport node as one of Gauteng's busiest and most rapidly developing areas. We forecast that this area will continue to grow exponentially within the next two decades and that demand for prime warehousing and industrial space in the area will increase proportionally.' Nico adds that the estate's upmarket features and access to the newly upgraded Malibongwe Drive further motivated Renico's decision to build an industrial park. It is estimated that investment in the estate will increase by R2 billion within the next six years. **+27 (0)11 794 1177, renicoconstruction.co.za**

World Trade Centre comes to Africa

Cape Town has become the first city in Africa to establish a World Trade Centre. Following a private sector initiative by top business executives representing 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the newly established centre is ready for business. Julius Steyn, CEO of World Trade Centre Africa, says it functions as a meeting place where business and trade activities of various countries are promoted between private sector entities. It also provides up-to-the-minute information about trade agreements between countries. Research indicates that the compound growth rate for sub-Saharan Africa will amount to 4% a year between 2011 and 2020, and the World Trade Centre aims to facilitate 1% of this growth within five years, which will come to about $70 billion (about R480 billion). 'With the establishment of a World Trade Centre in Cape Town, an effort has begun to bring together private sectors with the support of their respective governments in the SADC and NEPAD regions in a politically neutral way to establish a trade block with the rest of the world,' says Julius. World Trade Centre Cape Town is headquartered at Crystal Towers, Century City. **+27 (0)87 944 4072, wtc.co.za**

Century City still booming

Century City has another new development, worth R11 billion, in the pipeline, says Rabie Property Group. The 250ha Century City mixed-use development was launched in 1997, and total investment to date has topped the R16 billion mark. Rabie Group acquired land rights totalling 1 250 000m², of which they have utilised 760 000m², with a further 93 000m² currently under construction or in the planning phase. John Chapman, a director at Rabie Property Group, says that Century City is well geared to take advantage of an economic upturn, which, he predicts, is 'just around the corner'. 'In fact we expect the pace of development to continue gaining momentum as we go forward, thanks to the central location and all the amenities on offer within the integrated precinct,' says John. He adds that Rabie Property Group is ready to push the button on new developments as the market dictates. **+27 (0)21 550 7000, rabie.co.za**

African dream

Welgevonden, a private game reserve in the Waterberg, Limpopo, presents investors with the opportunity to purchase a lodge of their own. Home to the big five and other game, and just two and a half hours' drive from Johannesburg, the Waterberg region is fast becoming a popular weekend getaway destination. Loua Boshoff, MD of Seeff Bela Bela, says that if you are looking for a private home in a premier reserve, a share in a syndicate lodge, a corporate investment, or if you intend running a superb luxury game lodge commercially, then Welgevonden is the place for you. The wildlife sanctuary incorporates exclusive safari lodges, each secluded within its own freehold portion of this vast reserve, which owners and guests may freely traverse. Listed at R17,95 million is a ready-built luxury 10-bedroom lodge on 500ha of land. The lodge is fully equipped and can be utilised for private, corporate or commercial purposes. **+27 (0)14 736 6495, seeff.com; welgevonden.org**