



The City of Cape Town's Water Star Rating Certification

Ceremony: 14 November 2018

The Water and Sanitation Department's Water Star Rating Certification system promotes best practices in water management, conservation and pollution control in the business sector; government departments; education and health institutions; and residential estates.

The certification underscores the continuation of the strong partnerships forged between the City and the private sector that saw Cape Town get through the recent severe and rare drought; and ensures the wise use of water in the long term.

The following entities have been certified:

Entity	Stars
Britos Investment Trust	1
Juno Corporation South Africa	1
Fusion Leather World (Pty) Ltd	1
TraX Interconnect	2
Aerosol and Cosmetics	2
Vital Health Foods	3
Vector Logistics Solutions	4
BG Servers	4
First Rand Group	4
Portside Body Corporate	4
SAB Newlands	5
Old Mutual Pinelands	5
Virgin Active Constantia	5
Astroenergy (Pty) Ltd	5

Old Mutual (Pinelands)

'We are very proud of our efforts to push boundaries and to challenge our relationship with water. For instance, our wastewater-to-drinking-water filtration plant is a proud achievement that illustrates this commitment. This type of initiative is important as it forms part of the new way of looking at water security. We are very proud that we were able to prove that the technology is available to bolster water supply infrastructure. It is nice to be the first, but hopefully we are not the only ones to do this.

'It must also be noted that we achieved a massive behaviour change by our 9 500 tenants and employees. Before the water filtration project was commissioned, we already saw a decrease in our water demand by almost 35%. This was a major success.

'We are reaping the benefits of being more environmentally and financially sustainable.

'As a Green community, we appreciate all efforts made that show responsible initiatives towards the environment, whether certified or not. When we have a responsibility to a broader community that doesn't necessarily understand the intricacies of our environment, certifications allow us to prove our commitment towards a cause.

'Healthy competition is also an important aspect of progress. The aim to be the best should be a short-lived achievement as the ultimate goal would be for others to improve on your learnings and do it even better. Thus, ultimately the aim should be to improve the industry and constantly push boundaries,' said Khiyam Fredericks, National Technical Manager, Old Mutual.

Virgin Active (Constantia)

'Our water stewardship and investments over the past 18 months have shown terrific results with an average municipal water reduction of 67% across our Western Cape clubs compared to a 2015 pre-drought baseline.

'We had achieved what we set out to, but we knew there was so much more to be done. It was the mobilisation of our team of experts and our partners on water projects to help community organisations, such as animal welfares and children's homes, that made us most proud.

'This certification tool helps us to benchmark our efforts against other industries in the Western Cape, as we continue to strive to achieve best practice water stewardship. It also holds us accountable as a responsible corporate citizen. The City's acknowledgement of our efforts and investments also goes a long way to help us establish credibility as a business acting as a force for good.

'Our projects in the Western Cape have taught us many lessons and have set the benchmark for how water should be managed and re-used in all our health clubs, and our business has committed to rolling these initiatives across all 143 health clubs we operate in Southern Africa.

'Behavioural change has been a critical part of achieving the results we've seen in the Western Cape, and this is something we will continue to drive with our people and members. We know that water can no longer be viewed as a single-use resource. But we've had no idea until now how easy it is, including the possible returns for business, to conserve and reuse water,' said Wesley Noble, Head of Changing Business for Good, Virgin Active.

Finlar Foods (food supplier)

'As a business we are very proud that we were able to reduce our daily factory water consumption from 220 m³ litres per day down to 135 m³ per day.

'We supply multinational business like McDonalds and, in these supply relationships, it is expected of us to show evidence of all of the work that we do towards sustainability. This certification therefore means a lot to Finlar Foods. It allows us to show customers the recognition we got and serves as proof of what we have achieved.

'To maintain any changed way of working takes hard work, monitoring and regular communication before it will become the new standard,' said Henk de Villiers, General Manager, Finlar Foods.

BG Servers

'It's not about being recognised but rather it's about doing the right thing with the resources available. We believe it's every person's and every company's responsibility to be stewards of what our beautiful planet provides and to ensuring a sustainable future for the generations to come.

'We started in 2009, acquiring 25 000 litres' worth of rainwater harvesting tanks over time to reduce our municipal water usage. We have harvested just over 4,6 million litres of rainwater over the last 10 years. We also implemented a drum vacuuming system a year ago and this ensures that we use less water during the cleaning process.

'Our systems have also helped us to reduce costs and to control our supply. We are most proud about our staff education initiatives and our practice of shutting off municipal supply to toilets and educating members of staff about the usage of borehole and rainwater as an alternative.'

'We've learnt that it is never as simple as it looks; that one must take baby steps and look to improve efforts continuously and that it is not about how much you spend, it is about doing the right thing. Lastly, don't ever think that you have all of the answers, rather remain humble and listen to what others have to offer. It is advisable to do research and to start small and to work according to the ethos that every drop counts,' said Brenner Krauss, Financial Manager, BG Servers.

TraX Interconnect

'We are most proud of the fact that we were able to reduce the water consumption of our factory by 40% per day. This was done through a massive staff effort. The benefits to our organisation are that we are doing our bit for the environment and the water savings achieved are going toward the financing of our own water treatment plant. You cannot manage what you don't measure. It has been through our effort of sub-metering that each and every line in our factory that consumes water has been able to learn where to focus its efforts. By measuring each water consumer in the factory separately, we were able to detect leaks and faults easily. We were also able to reduce the water pressure requirements of the entire factory and to boost it only where higher pressures were required.

'The City's water dashboard was displayed on the digital notice boards and the staff really bought into the idea of saving water. For several months our staff even used buckets to flush toilets while we made arrangements to permanently plumb them to well-point water.

'The biggest benefit of certification is that the members of staff are recognised for their water-saving efforts. It is also nice to share our achievement with our customers to show that we are aware of our environment and are doing our bit as a responsible manufacturer.

'Our advice to other businesses would be to measure your consumption so that you can track your improvements. Involve your staff in the innovation process. Many of our water-saving ideas came from the staff. If we had to do it all again we should not have waited for a water crisis to start our water saving efforts. Looking back now, we could have saved thousands of kilolitres over the years if we had built the factory with water efficiency in mind. But we have also proven that it is never too late to start saving this precious resource,' said Daniel Dock, Managing Director, TraX Interconnect.

Portside (First Rand)

'Although the Portside building was designed and established with many water management features, we identified that a lot of water was being wasted by still ending up in the stormwater system. We installed a network of piping to recover this water and to re-direct it into our underground storage tank for re-use in our toilets and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system.

The Portside Building was designed and built as a 5-Star Green highrise building and, as such, we must uphold that image. The Star Rating Certification goes a long way in doing that. It is also a way to show all our tenants that their sacrifices and water-saving contributions are being recognised by an institution such as the City of Cape Town.

'We would advise anyone erecting a new building to apply sustainability principles to their design,' said Franco van Rooi, Technical Services Manager: Building Management Services, FirstRand.

SAB (Newlands Brewery)

'Newlands brewery has had an interesting water-saving journey. Through best practice and strict target setting we have managed to drop the water ratio from 3,73HI of water per HI of beer produced to 2,81HI of water per HI of beer produced. The result is equivalent to a litre of water saved per litre produced for the last five years of production. We aim to lower this to 2HI per HL of beer by 2025 globally.

'Newlands Brewery, which operates off the grid and uses spring water for its water requirements, is also sharing spring water with members of the public via the Newlands Pool collection point.

'SAB also donated R6 million to the City to assist with the fixing of leaks.

'SAB has become a credible voice regarding water efficiencies, water stewardship and corporate contributions towards the water crisis. We have also managed to entrench a culture water conservation in our operations and among our staff,' said Andile Kebe, Acting Environment Manager.

Juno Corporation South Africa

Juno Corporation is in the business of transporting hazardous waste, industrial/domestic drain cleaning, arranging liquid and dry waste removal as well as conducting pipeline inspections.

As part of their water and sanitation management initiatives, they have created a water storage facility by dismantling one of their truck units. By using a 10 000 litre tank from the truck, effluent or rain water can be stored and used later for various operations. Juno Corporation has also procured a few treated effluent standpipes from the City of Cape Town to cut down on potable water usage.

The company has also enforced a water-wise culture among its staff by leading by example and ensuring that all their shower and tap heads have been replaced with water-saving attachments. In addition, all toilets cisterns have weights in them to limit the amount of water being flushed away and the stopcocks are also all turned off as the janitor manually fills the toilets with effluent water from the aforementioned storage tank. As pioneers in the industry,

Juno Corporation hopes that other companies will follow suit in order to create a water-wise city that never has face the possibility of Day Zero ever again.

Astronenergy (Pty) Ltd

As an oil and gas company, Astronenergy takes measures to reduce its carbon footprint and promote environmental awareness. Therefore, this award is a great achievement for the company as it is proof that their processes, procedures and efforts are in line with its corporate environmental goals.

The company's facility boasts several key design features which include a closed loop, air cooled air-conditioning system; water efficient taps; and capacity for storing 171 000 litres of rain water for use in urinals and for toilet flushing.

Astronenergy has been extremely water-conscious since the day the company moved into the facility back in 2014 and has been recording and monitoring water consumption ever since. The company has managed to do so using the Building Management System (BMS) which is an application that monitors meter readings from meters installed at major water-use areas.

Maintaining the highest environmental standards is one of the company's core values therefore this recognition provides encouragement and a sense of achievement.