

Nedbank Menlyn Maine awarded 5-star Green Star rating

The Green Building Council of South Africa has awarded Nedbank's Menlyn Maine building a five star Green Star rating in Existing Building Performance.



Image source: www.bosun.co.za

“This certification underscores our commitment to driving sustainable inclusive economic growth and having a positive impact on socioeconomic development, including the environment. It delivers on our purpose of using our financial expertise to do good,” said Howard Rauff, Nedbank head of corporate real estate, accepting the award at the plaque unveiling ceremony.

Built on sustainability principles

Having already achieved both the Green Star design (four-star) and As-built (five-star) ratings, the 16,244m² 'Designed for Living' building – based on green building values of sustainability, densification, energy and water efficiency – was opened in July 2012. The building focuses not only on energy and water efficiency, but also on the reconciliation of the natural, social and economic environments according to United Nations sustainability principles.

Presenting the Green Star award, CEO of the GBCSA Dorah Modise commended Nedbank for its pioneering efforts in the green building space. “Nedbank was issued the first ever Green Star certification for its Sandton head office back in 2009 and continues to break boundaries in its commitment to sustainability. Our longstanding relationship with Nedbank has stimulated action by more companies in the financial sector thereby going a long way in transforming SA's built environment landscape. We look forward to more exciting developments as Nedbank continues to implement its ambitious green building strategy.”

Nedbank Menlyn Maine sustainability features include:

- Using rainwater and groundwater for toilet flushing via a separate reticulation system; thermal storage tanks and a solar plant that effectively reduce the peak energy requirement of the building by 50%, helping to alleviate pressure on the national electricity grid.

- Management of solid waste and material aimed at increasing the amount of waste diverted from landfill and the treatment of waste and material disposal.
- A green cleaning policy has been implemented to guide and encourage the use of high performance cleaning practices.
- A green transport plan is in place, including a staff car-pooling initiative and shower facilities for cyclists.

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