

## Top SMMEs crowned at the 2011 Africa Awards

14 October 2011

The 2011 Africa Small, Medium and Micro Enterprise (SMME) Awards, an initiative of the Africagrowth Institute, in partnership with governments and major organisations, took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2011 at the Gold Reef City Hotel, Gauteng. Red carpet was rolled out for the award winning SMMEs, dignitaries and participants from all over Africa who attended this glamorous event. Entries for the awards competition streamed in from SMME managers and owners in throughout Africa, thus, making it extremely difficult for the judges to select the 3 finalists in each of the 6 categories, as well as the overall winner.

Olives South Africa Pty Ltd. was crowned as the overall winner as well as the winner for the Most Innovative Award. Olives South Africa Pty Ltd., is a small business located at Hartswater in Northern Cape. It is an important producer of olive oil, vinegar and cosmetics, among others. The overall award was proudly sponsored by Old Mutual.

According to the judges, Olives South Africa Pty Ltd was awarded the overall winner because of its successful business model. Furthermore, the business is built on solid and sustainable business principles and has established itself as a leader in the manufacturing of its products with an intelligent attribute of value addition component that has radically changed the lives of everyone involved in the company.

Other SMME Award winners per category, for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place were;

<b>Best New Business Award Sponsored by Pioneer Foods</b>	<b>Most Innovative Award Sponsored by SEDA</b>	<b>Industrial Award : Sponsored by Anglo-American</b>
1st Guiding Hope	1st. Olives South Africa Pty Ltd.	1st. Victoria Seeds Ltd
2nd. Kxo'xo Leather Designs	2nd. Ecotact Limited	2nd. Trueways Enterprises Limited
3rd. Moonriver Guest House	3rd. Grapeseed Trading 7	3rd. Zathu Technologies Pty Ltd
<b>Service Sector Award Sponsored by MTN SA</b>	<b>Trade Sector Award sponsored by Khula</b>	<b>Young Enterprise Award sponsored by XSTRATA</b>
1st. Fetola Pty Ltd	1st. Gone Rural Pty Ltd	1st. Ezulwini Chocolat
2nd. Trinitas Consulting (Pty) Ltd	2nd. The Phoenix Ltd	2nd. Atelier des mille cillines Ltd
3rd. Trident Institute (Pty) Ltd	3rd. Amazizi Co-operative Limited	3rd. Nick Creations Limited

The SMME conference and awards program is designed to encourage and promote the SMME sector in South Africa and across the African continent through the sharing of best practice principles and healthy competition among operators in this sector. The businesses that enter the competition are expected to be well established, in good financial shape and enjoy a reputation for quality, integrity and service delivery. Furthermore, they should operate in a socially responsible manner, support community development efforts, and create a sustainably work environment in which their employees can learn and grow.

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