



Abridged Biography | Dr Ron Watermeyer



Ron graduated with a civil engineering degree from the University of the Witwatersrand in 1978. He spent the first decade of his career in the employ of Transnet where he functioned as a site engineer on a mega project and as a structural engineer in a specialist design office. He worked as a consulting engineer for Soderlund and Schutte providing civil and structural engineering services for the next two decades. Over the last decade, he has worked with public sector clients and universities in the procurement and delivery of infrastructure projects. He founded Infrastructure Options (Pty)Ltd in 2012.

He has been at the forefront of many development initiatives in South Africa since the early 1990s. He has reinterpreted building regulations, developed systems for the classification of sites in terms of geotechnical characteristics and building practice and established technical requirements for a structural warranty scheme for houses. He has also changed construction methods, technologies and practices to facilitate socio-economic development imperatives and pioneered the development of construction procurement procedures, practices, tactics and strategy and client delivery management practices aimed at improving infrastructure project outcomes. Much of his work has been incorporated into national and international standards.

He pioneered the introduction of framework agreements and target contracts on the University of the Witwatersrand Capital Programme (2008-2014). He has been intimately involved in the development of the Sol Plaatje University and the University of the Mpumalanga infrastructure since 2011. He has also served as a core member of the DHET's Macro Infrastructure Framework Support Team (2017-2021).

In 2009 he obtained a senior doctorate (Doctor of Engineering) from the University of the Witwatersrand for his engineering development work which has significantly contributed to the delivery of infrastructure for the advancement of a changing South African society. In 2010 he was awarded the Institution of Civil Engineer's International medal for his contribution over time in the delivery of enabling engineering mechanisms for the UN Millennium Development Goals. He has published more than 90 papers and articles on various aspects on the procurement and delivery of infrastructure – see www.ioptions.co.za and an e-book Client Guide for Improving Infrastructure Project Outcomes. He is currently a Director of Infrastructure Options Pty (Ltd), a Trustee of Engineers Against Poverty (London based international charity), a Visiting Adjunct Professor, School of Construction Economics and Management, University of the Witwatersrand,

the Chair of ISO TC 59 / SC18 (International Organisation for Standardisation's subcommittee for construction procurement) and a Member of the Certification Board of FIDIC Credentialing Limited (subsidiary of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers).
