

MICHAEL BALESTRA • Manager Project Delivery



More than 30 years of experience in project, design, contract and construction management and delivery of projects in the mining, civil, infrastructure, building construction, waste, water, transport and health sectors. Specialist in driving efficiencies during the initiation, planning and delivery stages of projects.

Major Achievements

- Superintendent – SunCentral, Maroochydore City Centre development (\$300 million)
- Evaluation Team Leader (Construction) – GoldLinQ, Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 2 (\$420 million)
- Superintendent, Principal’s Construction Quality Assurance Representative and Construction Project Manager for the Pierce Avenue Landfill Leachate Cut-off Wall and Collection System project (2013 / 2014 – \$6 million)
- Superintendent’s Representative for the Caloundra Landfill Expansion project involving construction of four lined landfill cells and leachate collection systems (2013/2014 – \$4 million)
- Project Manager for the preparation of preliminary design, project schedule, capital and operating cost estimates, and tender documentation for a Copper Concentrator Ore Handling System for Xstrata Copper (2011 – \$34 million)
- Project Manager and Superintendent for delivery of a programme of capital works projects for Sunshine Coast Council including project scoping, feasibility, design management, statutory approvals, tender and procurement, construction and contract management, and project controls (2011 / 2015 – >30 projects)
- Project Manager on several large scale mining projects as part of the Ernest Henry Mine Life of Mine Extension Project 2010 / 2011 – \$600 million)
- Director of Capital Works, Port Elizabeth Metropolitan Council (South Africa), responsible for delivery of annual capital works programmes comprising up to 350 projects with a budget of up to \$250 million (1998-2008 – \$250 million per annum)
- Project management of several Soccer World Cup 2010 (Port Elizabeth, South Africa) infrastructure and engineering projects (2006-2008)
- Past Fellow and Council member (and branch chairman) of the Institute of Municipal Engineers of Southern Africa
- Presented papers at national and international municipal engineering conferences (awarded best paper at a national municipal engineering conference – South Africa)

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Technology – Civil Engineering
- National Higher Diploma – Civil Engineering
- National Diploma – Civil Engineering
- Engineering Technologist Member, Engineers Australia (TMIEAust)

Key Skills

- Project management
- Design and construction management
- Contract management
- Project delivery strategies
- Superintendent services
- Project planning, controls and reporting
- Project feasibility analysis
- Estimating and tendering

Contact

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Career Overview

2008 – Present	BDR Projects	Manager Project Delivery
1998 – 2008	Port Elizabeth Metropolitan Municipality	Director, Design Implementation
1995 – 1998	Port Elizabeth Metropolitan Municipality	Principal Technician
1991 – 1991	Project Developments	Site Engineer
1990 – 1991	South African Defence Force	Engineer
1986 – 1995	Blignaut, Cagwe & Jones	Design and Contracts Engineer

Professional Record

2008 – Present – BDR Projects Pty Limited

Manager, Project Delivery

Duties and responsibilities include:

- Project, procurement and contract management consulting roles on various mining, civil, infrastructure, water, health and building industry projects

1998 – 2008 – Port Elizabeth Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa

Director Design and Implementation

Duties and responsibilities included:

- Responsible for managing capital works programs comprising approximately 350 projects annually and with an annual budget in excess of \$250 million

1995 – 1998 – Port Elizabeth Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa

Principal Technician

Duties and responsibilities included:

- Feasibility studies for planned capital and maintenance works reporting on the acceptability and feasibility of proposed developments
- Evaluating effect of planned projects on existing networks
- Undertaking or procuring detailed designs, preparing tender documentation and managing tender processes
- Administration and supervision of construction and maintenance works
- Provision of technical input and guidance and evaluating engineers' designs to ensure compliance with municipal requirements
- Providing input into asset maintenance and renewal programs through ongoing analysis of existing network performance
- Coordinating updates to GIS and other network planning and record systems

1986 – 1995 Blignaut, Cagwe & Jones, South Africa

Design & Contracts Engineer

Duties and responsibilities included:

- Design and project management
- Survey work
- Planning and programming
- Estimating and tendering
- Technical and quality control
- Contractor administration and supervision

1991 – 1991 – Project Developments, Civil Engineering Contractor

Site Engineer

Duties and responsibilities included:

- Site Engineer involved in the construction of civil engineering services on subdivisional works comprising roads, stormwater, water and sewer bulk services, and reticulation

1990 – 1991 – South African Defence Force

Engineer

Duties and responsibilities included:

- Engineer within a military construction unit during 1 year conscription military service