

# Dazzling Olivers success for BEE champions at Netcare

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A decade of empowerment progress came to a spectacular climax on Thursday night, 24 March, with presentations to the country's foremost champions of empowerment in the public and private sectors, among major corporates and across the ranks of small, medium and micro enterprises.



The 10th Metropolitan Oliver Empowerment Awards (the 'Olivers'), the mark of BEE distinction for transformation leaders, were bestowed by guest of honour and keynote speaker Mr Thembelani Nxesi (Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform) at the Sandton Convention Centre before an elite audience of political and business leaders and media personalities.



Big winner on a big night for empowerment was Netcare Limited, which took the overall title as Top Empowerment Business of the Year after first scooping the Top Empowered Big Business Award and taking category honours for businesses in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector.

Netcare CEO Dr Richard Friedland pointed out: "For Netcare, black economic empowerment is far, far more than a business imperative. For us it is about playing our part in normalising our society and restoring dignity and respect to everyone in our nation. We are a strong believer in service leadership, serving not just patients but the broader community. We are humbled by this award but recognise that we still have so much to do. I want to salute everyone involved in this effort. Tapping the creativity and energy of every South African is critical to the success of our nation."

The Olivers are hosted every year by Impumelelo, a pioneering publication dedicated to black business success, and organised by Topco Media in partnership with headline sponsor Metropolitan, the leading life assurer and investment solutions provider.

The 10th anniversary event celebrated business success in style, bringing glamour and sophistication to a segment of the economy normally associated with hard work and unstinting effort.

The occasion also provided an ideal showcase for a lifetime achievement award to Vusi Khanyile, founder MD and chairman of Thebe Investments, South Africa's first black empowerment company which was received by Thulani Khanyile, CEO of Afro Energy and son of Vusi Khanyile.



*Dan Moyane Group Exec of MMI Holdings - Headline Sponsor (left), Dr Richard Friedland Netcare CEO (right)*



*Group shot of winners*

Among those applauding the award was special guest Futhi Mtoba (president of Business Unity South Africa and chairman of the Public Investment Corporation).

The audience then celebrated the latest wave of empowerment heroes, including Ronald Abvajee (of My Personal Trainer Wellness), who took the coveted individual award for Top Black Male Entrepreneur, and the Top Black Female Entrepreneur title was claimed by Pria Hassan (of WOA Fuels & Oils).

On another outstanding success for the Olivers, Zelfhinia Mvula, BEE Manager at Metropolitan, commented: "The partnership between Topco Media and Metropolitan has contributed to consistently higher standards within this groundbreaking awards programme. Passion for transformation drives Metropolitan and that same passion characterises

these awards and the strength of commitment shown by the winners."

Topco chairman Richard Fletcher congratulated all finalists and noted: "This awards night celebrates your successes over the past year, but the real impact will be felt in future as a new wave of BEE champions draws inspiration from your example."

Top Black Female Entrepreneur Pria Hassan emphasised the wider significance of the awards: "By putting the spotlight on Black entrepreneurs in such spectacular style, the Olivers celebrate empowerment and personal achievement in a way that uplifts and energises everyone at the event and everyone who dreams of making a breakthrough into the world of business."



*Top Empowered Company of the year - Netcare Limited*

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"Every step forward by today's entrepreneurs takes huge personal commitment. This award says 'It can be done; don't give up.' That is the message I wish to share with all the entrepreneurs who start from a zero base yet still rise up."

South Africa's future prosperity was dependent on the creation of a cadre of inventive, energetic black entrepreneurs, said Top Black Male Entrepreneur Ronald Abvajee.

He added: "Entrepreneurs not only create wealth, they create jobs and drive economic growth. This is especially true of start-ups and small business. Build an enterprise culture and you build a nation. These awards contribute to this vision and the organisers should be congratulated for creating such a dazzling showcase in which tomorrow's entrepreneurs can shine."

The event's glitzy and ritzy positioning was supported by world-class entertainment from multi-talented master musician Jimi Gomez and the stylish 'fab four' from Barcode. They wowed an audience of South Africa's good and great. MC Xolani Gwala, usually associated with drive-time on SAfm, ensured a fine time for all.

## **Awards recognition...**

Top Black Businessman: Kamugelo Mmutlana (of Fleet Africa);

Top Black Businesswoman: Ashantha Armogam (of Grid Worldwide Branding & Design);

Top Black Public Sector Executive: Mike Kgobe (of Denel Aviation);

Top Empowered Corporate Award: Maponya Incorporated;

Top Empowered SMME: Zanusi Brand Solutions.

Top Empowered Government Agency: the South African National Roads Agency;

Top Empowered Parastatal: the South African Post Office.

Category winners:

Resources: Total SA;

Basic and general industrials: Eqstra Holdings;

Food and beverages: Tongaat Hulett;

Healthcare and pharmaceuticals: Netcare;

Retail: Voltex;

Travel, leisure and entertainment: Southern Sun Hotels;

Media: Grid Worldwide Branding & Design;  
Support services: KPMG;  
Transport: Fleet Africa;  
Financial services: Absa Group;  
ICT: Bytes Technology Group SA;  
Education: Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

## **Top Empowered Company Awards:**

## **Resources - Sponsored by Siyanda Resources**

KZN Oils (Pty) Ltd  
WOA Fuels & Oils  
Total South Africa (Pty) Ltd

## **Basis & General Industries**

Gibb (Pty) Ltd  
Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Mercedes-Benz South Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Mott MacDonald South Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Steinmuller Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Dormac (Pty) Ltd  
Eqstra Holdings Ltd

## **Food & Beverage**

Tsebo Outsourcing Group (Pty) Ltd  
Oceana Group Ltd  
RoyalServe Catering (Pty) Ltd  
Tongaat Hulett Ltd

## **Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals**

Bonitas Medical Fund  
Netcare Limited  
Pinnacle Health Solutions (Pty) Ltd

## **Retail - Sponsored by Edcon**

Voltex (Pty) Ltd  
Woolworths Holdings Ltd  
Spar Group Limited  
Cashbuild Limited

## **Travel, Leisure & Entertainment**

City Lodge Hotels Ltd  
Club Travel SA (Pty) Ltd  
Coastlands Durban (Pty) Ltd  
Southern Sun Hotels (Pty) Ltd  
Travel with Flair (Pty) Ltd

Thebe Exhibitions & Projects Group (Pty) Ltd  
Tempest Car Hire (Pty) Ltd

## **Media**

VWV Group (Pty) Ltd  
DraftFCB South Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Grid Worldwide Branding & Design (Pty) Ltd  
Support Services  
Adams & Adams  
ECI Africa Consulting  
Kelly Group Ltd  
KPMG  
Maponya Inc

## **Transport**

Daimler Fleet Management South Africa (Pty) Ltd t/a Debis Fleet Management  
Fleet Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Siyaduma Auto Ferriers (Pty) Ltd  
Super Group Ltd

## **Financial Services - Sponsored by Business Report**

21st Century Pay Solutions Group (Pty) Ltd  
ABSA Group Ltd  
Sekunjalo Investments Ltd

## **ICT**

Accenture South Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Bytes Technology Group South Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Dimension Data (Pty) Ltd  
EOH (Pty) Ltd  
Westcon SA (Pty) Ltd  
CHM Vuwani Computer Solutions (Pty) Ltd

## **Education**

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University  
Knowledge Quest  
Altimax Training Academy  
University of Pretoria

## **Top Empowered SMME - Sponsored by FNB**

Transglobal Cargo (Pty) Ltd  
Web Stationers  
KPG Media Technologies cc  
Ocular Technologies (Pty) Ltd  
Ithuba Industries  
Zanusi Brand Solutions

My Personal Trainer (Pty) Ltd  
Plus 94 Research (Pty) Ltd

## **Top Empowered Government Awards:**

### **Top Empowered Government Agency**

Centre for Public Service Innovation  
Media Development and Diversity Agency  
South African National Roads Agency Limited  
Trans Caledon Tunnel Authority

### **Top Empowered Government Parastatal**

Medical Research Council  
South African Post Office  
Denel (Pty) Ltd  
South African Weather Service  
Foskor

## **Top Empowered Individual Awards:**

### **Top Black Male Entrepreneur - Sponsored by Metropolitan**

Nathan Reddy - Grid Worldwide Branding & Design (Pty) Ltd  
Rajen Reddy - KZN Oils (Pty) Ltd  
Pommie Lutchman - Ocular Technologies (Pty) Ltd  
Saantha Naidu - Saantha Naidu Group  
Ronald Abvajee - My Personal Trainer (Pty) Ltd  
Olu Soluade - AOS Consulting Engineers cc

### **Top Black Female Entrepreneur**

Nokuthula Luthuli - Bloom Marketing  
Zolelwa Molapisi - By Design Marketing Group  
Dumisa Melane - eNetworks  
Pria Hassan - WOA Fuels & Oils  
Johanna Mukoki - Travel with Flair

### **Top Black Public Sector Executive**

Dr. Linda Makuleni - South African Weather Service  
James Ndluvo - Trans Caledon Tunnel Authority  
Mike Kgobe - Denel Aviation

### **Top Black Businessman - Sponsored by FNB**

William Mzimba - Accenture  
Kamogelo Mmutlana - Fleet Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Tseliso Pitikoe - RoyalServe Cleaning

### **Top Black Businesswoman - Sponsored by Metropolitan**

Baitseng Rangata - Maponya Inc

Ashantha Armogam- Grid Worldwide Branding & Desing (Pty) Ltd

Daphne Motsepe - ABSA Group Ltd

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