

SA's TOP PERFORMING COMPANIES 2008

INCORPORATING THE PUBLIC SECTOR **TOP 300**

Hegemony

or harmony?

A new way of doing business
- Anton Roodt



The competitive **advantage** of nations

- In conversation with Eltie Links

Pricing the environment

- Kevin Davie



Re-inventing the Western Cape

- Angelo Manzoni

Going Green:

feel good indulgence?

- Adele Thomas



Spier: lighting a candle instead of cursing at the darkness

Over 1 500

companies inside

All Top Performing Companies are listed in our A-Z Index

Over 100

top companies profiled

SA rugby

on top of the world

Silver partner



Bronze Partners



The Commission on Restitution of Land Rights



water & forestry
Department:
Water Affairs and Forestry
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



2008
8th EDITION

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LOUIS GROUP

Growing

the global family business



Property



Financial Services



Technology



Social Investment

Louis Group is a family company, which was established in 1914 and has over nine decades transformed itself into a Property, Financial Services and Technology Group. Built on Christian values, the Group has been able to establish its business interests in England, Germany, Hungary, Isle of Man, Namibia, New Zealand, South Africa, Switzerland and the UAE. The stated objective of the Group is to be a World-class company operational in most significant global jurisdictions.

The company priorities are to adhere to Christian values and principles; make a significant social contribution to Africa and Europe, respect the dignity of each employee and provide them with a supportive work environment; continue to grow market share; and to provide quality products and service excellence.

The strength of a family company is in its commitment to unity and preserving the integrity of its name. This is achieved by constantly winning the heart of the client and delivering on every promise made.

- Alan Louis (Group CEO)

COMPANY STATISTICS / DEMOGRAPHICS / HISTORY

Year founded: 1914

Founding members: Michel and Salim Louis

Employees: ±400

Branches: Five (nationally): Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London; Eight (internationally): England, Germany, Hungary, Isle of Man, Namibia, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the UAE

Memberships: Cape Chamber of Commerce, Estate Agents Board, SAFSIA, SAAPS

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Turnover: Circa R1-billion worldwide

Financial year-end: 28 February

Market share: One of South Africa's largest private property, financial services and technology companies

Members/subsidiaries: Louis Group (SA); Louis Group (UK); Louis Group (Germany); Louis Group (Switzerland); Louis Group Trustees (Isle of Man); Louis Group Trustees (South Africa); Louis Group Properties; Louis Group Property Services; iCat; iWeb; iPro; SmartSurv Wireless; The AV Alliance; Louis Group Private Finance; Louis Group Property Associations; Louis Group Property Holdings (SA); Louis Group Hotels & Vineyards; Devon Valley Hotel; SylvanVale Vineyards; Louis Group Media Services; Primary News; High School Headlines; Today Magazine; Bridge Star Estates (UK); Poolavon (UK); Louis Group Property Holdings (Germany); Louis Group Property Holdings (Switzerland); Louis Group Treasury (Europe)

Holding company: Louis Group International Holdings Ltd

Bankers: Numerous worldwide bankers

Accountants: Numerous worldwide accountants

Industrial sectors: Commercial, industrial

BUSINESS CO-ORDINATES ▼



| | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------|---|
| Group Chairperson | Colia Louis | Technology Director | Emile Louis |
| CEO & Managing Director | Dr Alan Louis | Governors | Elizabeth Louis, Almie Louis, Nils Hinrichsen |
| Financial Director | Kobus Cloete | Physical address | Louis Group Building, 2 Boundary Road, Century City, Cape Town 7441 |
| Marketing & Communications Officer | Michael Ansell | Postal address | PO Box 100, Century City 7446 |
| Sales Director | Dean Louis | Telephone | (+27 21) 529 4600 |
| Human Resources Manager | Bruce Griffiths | Fax | (+27 21) 552 0320 |
| Media Director | Michael Louis | Email | info@louisgroupint.com |
| Legal Director | Brian Louis | Website | www.louisgroupint.com |

and residential properties; financial services, technology, hotels, wine and table grapes, media

JSE listing: Private group

Foreign listing: Private group

Current customer base: Circa 18 000

NATURE OF BUSINESS

Business activities/services: Property, financial services, technology, media, venture capital, IT integration, project management, GSM service providers and network support, hotel accommodation, wine sales and exporters, table grape sales and exporters

Exports: Exclusive wines, table grapes, technology products and services, structured finance, publications

Research and development: IT software programmes, property developments, IT integration, wireless technology applications

Major contracts: Property joint venture contracts with World Top 50 Family property Groups, Technology infrastructure for Cape Town's International Convention Centre (CTICC), secured African agency rights to offer picture scoping and mobile vehicle communication solutions

Joint ventures: Aldi Group, Tengelman Group, Vodacom, The AV Alliance, University of Stellenbosch Business School

Awards: CEO listed in various international 'Who's Who' publications; CEO awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Biographical Centre (Cambridge, England); CEO acknowledged as Man of the Year 2006 at American Biographical Institute; CEO listed in the IBC's Hall of Fame; Komsberg Farming awarded the first Namibian Green Scheme by the Namibian Government; iCAT awarded the prestigious infrastructure contract for the Cape Town International Convention Centre and providers of the world's first wireless vehicle surveillance device based on GPRS; Louis

Group awarded an Investment Management license by the South Africa Financial Services Board; Louis Group Trustees (Isle of Man) awarded a Corporate Service Provider license by the IOM Financial Supervision Commission; appointed Chairperson of the South African Association of Property Syndicators (SAAPS); The Best of Wine Tourism Accommodation Award for 2005 & 2006 won by The Devon Valley Hotel; CBSA Magazine of the Year - 2005 won by Today Magazine; Sanlam's Best Niche Publication - 2005 won by High School Headlines


The family values that my wife and I have been able to uphold over the years, have filtered down to my sons, the Group's leaders and staff who utilise these principles in their business dealings with their clients.
 – Colia Louis (Group Chairperson)

TRAINING AND CSI

Training programmes: Comprehensive group training and development programmes; Learnerships in property, web design, computer programming, finance and media

Bursaries / scholarships / participation: Louis Group Business Academy provides free NQF Level 5 accredited business tuition to 350 adults per year

NGO affiliations: The Ark; Transformation Africa; Thembalitsha Foundation

E-commerce facilities: SmartSurv Wireless;

iWeb; iPro; Louis Group Investments; media subscriptions; hotel room sales; export and wine sales **TP**

Fact box

CEO listed in Top 100 Business Executives and awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Biographical Centre (Cambridge, England)

CEO acknowledged as Man of the Year 2006 at American Biographical Institute; and listed in the IBC Hall of Fame

Group listed in Best Companies to work for in SA, Leading Managers, Top ICT e-Companies in SA and featured in the Financial Mail Corporate Report

Recognised as one of the largest private Property, Financial Services and Technology enterprises in South Africa and current Chairperson of the South African Association of Property Syndicators

Group awarded an Investment Management license by the South Africa Financial Services Board

Louis Group Trustees (Isle of Man) awarded Corporate Service Provider and Investment Business licenses by the IOM Financial Supervision Commission