

# South Africa's Leading Managers

## *Thinking differently*

PRESS RELEASE • WEDNESDAY 25th OCTOBER 2006

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD LEADER?** Simple though the question may seem, its answer is undeniably complicated. And while management skills can be taught and duly acquired over time, the X-factor that makes a truly great leader is difficult to define, and even more difficult to manufacture if it is not innate.

*South Africa's Leading Managers: 2006*, the latest title from Corporate Research Foundation (CRF), highlights a number of impressive success stories: from leaders who have breathed new life into ailing organisations, to those whose foresight and innovation have paved the way for further growth.

The publication was launched at a black tie, gala event held at Summer Place, Johannesburg, on 25 October 2006. J P Landman, South Africa's leading trends analyst, was the guest speaker.

*South Africa's Leading Managers: 2006*, is a collection of profiles of the country's top business leaders. The result is an informative and interesting snapshot of the styles and philosophies that have guided the leaders, helping them shape the country's most effective organisations in industries ranging from mining to hospitality and health care. In this unique volume, they share their experiences and insights, and the result is an inspirational blueprint of where business in South Africa is headed. Moreover, they are the heroes of today – role models for the youth seeking encouragement and guidance.

The Top Ten award placements for this year were selected according to a weighted average measure which considered the leaders' score in key areas, based on nominations received from a team of researchers, business analysts and journalists. Although the research panel agreed that South Africa's leadership pool contains a wealth of talent, the top three managers distinguished themselves through their exemplary vision and business acumen. They are, in order of merit, Adrian Gore of Discovery, Dr Jackie Mphahudi of Mvelaphanda and Jacko Maree of Standard Bank.

These leaders have passionately changed the business landscape in South Africa, and extended their network beyond the borders of our country – thereby setting trends for their international counterparts.

Greg Turner, general manager of CRF, reports that the organisation is extremely proud of the publication. 'We believe that this is a tremendously valuable read. We like to think of it as more than a simple reference tool; it's a compendium of the very best thinking

around organisations today. It puts a human face to some of the country's most powerful and well-respected businesspeople, granting a rare insight into what makes them tick.'

As such, the publication serves as a compass in South Africa's rapidly changing business landscape. It's a platform for sharing ideas, for sparking discussion, for informing policy-making and for guiding research. *South Africa's Leading Managers: 2006*, has been created by CRF to inform a wider audience about effective leadership strategies and the thinking behind modern management.

*South Africa's Leading Managers: 2006* completes the CRF suite of publications which serve as analytical reference guides with an aim to broadening our knowledge of organisational functioning and best practice. Other books published by CRF include *CRF Best Companies to Work for in South Africa*; *Top ICTe Companies in South Africa*; *Most Promising Companies in South Africa*; and *Careers SA*.

*South Africa's Leading Managers: 2006* is available from major book sellers at a suggested retail price of R249, excluding VAT.



#### Publication details

**Title:** South Africa's Leading Managers: 2006

**ISBN:** 0-620-36072-0

**Publication date:** 25 October 2006

**Recommended retail price:** R249.00 (excl. VAT)

**To order, please contact:** Corporate Research Foundation

**Tel:** +27 (21) 425 0320

**Website:** [www.leadingmanagers.co.za](http://www.leadingmanagers.co.za)

**For more information, please contact:**

**Rhoda Chamba**

**Tel:** +27 (21) 421 3049 **Fax:** +27 (21) 425 3977

**Email:** [rhoda.chamba@crf.co.za](mailto:rhoda.chamba@crf.co.za)

Corporate Research Foundation is an independent, internationally operating organisation. Established in the Netherlands and in South Africa in 1997, it represents a combined initiative of business journalists, academics, associations, researchers and international publishers, which today operates in eight countries on three continents. Its goal is to impart information about all aspects of business enterprises worldwide.