

EDITORS NOTE

I again wish to thank all in the sector for your input and support and suggestions. In order for the Update to become more integrated I have this month placed an abridged version of a review done by Andre Van Deventer of the National Institute for the Deaf (NID).

This, I hope, will present and expose our readership to wider and more information on products and services and establish contacts in the wide (already established) disability network. Your comments and



Jeremy Deysel
National Access Officer

Updated information: National Road Traffic Act

National Road Traffic Act

There has been a lot of inquiries and even misunderstanding of the application and interpretation around parking provisions for persons with disabilities.

Please take note of the provisions following chapters in the Road Traffic Act:

Chapter 15: General Provisions

80. Parking for Disabled Persons states, among other, that:

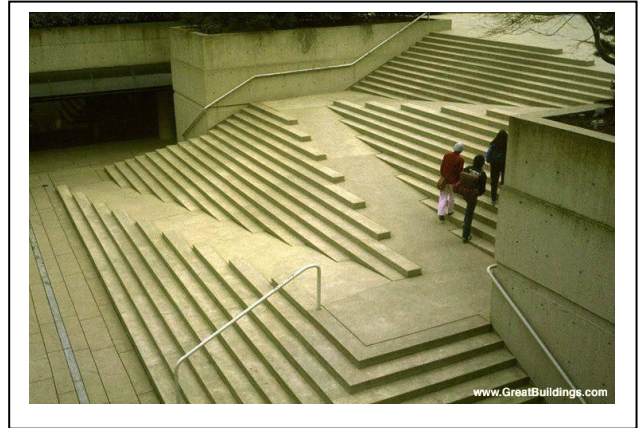
Any disabled person who has been exempted from the laws relating parking in accordance with the laws of any province, and to whom proof of su exemption has been issued, shall be deemed to be so exempted from the laws a plicable in the areas of jurisdiction of all local authorities in the Republic, but on to the extent to which that disabled person is exempted from the laws applicable the area of jurisdiction of the local authority concerned.

“Regulation 305 (7)

No person other than the disabled person shall park a motor vehicle shall park a motor vehicle reserved for disabled persons”

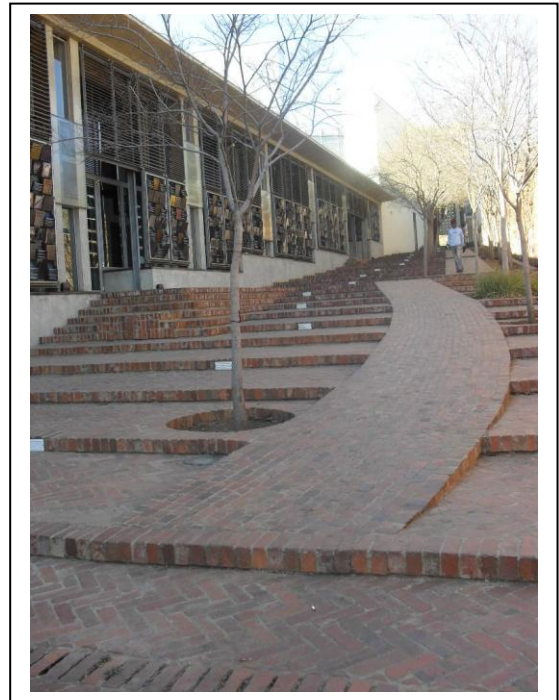
QASA has lodged a complaint regarding these regulations and will be lobbying for changes of usage of the facilities to include all wheelchair users.

Orchids and....



This picture (above), previously published by NAA Update, shows how inclusive ramp, stairs and rail design can work.

Onions



Certain design elements at the Constitutional Court left us with questions about universal access to the facility as this picture above illustrate.

Latest on the SABS 0400-Part S

SANS 10400-S: THE APPLICATION OF THE NATIONAL BUILDING REGULATIONS – PART S: FACILITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The revision to the National Building Regulation (NBR), superseding the corresponding parts of SABS 0400:1990 and SABS 0246:1993 was finally released for public comment in May 2010.

A copy of the new regulations may be obtained from NAA.

Assistive Technology : Listening Device Review

Submitted by Andre van Deventer

FM systems as assistive listening devices have been with us since at least the early 1980s and perhaps longer. They have been invaluable communication tools to many hard of hearing people through the years.

The basic FM system consists of the following main parts:

- A small transmitter unit with either one or more built in microphones or a separate microphone which can be connected to the transmitter unit; and
- A small receiving unit connected to headphones or an earphone, to hearing aids via a neck loop or via direct connecting cables.

The Bellman Audio Domino

The Domino is a digital communication system with some very important differences from the usual line of FM systems we have become used to during the last few years. The two most important differences are:

1. The transmission between the transmitter and receiver is digitally encrypted. This means that it is almost impossible for anyone to listen in on conversations when using the system.
2. The system can actually transmit and receive in stereo when connected to an outside audio source. This is one of the very few communication systems for persons with a hearing loss that can do that.

The Domino comes in two different versions, i.e. a Classic and the Pro version. Both versions are built on the same platform with the Bellman Audio Domino Pro having a few extra functions and also coming with a few extra accessories. For example: the Classic has only omni directional microphones on both receiver and transmitter while the pro version have both directional and omni directional microphones. The pro version is also more customisable than the pro one.

Continue...



A more detailed review of this device can be obtained from Andre at : info@hearingability.co.za

Write to us:
The Editor (NAA Update)
P.O Box 426
Melville
2109
Jeremy.deysel@ncppdsa.org.za