



## A SELFLESS ENTREPRENEUR

It all started with just R1000 registration deposit from his grandmother's pension grant. Today Nkululeko Mthembu is an established professional quantity surveyor who has worked on mega projects in South Africa.

## Nkululeko Mthembu - Class of '05

At the tender age of 21 he was already involved in a R200 million international project. Nkululeko was part of a team that did the cost management for the cargo terminal at King Shaka International Airport, a project that involved monitoring of exchange rates and foreign currencies.

Nkululeko graduated with a diploma in Quantity Surveying at MUT and has furthered his studies with two other institutions, obtaining a B.Tech and a B.Sc in Quantity Surveying. In May 2018, when MUT was faced with the tragic death of the first-year Quantity Surveying student Zolile Khumalo, Nkululeko selflessly donated refreshments for the over 150 learners who attended the funeral. He has a very strong sense of giving and believes that those who have should not forget those who do not have. **“Where I come from we do not have much, but I did not realise how poor we were because I come from a strong community background and I believe in giving without expecting anything in return. I believe in**

**sharing whatever I have and helping those that can't afford things. To take my mind off my demanding work, I prepare food parcels and donate to those who need support,”** said Nkululeko. He has a long list of beneficiaries including primary school learners, churches, needy communities and homeless people. Recently he donated toiletries for 150 MUT students who did not have NSFAS funding.

Nkululeko graduated cum laude with a Diploma in Construction Management & Quantity Surveying at MUT in 2007. At the age of 31, he felt he had reached his limits as an employee. After observing that there were not many black African owned quantity surveying firms in KZN, he founded Azadi Consulting, a quantity surveying, cost engineering and project management firm based in Durban. He provides employment to a number of MUT students and is very active in alumni projects.