

Chrome Dinner Awards Nomination

Category: Best Service Provider

Project Title:

Restoring Dignity to Inspire Learning: The Tharisa–ENAEX Partnership at Retief Primary School

Executive Summary

This nomination recognises ENAEX as a service provider that has gone beyond conventional business delivery to create meaningful social value through its partnership with Tharisa. At Retief Primary School, the collaboration addressed a critical community need by upgrading sanitation facilities and improving the daily learning environment for learners and educators.

Officially unveiled on 26 February 2025, the project demonstrates the positive role that service providers can play in strengthening responsible mining outcomes when they invest in shared value, community upliftment, and long-term partnerships. Through the provision of safe, functional, and hygienic sanitation facilities, ENAEX contributed to restoring dignity, improving well-being, and supporting a more enabling school environment.

The initiative was further strengthened through practical learner support, including backpacks, school shoes, and stationery, reinforcing the message that every child deserves the opportunity to learn with confidence. As a Best Service Provider nomination, this project reflects ENAEX's commitment to partnership excellence, community responsiveness, and sustainable impact beyond core contractual service delivery.

Project Overview

As a valued service provider to Tharisa, ENAEX has demonstrated that supplier partnerships can extend beyond operational delivery to create meaningful and lasting community value. At **Retief Primary School**, this commitment was brought to life on **26 February 2025** when **ENAEX, in partnership with Tharisa**, officially unveiled newly upgraded sanitation facilities that transformed an essential part of the school environment and improved the daily learning experience for learners and educators.

The project reflects ENAEX's willingness to add value beyond core service delivery by responding to a practical need within a host community connected to mining operations. More than just new toilets, the upgraded sanitation facilities restored dignity, improved hygiene, and created a healthier space where learners can focus on what truly matters: their education. The scope of work included the provision of safe, functional, and hygienic facilities that support well-being, attendance, and academic success.

The initiative was further strengthened through practical learner support, including backpacks, school shoes, and stationery, helping to ease everyday barriers to learning and reinforcing the message that every child is valued and encouraged to dream beyond the classroom. Together, these improvements position ENAEX as a service provider that contributes to responsible mining through partnership excellence, social responsiveness, and community-focused impact, while reinforcing Tharisa's commitment to meaningful and sustainable host community upliftment.

Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

The Retief Primary School sanitation upgrade aligns strongly with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which provide a global framework for improving health, education, equality,

sanitation, and partnerships for sustainable development. These global priorities are reflected in the project's practical, learner-focused outcomes within the Retief Primary School community.

- **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being:** The upgraded sanitation facilities promote improved hygiene, safer school conditions, and a healthier environment for learners and educators.
- **SDG 4: Quality Education:** By improving essential school infrastructure and reducing barriers to learning, the project supports attendance, dignity, and a more enabling educational environment.
- **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation:** The project directly contributes to access to safe, functional, and hygienic sanitation facilities within the school environment.
- **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities:** By supporting learners in a host community school with improved facilities and essential school resources, the initiative helps reduce social and educational disadvantage.
- **SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals:** The collaboration between Tharisa and ENAEX demonstrates the value of purposeful partnerships in delivering sustainable community impact.

Community Impact

Translating these SDG commitments into local action, the community impact of the Retief Primary School sanitation upgrade is both immediate and long lasting. For learners, the provision of safe, functional, and hygienic sanitation facilities has improved daily dignity, comfort, and confidence at school. This is especially important in a learning environment where basic infrastructure can directly influence attendance, participation, and the ability of learners to focus on their education.

For educators and school leadership, the upgraded facilities contribute to a healthier and more enabling school environment, supporting improved hygiene standards and reducing the daily burden associated with inadequate sanitation. The additional donation of backpacks, school shoes, and stationery further strengthened the project's impact by addressing practical barriers that many learners face and helping families feel supported by partners who care about the future of their children.

Beyond the school gates, the project reinforces trust and shared value between industry partners and the host community. It demonstrates how responsible mining investment can respond to real community needs in a practical, visible, and meaningful way. By restoring dignity, supporting education, and improving well-being, the initiative contributes to stronger community resilience and leaves a positive legacy that will benefit current and future learners at Retief Primary School.

Why This Project Deserves Recognition

ENAEX deserves recognition in the Best Service Provider category because the Retief Primary School sanitation upgrade demonstrates service-provider excellence that extends beyond operational delivery into purposeful, measurable community impact. The initiative reflects a provider that understands its role as a responsible partner to the mining industry and to the communities connected to mining operations.

- Demonstrating service-provider leadership through a visible investment in community dignity, health, and education.
- Strengthening the Tharisa–ENAEX partnership through shared commitment to responsible mining and host community upliftment.
- Addressing critical sanitation challenges in a school environment with practical, high-impact infrastructure improvements.
- Promoting learner health, safety, dignity, attendance, and confidence through improved learning conditions.
- Adding value beyond core service delivery by supporting learners with school shoes, backpacks, and stationery.
- Creating a lasting example of how mining service providers can contribute to sustainable community resilience and measurable social value.

Innovation and Impact

The innovation of this project lies in how ENAEX, as a service provider, extended its contribution beyond conventional operational support to deliver practical, community-centred value through a shared-value partnership with Tharisa. Rather than limiting the initiative to infrastructure delivery, the project combined sanitation upgrades with targeted learner support, addressing both the physical school environment and the everyday barriers that affect learners' confidence, dignity, and ability to participate fully in education.

Its impact is reflected in a healthier and more dignified school environment, improved access to safe and functional sanitation, and enhanced support for learners through backpacks, school shoes, and stationery. As a Best Service Provider nomination, the initiative demonstrates how supplier partnerships can strengthen responsible mining outcomes by responding to real community needs, creating visible social value, and setting a positive example of service-provider excellence within host communities.

Legacy

The Retief Primary School sanitation upgrade leaves a lasting legacy that reflects the broader value ENAEX brings as a responsible service provider to the mining industry. By investing beyond core operational delivery, ENAEX has helped create a healthier, more dignified, and more supportive school environment where learners can attend class with confidence and focus on their education.

Through its partnership with Tharisa, ENAEX has demonstrated how service providers can play a meaningful role in advancing responsible mining outcomes by contributing to host community upliftment, learner well-being, and long-term social value. The project's legacy is not only visible in the upgraded facilities, but also in the dignity restored, barriers reduced, and opportunities strengthened for current and future learners.

Together, ENAEX and Tharisa have shown that service-provider excellence is measured not only by operational performance, but by the ability to create enduring community impact and contribute to a brighter future for South Africa's children.

Closing Statement

The Retief Primary School sanitation upgrade is more than an infrastructure project; it is a clear demonstration of what service-provider excellence can achieve when operational partnerships are transformed into platforms for meaningful social change. The value of the initiative is reflected not only in the upgraded facilities, but also in the voices of the school community, where learners, educators, and families have experienced the difference that safe, functional, and dignified sanitation can make in everyday school life.

This nomination celebrates ENAEX as a Best Service Provider whose impact extends beyond service delivery into lasting community value. Through its partnership with Tharisa, ENAEX responded to a real community need in a way that restored dignity, improved well-being, and strengthened pride within the school environment. Community testimonials reinforce the true impact of the project: learners can use facilities with confidence, educators can focus on teaching in a healthier environment, and families can see meaningful investment in their children's future. The initiative stands as a powerful reminder that the best service providers do not only support mining operations; they help build stronger communities, restore hope, and open the way for a brighter future for South Africa's children.



RESTORING DIGNITY TO INSPIRE LEARNING

As part of a continued commitment to fostering healthier learning environments, Eneax, in partnership with Tharisa, proudly unveiled newly upgraded sanitation facilities at Retief Primary School.

This initiative represents more than just infrastructure improvement — it is a step towards empowering students and teachers to focus on improving educational outcomes, free from the health risks and discomforts caused by inadequate sanitation.

In addition to the facility upgrades, Tharisa extended its support by providing learners with

school backpacks, shoes, and stationery, ensuring that every child is equipped to learn with confidence and comfort.

This impactful social investment demonstrates a shared vision for a healthier, more inclusive learning environment, one that upholds every child's right to dignity, hygiene, and equal opportunity.

Together, Eneax and Tharisa are paving the way for a brighter educational future — where clean spaces and caring partnerships nurture the leaders of tomorrow.