

Covered! News from PowerPlastics Pool Covers

September 2010 : Spring has sprung



In the last few weeks, there have been some announcements and general observations that have lifted my mood and made me realise that not only has spring sprung but there is good reason to be optimistic about the last quarter of what has been a momentous year for South Africa.

Who can't be uplifted by the fact that South African banks have just reduced their lending rates by 50 basis points? That, with this cut, the mortgage rate will be at its lowest level since mid-1974? Certainly good news for those either contemplating or climbing up the property ladder or after some much needed accessories for the home.

Something else that gave me renewed hope was the announcement that our crime rates have dropped, year on year. We can be "cautiously optimistic", says the DA.

Then, we had word that the Johannesburg Municipality has tabled a new draft of the Pool Safety Legislation, which indicates that progress is being made in this arena. We know there are many concerns being raised about this issue but rest assured we will guide you, the pool owner, every step of the way. In fact we are about to launch a new blog which will be South Africa's first educational resource on all things Pool Safety.

And lastly, this week I noticed the new green bud on my mulberry tree ~ what better indicator that our summer is coming! In fact, it put us all in such a great mood that this month, we're bringing you our biggest competition prize yet ~ either a Sol+Guard or Solid Safety Cover (you choose!) to the value of R5000!

Read on to learn more about the savviest cover options to make your summer pool more economical because despite the optimism, at the end of the day, we're all still looking to make daily household savings.

Stephen Doyle, general manager
stephen@powerplastics.co.za

●●● *Covers for summer ~ to heat your pool* ●●●

South Africans live a typically outdoors lifestyle and, given the recent recession, many folk still prefer to entertain or stay at home and generally make the most of their summer outdoor living areas. But we all know that feeling of standing over the braai in sweltering heat then plunging into the pool only to realise that the water temperature is something that only a polar bear would appreciate! Yes, air temperatures may be rising but fact is, it takes a while for the average outdoor pool to warm up and reach comfortable swimming temperatures. The good news is that our thermal covers will rapidly close that gap and get you into your pool (without suffering hyperthermia!) a good six weeks earlier.

This year, the ultimate choice in our summer range is the new [Sol+Guard](#) which already has been named the "heating cover on steroids"! Only recently launched on the local market, this cover boasts a number of impressive heat generation and retention properties, specifically designed to enhance your summer swimming experience. See below for a more detailed description of this and other savvy heating solutions.

NB: We've been working on a new Case Study which details hard and fast test-house statistics about the savings possible with a Sol+Guard cover. Click [here](#) to request a copy of this technical document and we'll email it to you as soon as it is complete.

Sol+Guard ~ using sustainable energy to heat your pool

The global call to action to adopt clean and sustainable energy sources is ever present. Outdoor swimming pools are directly exposed to one of the cleanest, most sustainable energy resources known to man — the sun — so why use carbon (which is non-renewable and a pollutant) to heat your pool?

The [Sol+Guard](#) cover is top of it's game and a highly technical product for heating pools by transferring solar energy to pool water, achieving a constant water temperature, naturally. Use it effectively and you will get an extra six weeks of swimming either side of summer (that's an extra three months in total!). And for those reluctant to brace themselves against chilly water even in high summer, with the Sol+Guard's warmer water, you'll have a hard time getting everyone OUT the pool this season, never mind in! Just another first and just another innovation from PowerPlastics Pool Covers.

Features:

Sol+Guard is a translucent cover which allows the sun to penetrate and heat the water beneath. Whereas a standard thermal cover will heat the water (without any other heating systems) by an average of 6 to 8 degrees, Sol+Guard heats water at the upper end of this 6 to 8 degree range.

Given the cover's translucency, one is still able to enjoy the aesthetic appeal of the water and, at night, pool lighting is still effective and in fact heightens visual appeal.

Material:

Sol+Guard is a slightly heavier grammage, coming in at 500 microns which allows us to offer a reducing warranty of three years.

For more info on Sol+Guard, click [here](#) to contact Fagmeda or [here](#) to view the website.

- Increase water temperature by up to 8 degrees
- 50% less filtration required
- Reduce chemical input by 30%
- Reduce heating costs
- Reduce evaporation by up to 98%

Rating:
Most sustainable way to heat a pool:
★★★★★

The Thermal Range
Shrinking footprints, shrinking household expenses



This range features some of the most innovative, best selling covers on the local market, popular for their ability to reduce general maintenance costs typically associated with pools.

A thermal cover offers excellent heat generation and heat retention properties too, enhancing the swimming season with the resultant warmer water. And because leaves and garden debris can no longer collect in the water and compromise pH, the reduced backwashing, filtration times and chemical input translates into some notable water, power and chlorine savings.

Evaporation is almost completely eliminated as the cover lies directly on the water, making this a popular cover choice in drought-affected provinces or households concerned about their water footprints.

- Increase water temperature by up to 8 degrees
- 50% less filtration required
- Heat retention: energy savings of over 50%
- Reduce chemical input by 60%
- Effectively shrinks a pool's carbon footprint
- Less debris in the pool, a more stable pH

Rating:
Most economical way to reduce pool maintenance costs:
★★★★★

For more info on thermal covers, click [here](#) to contact Leroy or [here](#) to view the website.

Starline Roldeck
The ultimate in pool style



Every homeowner has a home improvement 'Wish List' and any pool owner passionate about the perfect blend of style and functionality will have the [Roldeck](#) cover on this list.

Sleek, sexy and dubbed the Rolls Royce of pool covers, this fully automated cover has long been favoured in overseas markets, not only for it's visual appeal but for it's associated environmental benefits too.

Available in blue, white, grey or translucent blue, at night the cover casts a gentle blue light, giving an ambient feel to any outdoor living area ~ perfect for relaxing summer evenings.

- 'Push of a button' ease of use
- Excellent way to close off a pool for long periods (great for frequent travellers!)
- Child drowning prevention: will bear the weight of 50kg without risk or damage
- Good heat retention properties
- Can be linked to home automation systems
- Prevents debris from contaminating water

Rating:
Most stylish way to cover a pool:
★★★★★

For more information on the Roldeck range click [here](#) to contact Abrie or [here](#) to view the website.

Competition: Win a pool cover to the value of R5000!

Because it is spring and we're in such a good mood, we thought you deserved a truly fantastic competition prize in this issue. Simply answer the easy question below and stand a chance to win either a [Solid Safety Cover](#) or a [Sol+Guard](#) Cover to the value of R5000! (answers can be found on our [website](#))

Fill in the two missing words in this sentence: **Sol+Guard harnesses the to give warmer water, better heat retention and longer swimming seasons.**

Click [here](#) to send your answers in an email to Carolyn. Entries close on October 1st. The winner will be notified on October 6th.

Thermal stocking sizzlers, because there is no such thing as starting Christmas shopping too early!

From: O.R.Ganized
Sent: 1 October 2010
To: Santa
Cc: Helpers (the little ones)
Subject: Sol+ Sizzler



Hi Santa
All year, my wife has been grumbling about the fact that even in high summer "only a brave penguin" would swim in our pool the water is so icy. Then, just as I was contemplating starting my Xmas shopping early this year, I happened to see her email to you, in which her top 2010 gift request was "a heated pool". So I quietly did some research (because let's be honest, I'll benefit too!) and set about getting my Minister of Home Affairs this warmer pool for Xmas, thinking to myself "how hard can this be!" I looked at solar panels and after I'd looked at heat pumps, I found my brain in a state of overload as there were just so many options. In fact, I was so overwhelmed by choice that I was ready to laugh off the idea and just get her the usual slippers and chocolates (I admit, I'd get a look-in on the chocolates too). Then, I ran into a mate at the rugby and I explained the dilemma (and said perhaps my wife should get a wetsuit if she wanted to be warmer in the pool). Well, he then told me all about his new thermal pool cover and, hallelujah, he was the first put it all in layman's terms for me (I am after all just a humble accountant). Apparently, a thermal pool cover is the FIRST step to take when heating a pool ~ better still, no Eskom required (sjoe!). In fact, my mate claims his wife took her first spring swim last month already! I immediately rang the recommended supplier, PowerPlastics Pool Covers, and after hearing about an 8-degree warmer pool (never mind the water, power and chemical savings as the cherry on top), well, I was sold and I placed my Sol+Guard order then and there. So Santa, this is just a note to say don't worry about that "heated pool" request from my Mrs, I've got it 'covered'! Good thing too because I reckon my Mrs would just scare the dogs if she strolled outside in a wetsuit....

Anyway Santa, if other pool owners ask you to turn an Xmas stocking into a real summer sizzler, don't muck about ~ go straight to PowerPlastics Pool Covers and get a thermal cover. I dealt with [Carolyn](#) there (Opps Manager) ~ super helpful lady! And without wanting to sound smug, already I see the merits of doing one's Xmas shopping in September!

Regards, ho ho ho and all the rest
O.R.Ganized (Mr)

PS ~ because the 'main' gift was sorted out so easily and there'll now be extra spending money next year, she might still get the slippers too. Or chocolates.

We've been Active!

We're extremely proud to have won a notable contract with Virgin Active.



Being commercial training pools, water temperature is critical for athletes and, with an average of six swimming lanes per pool, that's a lot of heat to generate and retain! By fitting custom sized covers to each lane, Virgin Active has seen a considerable increase in their heat pumps' efficiencies and obviously the resultant operational savings are proving notable. Also part of this order were [rollup stations](#), which in some branches are freestanding while in their newer gyms the rollup stations are housed inside a pit and concealed when the covers are not in use.

We are thrilled to be associated with a leading health and wellness brand like Virgin Active. To date, the following branches are sporting our covers:

- Steenberg ▪ Claremont ▪ Constantia ▪ George ▪ Somerset West ▪ Watermeyer Park ▪ Seapoint ▪ Tygervalley ▪ Green City ▪ N1 ▪ City ▪ Gardens ▪ Durbanville ▪ Cape Town ▪ Lonehill ▪ Century ▪ Eco Park ▪ Fourways ▪ Centesan College (Bishops) ▪ Camps Bay Primary ▪ Wits University ▪ Potchefstroom University ▪ Elkana High ▪ St Theresa's ▪ St Benedicts

Other large-scale and school pools that we have recently covered include:

- Sacs ▪ Wynberg Girls ▪ Rondebosch Boys ▪ Rustenberg Girls ▪ Westerford ▪ Pretoria Boys High ▪ Herzlia ▪ Diocesan College (Bishops) ▪ Camps Bay Primary ▪ Wits University ▪ Potchefstroom University ▪ Elkana High ▪ St Theresa's ▪ St Benedicts

If you're a supporter of school sports, these above teams are the ones to watch in this season's swimming and water polo playoffs - they have been training in water temperatures fit for Olympic-status athletes!

And if you're a manager of a commercial swimming venue, click [here](#) to contact Stephen about how our covers can lower your heating and water overheads and ultimately bolster your bottom line.



Meet Leroy...

Leroy Arendse is one of those people in life whom you meet and think "what an amazing, smart yet gentle guy"!

When Leroy joined the company three years ago he started out on the factory production team. It soon became apparent that Leroy had many more talents in the sales sphere and he jumped at the offer to move into admin and to join the sales team, where he has performed consistently well ever since. He takes responsibility for his own skills growth and is always looking to learn, hungry for knowledge and new experiences. While Leroy works on sales queries across all our product ranges, generally he is the one handling the quotes and orders for large-scale commercial and school pools.

When asked "What gets you out of bed in the morning?" Leroy's answer is "the will to learn, grow and be the best at what I do!" A complete sports fanatic, Leroy is passionate about soccer and still grins when you ask him about the World Cup matches he was lucky enough to attend. Leroy has just become a dad for the first time, and mention of his son makes him grin widely too! On weekends, Leroy can be found singing in his church choir and doing a lot of good work with youth in his church community, motivating them to become upstanding citizens and chatting to them about drug abuse and other social issues that teens face.

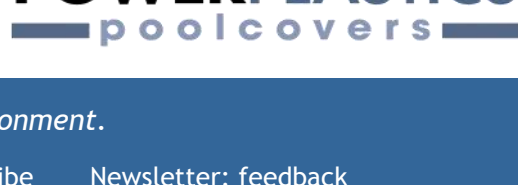
If ever we had a staff member with big dreams and impressive drive, it's Leroy. Watching him blossom has been an absolute pleasure, and he just goes from strength to strength! Click [here](#) to drop Leroy a line!

11 Harris Drive, Ottery, 7808, Cape Town

Tel: 021 703 5880 | Fax: 021 703 4864 | info@powerplastics.co.za

Shop 2 Wetherleys Decor Park, 7 Precision Street, Kya Sands, Johannesburg

Tel: 011 462 7897 | Fax: 011 462 8483 | joburg@powerplastics.co.za



Saving money. Saving lives. Saving the environment.

- [Visit our website](#) | [Contact our sales team](#) | [Newsletter: unsubscribe](#) | [Newsletter: feedback](#)