

# NIVASHNEE RAMPARSAD BIO

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Nivashnee Ramparsad started her second business at the age of 34 years with the aspiration to make the world a better place for all. Nivashnee started her first company called Young Engineers Johannesburg in 2015 to teach children, from as young as 4 years old, engineering, science, mathematics and robotics (STEM). Her hope was to inspire more children towards technical subjects in high school and at tertiary level by teaching them engineering from first principles. In 2018, Young Engineers Johannesburg had employed 10 full-time employees and was teaching over 1600 students a week. Her work with children at schools and learning centres across Johannesburg was showcased on TV on DSTV Channel CGTV in 2018 with Youtube link: <https://youtu.be/gjyWrFS3Gug>

After leaving the corporate world in March 2017, Nivashnee undertook to start a professional engineering services business which was focused on utilising her skills in Electrical Cable Engineering, Technical Customer Services, Project Management and Business Management experience. In 2018, Nivashnee shifted focus of the business called Iconix Engineering Solutions towards 4th Industrial Revolutions solutions by building Internet of Things products for tracking, tamper, theft and asset management. In 2021, one of the products developed called the Smartee Security Seal was nominated as a top contender for the 2021 City of Johannesburg's Smart City Innovation Challenge and won the Innovation Challenge by City of Joburg in 2022 with an impending pilot project with a city department. Please see video on this challenge: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GPqr82P9vkU&pp=ygUqc21hcnQgY2l0eSBpbm5vdmF0aW9uIGNpdHkgb2Ygam9oYW5uZXNidXJn>

A second product developed by the team at Smartee called Smartee 360 was piloted with a large retailer, the Spar Group, in South Africa and the pilot was well received with a purchase order and a 60-month contract recurring monthly subscription revenue model being put into place. Spar has deployed Smartee 360 asset management solution and platform at three of their warehouses nationally. Smartee is also a business partner to Vodacom to provide other services including internet services, business tools and AWS services to Smartee's customers. In 2021, Smartee was a recipient of EEIP programme from IBM and is still on the programme with assistance from in Garage Thinking, Design and Resource Management. Some of Smartee's customers include Eskom Holdings, the Bidvest Group, Nala Services, Dave Sheer Guns most recently, Smartee has sold 46 units of its Smartee Security Seal to a low-cost housing developer in KZN.

Nivashnee started her career as a Junior Electrical Engineer at Roshcon (Pty) Ltd, a subsidiary company of Eskom Holdings, in 2006 after completing her BSC: Electrical Engineering degree. She worked on various Refurbishment Projects by Eskom at Power Stations across South Africa in the Electrical Cable Division. In 2010, she joined the largest electrical cable manufacturer in South Africa called Aberdare Cables. At Aberdare, she was employed as a Customer Services Manager in the Product Development and Application Division at Aberdare Cables.

Nivashnee has further expanded her skill sets by completing qualifications in Project Management, a Management Development Programme at GIBS and a Master's in Engineering Management from the University of Pretoria. Nivashnee has received enterprise development funding from Facebook in 2020 for her initiatives with Nivashnee is married and has two children aged 12 and 8 years old. Nivashnee's hobbies includes being a Home Chef and has entered Season 7 Come Dine With Me South Africa and has a instagram account @nivashneeskitchen.



"I am so inspired by the chaos in the world and this fuels my love for using technology to bring real-time information to businesses to make quicker decisions"