

# Daimler Chrysler South Africa New Body Shop



**Client:** Daimler Chrysler

**Location:** East London

**Date:** November 2006

**Value:** R121 Million

Construction of new production plant for the manufacture of the new shape C-class Mercedes Benz. Construction included building and civil works as well as large volumes of structural steel. The contract period was 15 months comprising of 27 000m<sup>2</sup> factory floor area which had to be constructed to a 3mm tolerance in order to accept the robots, 16 000m<sup>2</sup> 8m high mezzanine level and 2 500 m<sup>2</sup> offices. The surrounding concrete hardstand area was an additional 15 000m<sup>2</sup>. The main structure was made up of 14m high concrete columns on top of which the structural steel roof structure was connected. The side cladding to the building was a double skin of chromadek sheeting and the roof was insulated with lambda board to stop condensation. A second floor was installed at 8m high made up of structural steel and grating through which hydraulic lifts were installed to take the vehicles to its various points of manufacture. A 37m long structural steel link bridge was installed in order for the newly manufactured vehicles to join the existing conveyor to the paint line.