

 **Diamond**  
**Stefanutti Stocks**

Most of us would be nervous if we came across a builder who had pumped up as quickly as these boys, but the acquisition of Stocks has enabled Stefanutti to add welcome bulk to its offering without so much as a hint of exotic pharmaceuticals. Contrary to the self-serving bleats of fieldmice the world over, size matters, especially when you are competing for large-scale construction projects, and this combined entity is a more powerful player than the sum of its parts.



It has had a great year, and offers a geographical and technical spread that will enable it to concentrate resources on sectors offering solid prospects whatever the gloom in the global economy as a whole. Opportunities are popping up in infrastructure, in some areas of the mining sector, in petrochemicals and power generation, as well as in Southern Africa and the Gulf region. Now it's time to play with the big boys, and promotion to the premier league is not without risk, but as long as the company sticks to its core areas of expertise the rewards should continue to flow. ■