

## Durban Office Opening

# Comutek to expand its service into KZN

As part of Comutek's vision to expand its business and services into the whole of Southern Africa and Africa, it has recently 'officially' opened an office in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal (KZN). Harry Chakhala, Chief Executive Officer of Comutek, and Dayalan Padayachy, SITA's General Manager: Coastal Region, hosted the event, which was attended by Comutek's key stakeholders and partners in the ICT industry in KZN. The Durban Office, based in Westville, is managed by Comutek Regional Manager Bookie Moodley, and offers a comprehensive ICT industry solutions service.

### Social responsibility

## ICT industry desperate for security professionals

"The ICT industry is a fluid and evolving industry and faces daily threats which have the potential to harm big and small organisations," Harry Chakhala, CEO of Comutek said. He said that the management of information security and protection is one of the single most complex areas in the ICT environment.

Prof. Manoj Maharaj, guest speaker at the office opening and an expert on Information Security and School Director: Information Systems and Technology, University of KwaZulu-Natal, focussed on the relevance and effect of Information Security Systems in Private and Government Sectors. Prof Maharaj said that the ICT industry has a shortage of qualified IT security specialists and this is linked to the lack of information protection and control. "Information is only valuable if it can be used, and such valuable information needs to be tracked and protected," Prof Maharaj said. "The ICT industry needs to implement proper Information Security protocols to prevent information disasters."

Comutek has committed itself to collaborate with

tertiary institutions to increase the number of ICT specialists focussing on research of Information Assurance and Protection. The company has offered a R50 000 bursary each year for a period of two years, for a deserving doctorate student of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, who focuses on research on Information Security in the public sector in collaboration with SITA. •



From l - r: Harry Chakhala, Comutek; Prof Manoj Maharaj, University of KwaZulu-Natal; Bookie Moodley, Comutek and Dayalan Padayachy, SITA.

## SITA and Comutek strengthen professional relations



Dayalan Padayachy, General Manager: Coastal Region of SITA, officially opened the Comutek Office in Durban. Padayachy said that SITA remains committed to interacting with ICT companies which are rendering service of unparalleled excellence.

## Partnerships enable delivery of complete solutions

BMC Software, a leader in the ICT industry focussing on solutions worldwide, and Partner to ComputeK in South Africa, participated in the office opening of ComputeK. Partner Manager to BMC in sub-Saharan Africa, Arjen Wiersma, said that successful companies are clear on what services they render and how this will add value to their customers and stakeholders. "Partner relationships in the ICT industry enable delivery of complete solutions, through alliances in global technology, global system integrators, technology and solutions providers," Wiersma said.

BMC is currently rated as the eighth largest independent software company on the globe and serves approximately 15 000 customers in 116

countries. ComputeK is currently working with BMC on a number of projects. For more information on BMC, log onto [www.bmc.com](#) or e-mail [Arjen\\_wiersma@bmc.com](mailto:Arjen_wiersma@bmc.com) •



*Arjen Wiersma, Partner Manager to BMC, represented BMC as a Partner to ComputeK at the ComputeK Office opening in KZN.*

### DEC 2008

## Active Directory Evolves: The New Identity Platform for Enterprise 2.0

The ComputeK team, consisting of Duncan McMurray, Etienne Basson, Gareth Warner and Kobus Nigrini, returned from the USA after attending the Directory Experts Conference (DEC) 2008, held in the windy city of Chicago, Illinois from March 2-5, 2008.

DEC was founded by NetPro to provide experienced Active Directory administrators with advanced technical education from the industry's top experts and Microsoft technology leadership. Today, the conference has grown to nearly 1 000 participants annually and includes an expanded emphasis on identity management technologies as well as directory services.

DEC is a significant annual event aimed at the most experienced users of directory and identity management technologies. Highly qualified speakers provided guidance on the integration of key component services into a single coherent platform that impacts everything from infrastructure and application management to IT security and compliance for the enterprise of tomorrow.

Microsoft Gold-Certified Partner, NetPro provides unprecedented control over Windows infrastructure with software solutions that drive security and compliance into the organisation while increasing operational efficiency and productivity. ComputeK is the sole authorised reseller of NetPro products in Africa.

ComputeK is the host to the Active Directory Strategy Groups in South Africa. For more information on Active Directory solutions for Microsoft and non-Microsoft platforms, e-mail Gareth Warner on [gareth@computeK.co.za](mailto:gareth@computeK.co.za) •

### ITWeb co-sponsorship and media campaign

## ComputeK online with ITWeb

ComputeK, in conjunction with ITWeb, has recently embarked on a media campaign to enlighten stakeholders on new products and services the company offers. The campaign will run from 3 March 2008 through to 3 September 2008 for a period of six months. Get the latest news, views and product

updates on ITWeb. The campaign will kick off from the Portals location, whereby ComputeK will be based under Industry Solutions. In-depth articles on Industry Insights, authored by ComputeK employees, will run congruently with the Industry Solutions portal. An active link to ComputeK's website will be available. Be sure to go online: [www.itweb.co.za](http://www.itweb.co.za) •



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## New Projects / New contracts

# ComputeK @ Legal Aid Board

The Legal Aid Board with approximately 2 000 users in over 100 branches nationally, has awarded ComputeK the contract to implement a global helpdesk system that would support IT departments and other business units such as Human Resources, Finance, Corporate Services, and National Operations.

"ComputeK understood the need for the Legal Aid Board to adopt an ITIL-complaint helpdesk solution

to support other business units and a proposed BMC Service Desk Express solution," said Lucas Molobyha from ComputeK. Molobyha said that the solution, implemented by ComputeK, is the first certified ITIL-compatible solution by Pink Elephant, the leading authority in granting ITIL compatibility. The implementation of this solution assists the Legal Aid Board with the management of all incidents and problems using consistent, repeatable processes based on best practices like those prescribed by ITIL to ensure successful incident and problem lifecycle management. For more information on this project, e-mail [lucas@computeK.co.za](mailto:lucas@computeK.co.za) •

## Malawian Partnership

# MOU with Malawi

ComputeK has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a Malawian IT company based on the prospects of new business ventures which ComputeK will be deploying in that country. The agreement is part of ComputeK's overall business strategy to penetrate the African ICT market by offering a comprehensive range of tried and tested industry solutions •



**ComputeK expanding its services into Malawi**

## Four candidates pass ITIL

Three ComputeK employees and the CEO of ComputeK have recently passed the ITIL examinations.



Lucas Molobyha



Polesana Tembo



Ken Msuku



Harry Chakhala

The **Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL)** is a set of concepts and techniques for managing (IT) infrastructure, development, and operations.

ITIL is published in a series of books, each of which cover an IT management topic. The names *ITIL* and *IT Infrastructure Library* are registered trademarks of the United Kingdom's Office of Government Commerce (OGC). ITIL gives a detailed description of a number of important IT practices with comprehensive checklists, tasks and procedures that can be tailored to any IT organisation. Definition courtesy of: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information\\_technology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_technology)

## New Employees/Transfers

**New employees  
New employees  
New employees  
New employees**



*Etienne Basson has recently been appointed as Product Manager: at ComputeK's Head Office in Midrand. For more information on ICT Business Solutions, e-mail [etienne@computeK.co.za](mailto:etienne@computeK.co.za)*

## No wires for GCCN

Computek has a fully deployed and available Satellite VMesh network connected to the Government Common Core Network (GCCN) for two of its Government clients. The connectivity involves deployment of a 3.8m dish at SITA Centurion and a number of 2.4 m satellite dishes on the remote sites in all the provinces.

Computek Project Manager on VSAT and Networking Solutions, Jan Van Wyk, says: "This solution provides a cost effective and secured Layer 2 connections already connected into the GCCN network. The use of satellite technology is to provide Internet, Data, Video Conferencing and Telephony services etc. to any location in South Africa. Furthermore, it is an effective means to minimise the digital divide and provide world-class service to the most remote location. Satellite communications is a very specialised and advanced technology sector. Our technical strength is not only in operating the equipment but

mostly to plan and execute large scale projects and installations."

LINKWAY® is a no-hub VSAT system which allows for the cost-effective integration of a variety of applications into one network – in mesh, star, or multi-star hybrid topologies. Adaptive on-demand bandwidth and advanced coding engineered into LINKWAY® offer broadband connections efficiently and cost-effectively. Transponder costs are reduced whilst seamless connection to networking applications takes place, using IP, ATM, Frame Relay, and ISDN protocols.

The LINKWAY® IP terminal is interoperable over C- or Ku-band fixed satellite services (FSS) satellites with fixed beam, split-beam or cross-strapped configurations.

The first two phases have already been implemented at the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. Phases three and four will follow shortly.  
E-mail [jan@computek.co.za](mailto:jan@computek.co.za) •

## Cash reward for outstanding performance

### Outstanding performance 2007 / Outstanding performance 2007

Computek CEO, Harry Chakhala, awarded three employees during its End Of Year Dinner 2007, for their outstanding performance and service delivery in the workplace. The employees are:

- Kobus Nigrini – Systems Engineer: Computek's Technical Department
- Ntate Koloti – Project Manager: Land Affairs
- Sophy Nthate – Desktop Support: SAMDI

Keep it up!



## Contact the Editor

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