



1 February 2010

Dear Valued Client

Today marks an important milestone in the roadmap of verification agencies. The Department of Trade and Industry announced that as from 1 February 2010, non accredited verification agencies will no longer be allowed to issue B-BBEE Verification Certificates. Only B-BBEE Verification Certificates issued by accredited Verification Agencies and those in possession of a valid pre-assessment letter from SANAS ("the South African National Accreditation System") will be valid.

Prior to 1 February 2010 *only* accredited Verification Agencies or Verification Agencies that had made application to SANAS could issue a B-BBEE Verification Certificates. Certificates issued by Verification Agencies that had made application to SANAS prior to 01st of February 2010 will be valid for the full 12 month tenure, after which they must be renewed by a SANAS accredited Verification Agency, or an Agency in possession of a valid pre-assessment letter.

Verification Agencies are accredited by SANAS to certify that the contributions made by companies to Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment are valid. The result of their procedures is a B-BBEE Verification Certificate. As a result of the Minister's aforementioned announcement, users of B-BBEE Verification Certificates can be certain that the verification certificates have met the stringent requirements of SANAS accreditation. These requirements ensure that Verification Agencies operate under the principles of impartiality, competence, responsibility for verification decisions, openness and confidentiality. They also ensure that these principles are properly implemented throughout the Verification Agency's Management System.

A DIVISION OF FRANK SETON ATTORNEYS

T: +27 21 531 9118 F: +27 21 531 0703 E: info@bempowered.net W: www.bempowered.net
A21, Block 1, Northgate Island, Section Road, Paarden Eiland 7405
PO Box 496, Howard Place, Pinelands 7450, Cape Town, South Africa

BEE Empowered and Labour Consultancy CC Member: L Frank Reg No:CK2005/011876/23





Agencies that have demonstrated to SANAS that their system is compliant with the requirements of accreditation, but who have not completed the accreditation process are issued with a pre-assessment letter. They then have four months to complete the accreditation process, during which time they may issue B-BBEE Verification Certificates. Upon expiry of their four month period, they will no longer be able to issue B-BBEE Verification Certificates.

The list and contact details of all accredited verification agencies and the ones that are in possession of a pre-assessment letters is available at the Department of Trade and Industry's website: <http://www.thedti.gov.za> and the South African National Accreditation System's website: <http://www.sanas.co.za>.

BEE Empowered is an independent Cape based Verification Agency that conducts B-BBEE Verifications of small, medium and large enterprises across all sectors, countrywide since 2005.

BEE Empowered has extensive knowledge of B-BBEE legislation and the verification process required. BEE Empowered strives to meet their clients' expectation of excellence by providing highly professional services, timely and efficiently, at competitive market related fees.

BEE Empowered is a full member of the Association of BEE Verification Agencies (ABVA) and Lizette Frank, managing member of BEE Empowered, serves on ABVA's Board of Directors and heads its Disciplinary and Ethics Committee since 2007.

BEE Empowered was accredited by SANAS on 11 February 2009 and is one of 27 accredited Verification Agencies in South African and one of 3 accredited Verification Agencies in the Western Cape.

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BEE EMPOWERED
BEE RATING AGENCY

For more information on BEE Empowered, please visit our website on www.bempowered.net or mail us on info@bempowered.net or contact us on 021 – 5110802.

Kind regards

L Frank

Lizette Frank

Managing Member

For and on behalf of BEE Empowered

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