

## CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd. SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



THE CEO OF CENTLEC MR. M. SEKOBOTO

CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Central University of Technology (CUT) on Friday the 11th of November 2022, in an event attended by the CEO of CENTLEC Mr. Malefane Sekoboto, the Acting Vice Chancellor and the Principal of Central University of Technology, Prof Alfred Ngowi, the MMC for Infrastructure in Mangaung, Clr. Molefi Morake and senior managers from both institutions. The MoU

will amongst other things, seek to set clear goals to provide assistance and access to CENTLEC employees to study opportunities at CUT. CENTLEC employees will have an opportunity to pursue their studies, training, and completing their qualifications in various learning areas in all faculties, while CUT students will also gain access to opportunities relating to experiential training at CENTLEC.

In his opening remarks, Prof. Alfred Ngowi, the Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal of CUT, emphasized the commitment of and the importance of both institutions working together in achieving the common goals. "This agreement today pledges our committed approach to working more closely together with Centlec to reach our common goal of expanding your employees' access to the offerings we have up to post-graduate studies. We will engage in mutual collaboration to conduct experiential training and applied research for Centlec employees using our state-of-art machinery and vice versa. In addition, not only will the two parties share cordial working relations but, will also pledge our commitment and support the activities of each other that are contained in this agreement," said Prof. Ngowi.



THE SINGING OF THE MoU



THE CEO OF CENTLEC MR. MALEFANE SEKOBOTO WITH  
ACTING VICE - CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL OF CUT, PROF. ALFRED NGOWI

Given the global movement towards investment in a clean energy transition, there is a great need for CENTLEC to upskill, retrain and develop its own workforce to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by this transition. Furthermore, the risk of job losses and redundancy due to the transition presents an opportunity to provide training and upskilling for new industries that can be scaled up as a result of the transition, particularly the renewables industry.

In his remarks, Clr Molefi Morake, a Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Infrastructure in Mangaung acknowledged the role played by institutions of higher learning in economic, skills development and transformation in our country. "As the municipality, we acknowledge that institutions of higher learning are key catalysts in terms of transformation, skills development, and innovation. Energy is key for economic development, and this skills programme will be part of the process of ensuring that our communities benefit from partnerships such as this one," said Clr Morake.

The Chief Executive Officer of CENTLEC, Mr. Malefane Sekoboto, who also happen to be an alumnus of CUT himself, indicated that education ranks higher on the priority list of his institution. "About 60-70% percent of our technical personnel, especially the technicians, studied at CUT, so one can see the impact that CUT has already had in educating our technical staff. We expect this relationship between the two institutions, which has always been there, to grow stronger and today we are taking it to a higher level, as we explore how best can we utilize the resources that we have to make sure that our communities reap the benefits."



# FIGHT IN COMBATING INFRASTRUCTURE VANDALISM AND THEFT IS GAINING MOMENTUM

Theft of valuable infrastructure such as copper cables, overhead lines, transformers, and conductors, among others, remains a serious concern for the power utility, says CENTLEC's Chief Security Manager Gerald Nkota.

As many arrests occur daily these days, there appears to be an ongoing trend of vandalism of valuable infrastructure in our country. CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd, along with other state-owned entities such as ESKOM, Transnet, Telkom and other municipalities within the country, have been severely affected by theft and vandalism of valuable infrastructure with the value of material stolen remaining a serious concern, this as a result of organised, syndicate-driven criminal activity in the copper theft environment.

Police on the other side, are struggling to keep up with this trend due to limited resources such as vehicle and latest technologies including drones to track down those attempting to steal or damage valuable infrastructure.

CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd continues to intensify its efforts of fighting vandalism of valuable infrastructure and theft of copper cables within its area of operation. In October 2022, our security unit successfully apprehended two males in Bloemfontein just outside the dumping site with stolen transformer.



PERPETRATOR (1) APPREHENDED AT THE DUMPING SITE

On the 10th of October 2022, at around 10H00 in the morning, the Chief of Security Services at CENTLEC, Mr. Gerald Nkota received a tip off that 4 males were seen near the dumping site with a stolen transformer. Upon investigation, he discovered 4 male suspects pushing an electricity transformer in a trolley. Two of the suspects were apprehended while the other two fled the scene.

A case of theft and vandalism of valuable infrastructure was opened at Kagisanong Police station. Both suspects, one of whom was a Lesotho national, were handed over to the South African Police Services. The suspects appeared before the Bloemfontein Magistrate courts where they were denied bail. They are currently under police custody.



THE PERPETRATORS WITH THE VANDALIZED EQUIPMENT

Just a month after the above-mentioned arrest, another case of theft and vandalism was recorded on the 10th of November 2022, wherein two male suspects were apprehended by CENTLEC security after a break-in in one of the substations at Vista 3 Mini Sub.

While doing their normal patrol rounds, Centlec Security unit, discovered a break-in in one of the substations at Vista 3 Mini Sub.

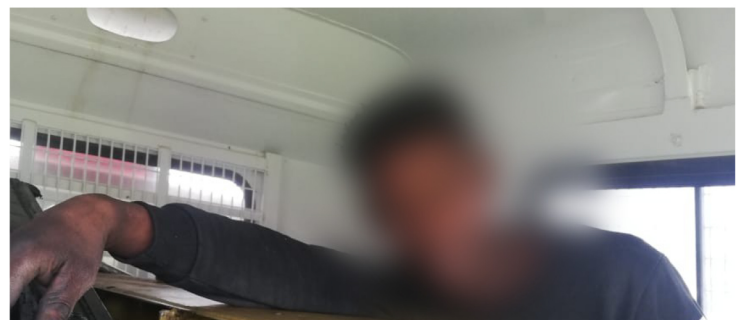
Upon investigation, they discovered four male suspects in possession of electrical panels alleged to have been stolen at Vista Mini Substation. Two (2) suspects fled the scene while the other two (2) suspects were apprehended and are now under police custody at Kagisanong Police station. They are both facing charges including break-in and trespassing, vandalism of valuable infrastructure and theft.

The extent of damage at Vista 3 Mini Substation is estimated at about R5 million rands. These are funds that should have been used to upgrade our network and accelerate services to where they are needed most.

Electricity infrastructure is very central to our regional economic growth and development and therefore each member of the community including corporates need to play their role in fighting the devastation, sabotage and destruction of critical infrastructure.

As CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd, we are encouraged by the support we receive from ordinary members of the community, neighborhood watch, and many community organizations who deploy their resources and avail themselves to protect and guard our infrastructure.

Damage caused by vandalism and theft of infrastructure is everyone's business, do not look away, report it.



PERPETRATOR (2) APPREHENDED AT THE DUMPING SITE



# WOMEN'S MONTH TRIBUTE

## CENTLEC (SOC) LTD. CELEBRATES WOMEN WITH THE WOMEN'S SEMINAR

Every year, in August, our country marks Women's Month, where we pay tribute to the more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956 in protest against the extension of Pass Laws to women.

The year 2022 marks the 66th Anniversary since the march of approximately 20 000 women to the Union Buildings to petition against the pass laws of the country at the time.

As part of its continuing effort to support women within the Engineering space and to contribute to their personal development as well as to show appreciation for the hard work they put in every day, Centlec (SOC) Ltd, through its Wellness division, hosted a women's seminar on the 12th of October 2022 at Floreat Hall in Bloemfontein.



THE WOMEN OF CENTLEC AT THE WOMEN'S SEMINAR

The event was attended by all women, from different levels of the organization including the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Sekoboto, who also delivered the keynote address.

In his speech, he emphasized the significance of Women looking out for one another and supporting one another to create a more welcoming workplace for everyone.

"Women should not undermine one another, you must always try to resolve your differences, especially within the working environment, as doing so advances the company's mission and propels it to new heights" said Sekoboto.

To address a variety of themes pertaining to various challenges facing women, numerous guest speakers from multiple industries were invited. Issues relating to Gender Based Violence, single mothers raising boy children, finances, guardian fund, estate and insolvency and other socio-economic factors affecting women in their every day lives were extensively discussed during the seminar.

*"Wa thinta abafazi wa thindi mbogodo", you strike a woman you strike a rock.*



THE EM OF HUMAN RESOURCES MRS SEDIE TSOAI WITH THE CEO OF CENTLEC MR MALEFANE SOKOBOTO



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