



## SWICON GROUP

### **Swicon South Africa (Pty) Ltd.**

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## **SWISS CONTROLLED SWICON SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD. IN FIRST EVER BEE DEAL**

Bryanston / Johannesburg

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The Swiss controlled Swicon South Africa (Pty) Ltd., is the leading SAP-HR/Payroll Business Solution Provider which on Thursday, concluded its first Black Economic Empowerment deal when it sold a 45% stake to Seemahale Corporation Pty Ltd, a 100% black owned investment holding company, concentrating on the electro-technical industry sector. The deal was announced at Swicon's offices in Bryanston, Johannesburg.

While Swicon has met its BEE targets in areas such as the percentage of procurement from black run companies and black management, it had, until recently, zero percent for black ownership.

Seemahale's chairman, Dr Thabo Lehlokoe, left Siemens Business Services in January this year, to set up the investment company. The Swicon deal is the first for Seemahale which has a healthy pipeline of deals under negotiation.

Markus Bucher, the founder and MD of Swicon with over 25 years of international top executive management experience in multi-national groups all over the world and current president of the Swiss Business Council of South Africa, says his company view BEE as a business imperative in South Africa. Swicon prides itself with partnering companies whose strengths in their chosen fields adds even greater value to the range of solutions Swicon provides. Its partners include IT and software companies like SAP, Kaba Benzing (Germany), Aquire (USA), Pecaso (Germany) and FlowCentric (South Africa). Swicon is one of only two companies that are partners of SAP for its All- In - One HR/Payroll solution for the SME's in Southern Africa.

Lehlokoe, a medical doctor turned business man, brings in extensive experience. Last year, he was a vice president of the Information Technology Association of South Africa (ITA), the industry association of the IT employers in the country. He gained wide experience in outsourcing as account director for the first and only IT public-private partnership.

Lehlokoe was the former head of Market Development and Public Sector Sales at Siemens Business Services. Prior to joining Siemens Business Services, he was in the information security business. Lehlokoe used to be a member of Mvelaphanda's strategic investments management committee.

Lehlokoe said that Seemahale will have 2 board positions out of 4. He will also assume the role of Non-Executive-Chairman. He will assist the company in its transformation efforts by identifying and recruiting suitable candidates for key positions across the company. Together with the existing executive management he will play a key role in strategy formulation and implementation and will contribute to increasing marketing and sales efforts of the company.

Swicon is a specialist with an excellent reputation and track record in the field of HR/Payroll Business Solutions offering in the southern part of Africa a holistic HR/Payroll Business Solution which can fulfill all the clients' requirements focusing exclusively on SAP-HR/Payroll where strategic, process and business solutions can be provided. Swicon is run by a competent management team who has laid the foundation for a profitable business going forward. Lehlokoe will contribute towards making Swicon the company of choice for HR/Payroll Business Solutions and introduce it to the various public and private sector entities that are currently looking to deploy such solutions.

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