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For Immediate Release



**Business Against Crime
South Africa**

Business Against Crime South Africa and the Security Industry Alliance Partners with the SAPS to Tackle Violent Crime

SAPS and the Security Industry Alliance Sign a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)

29 October 2008, Johannesburg – body The South African Police Service (SAPS) in Honeydew entered into a partnership agreement with the security industry through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Security Industry Alliance (SIA). This initiative was facilitated by Business Against Crime South Africa and originates from the belief that no single entity can impact violent crime, and specifically residential robberies, in isolation.

“The high incidence of violent crime is of serious concern to all the law-abiding citizens of the country. Violent crime adversely affects all sectors and has a negative impact on the growth and development of the economy,” says Siphwe Nzimande, CEO of Business Against Crime South Africa.

While both Government and business continue to optimise their individual and joint responses to counter crime in general, “the threats posed by violent robberies require an increased level of commitment from all role-players and stakeholders, including the private security industry. This coordinated support will ensure enhanced efforts to stem the tide of criminality,” says Nzimande.

The CEO of the Security Industry Alliance, Steve Conradie, says that “the security industry is committed to forging a close working relationship with the SAPS, especially in local situations across the country and at police station level where these violent robberies occur. This development forms part of a wide range of initiatives undertaken by the Security Industry Alliance in cooperation with Government aimed at improving the ability of the security sector to contribute towards a safe and secure South Africa”.

Through a SAPS-led initiative focused on the Honeydew police station over the past few months, the operational framework and procedures of the partnership between private security companies and police stations was formulated. This forms the basis of this MOU, which will now be rolled out to other parts of the country.

Through this MOU, the private security industry is able to take co-ordinated steps to reduce violent crime in the spirit of partnership with the SAPS, within the context of the wider national interest of the fight against crime.

No security company is excluded from this initiative and any security company can participate provided they comply with the set requirements of the partnership. These include:

- Compliance with legislation; and
- Voluntary re-vetting of security personnel.



“A key component of this initiative is the establishment and use of a dedicated and secure radio communication system linking individual security companies and the police station. This enables rapid and immediate notification of incidents and a coordinated response to these by SAPS and private security members. The system will be operated from the police station, with participating security companies carrying the cost of the personnel as well as that of the radio system,” says Lorinda Nel from Business Against Crime South Africa.



Through the MOU, the Standard Operating Procedures of private security companies and their members will be clarified, thus enabling a closer working relationship between security companies and local police stations. The practical benefits of this alliance include:

- Optimised management of crime scenes;
- Enhanced availability of manpower to the police;
- Increased number of vehicles available to react to call-outs for assistance;
- Enhanced capabilities of the police to respond to situations of crime; and
- Adequate and satisfactory preservation of the crime scene until forensic and other units are able to attend to the crime scene.

Business Against Crime South Africa commends all of the companies that have expressed their willingness to participate in this initiative.

The companies that form part of this initiative are:

- Accumen Security Services
- ADT
- Apcan Risk Management
- Best Secure (DCS) (Pty) Ltd
- Chubb
- Dunmar Security
- Peaceforce Security Group
- Piranha Security CC
- Trojan Security
- Top Security
- Venture Security
- Viper Risk Management

This initiative forms part of the Government/business partnership aimed at reducing the incidence of the Trio Crimes (i.e. Business, Residential and Vehicle Robberies), as part of the Step Change Initiative.

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