



# THE LABOUR REPORT

84.4% of employees in rail environment **belong to a union** compared to 24% in industry as a whole

## Unionism in rail sets trend

**A**n astonishing total of 84.4% of the estimated 71 353 employees working in the rail environment belong to a union. With 86% of men and 81% of women in the industry belonging to a union, they represent the highest proportion of union membership of people across all races. Unlike other sub-transport sectors, the rail industry has a high proportion of youth aged between 25 and 34 belonging to a union.

These were the findings of the National Labour and Economic Development Institute (NALEDI), an organisation that conducts labour and economic research. The study was done on behalf of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF).

The sad reality is that although the rail industry is setting the trend in organising and protecting the rights of workers, the rest of the transport industry reflects a grim picture.

Overall in the transport industry only 24% of workers belong to a trade union, while 76% of workers don't belong to any union. More than two thirds of employees are based in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng. Limpopo and the Northern Cape are the two provinces with the fewest number of employees who has a union to represent them.

Of those employees who don't belong to a union, 10.2% negotiate individually with their employer and in 55.2% of the cases, the employer decides on salary increases.

The NALEDI report also describes the transport industry as the "most untransformed of all the sectors in South Africa" with only 19% women



working in the sector.

Most women (47%) are employed in clerical positions as opposed to 4% of men, while 66% of men are mainly employed as drivers as opposed to 8.8% of women.

roads is caused by overloaded heavy vehicles. The highest traffic volumes occur in Gauteng, the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, according to a report by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

movement in Africa and must be on top of the table, says Stephen Cotton, General Secretary of the ITF. "We have to start making plans to move difficult conversations forward."

According to Valter Sanchez, General Secretary of IndustriALL Global Union, the transport sector is greatly impacted by the changing world of work.

According to the DOT, innovation is key to ensure that our transport industry is sustainable in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Technology like drones, the hyperloop, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and autonomous vehicles are said to be the biggest potential disruptors for the future of the industry.

Although it remains the DOT's priority to ensure safe and affordable transport, it acknowledges that it is an "enormous task" and that it is "failing in its mandate".

**"South Africa is leading the labour movement in Africa and must be on top of the table. We have to start making plans to move difficult conversations forward."**

Unfortunately this is not the only targets in which the transport industry is failing.

Despite the Department of Transport's (DOT) vision to move most of the freight from road to rail by 2030, approximately 80% of freight is still transported by road.

About 60% of the damage to our

There are almost 750 000 km of roads in South Africa and 37 000 km of railway tracks.

The ITF believes it has become critical that South Africa's voice is heard in every global debate on the future of transport.

South Africa is leading the labour

### IN NUMBERS



86% of men and 81% of women in the rail environment belong to a trade union.

**76%**

The overall percentage of workers in the transport industry who don't belong to a trade union.



Percentage of freight still transported by road.



The transport industry is described as the "most untransformed" of all sectors in SA.



# Doing our utmost to be and stay the **best Union** there is



**Hendrik Fourie**  
PRESIDENT SAYS

A very busy and exciting 2020 awaits the leadership structures of UNTU as the Union is preparing for its National Congress in November, where the new Executive Council

A big thank you to each of you who availed yourself for this enormous task of serving our members 24/7.

To any Union, its members are its most important shareholders, because without them, there will be no Union. UNTU is no exception. We will ensure that all our TUR's are well trained and equipped to deal with issues in the workplace, but in return UNTU demands service delivery and hard work.

Good luck to all the TUR's who will be participating in the Branch Elections for the positions of Branch Chairperson, Branch Secretary, Gender Co-ordinator and Additional Office Bearer, that will be conducted during March and April 2020. I wish you all the best.

And to all our members, rest assured that 2020 is not only about elections at UNTU. Our team of organisers and our Super Team will continue to bring the Phambili Drive to all outskirts of the country to ensure that our members are educated in their mother tongue about the benefits they enjoy for being a member of UNTU.

As President I will ensure that everyone in this Union continues to give their all while we are flexing our muscle at our rival unions by remaining the biggest and the best Union in the transport industry. 🇿🇦

will be elected. As your President I am proud to say that our election officers nationwide managed to conclude the elections of most of our Trade Union Representatives (TUR's) without any major hiccups.

Congratulations to all our TUR's who served our members so well that they were re-elected for another term. Your re-election is proof that hard work, commitment and dedication pays off.

It is also wonderful to see all the newly elected TUR's who have been chosen by their colleagues to serve them as the first contact with management when they have a work-related issue or concern.

## Empty promises while Rome keeps burning to the ground



**Steve Harris**  
FULL SPEED AHEAD

Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula and Police Minister Bheki Cele just sit back while Prasa is described as "a broken organisation, struggling to provide an efficient passenger rail service". To

Nothing came of the promises made by Mbalula and Kweyama that from 1 November 2019, the "Police and the committee of all State Security agents" will form part of Prasa's security efforts.

Nobody seems to know what the functions of the Rapid Rail Police Unit in the South African Police Service (SAPS) are. According to the website of the SAPS this unit is supposed to render visible policing within the rail environment to address the safety of commuters, passengers, freight and the rail transport system, conduct crime prevention and reactive policing within the rail environment, provide a police service in the rail environment and perform crime prevention and crime combating operations in the rail environment.

This unit has a total of 3 232 members nationwide but they are nowhere to be seen on our trains or platforms.

To make matters worse is the fact that Mbalula seems oblivious to the fact that the SAPS does nothing to protect commuters, Prasa employees or the assets of the SOE. On 22 January 2020 the Minister stated "due to internal pressures the SAPS altered the policing model for the Railway Police and incorporated this unit into the Visible Policing Unit. Despite many interventions, security related incidents continue to escalate unabated."

Could someone in Government please wake up both Ministers? Rome is burning to the ground – on their watch! 🇿🇦

date neither Ministers nor President Cyril Ramaphosa have lifted a finger to make good on the promises made before the national and provincial elections last year.

Instead of improving the state-owned enterprise (SOE)'s dire financial situation and its devastating inability to operate properly, the now disbanded intern Prasa Board under Chairperson Khanyisile Kweyama drowned it with further unexpected violent attacks.

Mbalula and Kweyama announced in November 2019 that the former board decided to terminate the contracts of twenty private security companies nationwide without putting an alternative in place.

This was an open invitation to criminals and organised crime syndicates to increase attacks on Prasa's infrastructure as it was literally left without any form of protection.

## UNTU always on the *MOVE*

UNTU never rests! We reach out to our members all over our beautiful country.



**Cape Town**



▲ UNTU President Hendrik Fourie (front row centre) and UNTU Vice-President Trevor Wasserfall (back row left) visited UNTU members at the Transnet Belcon Depot in Cape Town.



**Durban**



▲ UNTU President Hendrik Fourie and UNTU Vice-President Trevor Wasserfall visited UNTU members at Transnet Freight Rail Wentworth in Durban with UNTU Exco member Linda Biljoen (second from right).



**Pretoria**



▲ UNTU's Prasa Trade Union Representatives Masenyani Baloyi and Duncan Mathe and UNTU Full-time Trade Union Representative Luvuyo Mdyogolo doing the UNTU Super Team Phambili Drive at Pretoria Station.

# UNTU will take its rightful place in Fedusa structures

**U**NTU will take its rightful place in all the Fedusa structures to ensure that the Union contributes to the constructive debate and questions about the future of work in South Africa on a national, provincial and regional level to the benefit all our members.

This was the message of UNTU President Hendrik Fourie after he met with the newly appointed General Secretary of Fedusa, Riefdah Ajam, to assure her of UNTU's continued support, participation and co-operation.

Ajam is the first woman to be appointed by a trade union federation in this vital position to take charge of an organisation.

"I want to see UNTU in its rightful position in all the structures of Fedusa to ensure that the most progressive Union in the transport industry protects the interest of our members on every possible

platform," Fourie said.

He was concerned that both Fedusa's and UNTU's voices were not heard enough in national debates in recent months while Fedusa was finalising the appointment of its new General Secretary.

An issue close to Fourie's heart is the fate of the Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF) as well as other pension funds. This comes after Cosatu and even President Cyril Ramaphosa suggested that using pension fund money is an option to bail out Eskom.

According to Fourie, UNTU agrees that the energy crisis is one of the most important challenges to be addressed in South Africa due to the devastating impact it has on the economy.

"However, UNTU will never agree that the lifelong savings of workers intended to provide for them when they no longer can, must be used to rescue the indebted power utility. The Zondo Commission of Inquiry into allegations of state capture



▲ UNTU President Hendrik Fourie with Riefdah Ajam, General Secretary of Fedusa.

revealed how Eskom was looted of billions of rand by individuals.

"In December 2019 the Hawks arrested individuals on allegations of fraud, corruption and money laundering related to the construction of the Kusile power station in Mpumalanga. UNTU would like to see the Asset Forfeiture Unit (AFU) of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) ensuring that the funds that were looted, are recovered," Fourie said. 🌟



## Union now represents employees of SAMSA

**U**NTU is proud to announce that we now also represent employees of the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA).



SAMSA is the watchdog of maritime, a public entity which derives its legislative mandate from the objectives of the South African Maritime Safety Authority Act. Its core mandate is to ensure boating safety on the waters of South Africa.

UNTU was approached by employees working for SAMSA who wanted to join and the Union started the process of obtaining organisational rights and recognition to represent them.

Steve Harris, General Secretary of UNTU, congratulated Trevor Wasserfall, Vice-President of the Union, for leading the process of ensuring that the Union also flexed its muscle to this specialised trade in the maritime environment. Wasserfall was assisted in his quest by UNTU's team of organisers in the Western Cape.

"I am proud to see that our Union continues to grow from strength to strength and is approached with business by new members mainly because of UNTU's excellent reputation of serving its members and offering great benefits. At UNTU our members are the Union's most important asset because without loyal and dedicated members, no Union will be able to exist," Harris said. 🌟



UNTU President Hendrik Fourie and UNTU Vice-President Trevor Wasserfall visited Union members at the Belcon Container Terminals in Cape Town with UNTU Organisers Nkosinathi Bence and Tembile Mgqolozana.

## Phambili Drive is taking South Africa by storm!

**U**NTU is continuing to grow its membership by serving our members with the UNTU Super Team Phambili Drive in all outskirts of the country. It's been a very busy 2020 so far for the UNTU Super Team who ensured that more and more of the Union's members get the opportunity to experience the visibility drives while also conducting elections nationwide for our Trade Union Representatives (TUR's) for the new term.

So far this year the Phambili Drive has visited amongst others Sentrarrand and Parktown in Johannesburg, Prasa Pretoria Station, Prasa Salt River, Pier 1 and Wentworth in Durban, Sishen, Hotazel, Postmasburg, Belcon Container Terminals in Cape Town, Transnet Engineering Uitenhage in Port Elizabeth, Ermelo, Bloemfontein, Richards Bay and East London.

By now the UNTU Super Team has managed to correct several false perceptions that our rival alleged about the most progressive Union in the transport industry. This message is

delivered to the Union's diverse membership in as many of the official languages of South Africa as needed.

"We have been doing what we do since 1905 and UNTU will continue to protect your jobs, engage in robust collective bargaining to improve your wages and your conditions of employment and provide you with disciplinary and legal assistance at the discretion of the Management Committee when you get into trouble at work," said Steve Harris, General Secretary of UNTU.

**"The most important shareholders in the Union is you, our members, because without members there is no Union. At UNTU we don't do politics. You can vote for and support whoever you want."**



▶ Nkunuleko Majoko, a senior service driver, with Trevor Wasserfall and Hendrik Fourie. They gave him his UNTU shirt after he returned to the most progressive Union in the transport industry.

Nkunuleko Majoko (44), a senior service driver at Belcon Container Terminals, agrees. He left UNTU to join a rival union because he felt he could not trust his TUR. "I was deceived and made a big mistake. UNTU members get value for money. I did not stay away long and returned home. Now I want to join the Union structures as a leader. I want to be where there is growth and UNTU is constantly adapting itself to remain relevant," said Majoko.

According to Harris UNTU continues to grow its membership outside the state-owned enterprises Transnet and the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) where it represents the most members. UNTU has also rapidly grown its membership in the Railway Safety Regulator (RSR).

"Don't delay. Do the right thing. Join UNTU today!" Harris concluded. 🌟

# “Our work, our **home**, our pride, our... LIGHTHOUSE

**T**he Cape Columbine Lighthouse, built on a massive granite boulder called Castle Rock a few hundred meters above the sea, is home to UNTU members Japie Greeff (62) and Wayne Brown (47), who have been working here together for the past 15 years.

This lighthouse, one of 45 in South Africa and situated in Paternoster on the West Coast, was built in 1936 to navigate ships around the coastline. It was named after the barque Columbine, that was wrecked there on 31 March 1829.

In 1876 a troopship, the SS Saint Lawrence, landed up on the rocky coastline, with no loss of life. In 1910 the SS Lisboa, a Portuguese steamship ran aground en route from Angola to Cape Town with 250 passengers and 50 crew members on board. Three more ships, namely the SS Haddon Hall in 1913, the SS Malmesbury in 1930, and the SS Haleric in 1932, ran aground before the decision was made to build the lighthouse.

Greeff started his career at Transnet in 1979 at the Diaz Point Lighthouse at Diaz Point near Lüderitz in Namibia. After five years he left Namibia and worked at five lighthouses across South Africa before starting at Cape Columbine in 2005.

Brown was appointed as a lighthouse assistant in 2005 and started his career at Cape Columbine. Both men agree that they have the best job in the world. The lighthouse is spotlessly clean from the tower at the top, all the way down the 93 stairs to the bottom, because these two UNTU members have a passion for doing the maintenance and cleaning of the grounds.

The lighthouse can host functions like weddings for up to 60 guests and offers accommodation, which includes a honeymoon suite on the premises.

Cape Columbine won the award for the best kept lighthouse on the West Coast for consecutive years.

“Every morning when I get up, I am excited to come to work. I love my job because we never have a dull day,” Brown said.

His worst moment was when a female visitor, who was afraid of heights and did not inform them thereof, climbed up the 93 stairs and could not manage to move out of the tower. Greeff and Brown had to carefully carry her all the way down.

Greeff’s worst moment was when he stood in the tower as a helicopter hit the Jolly Rubino – an Italian-owned container vessel – and it caught fire off Richards Bay in September 2002.

“My son, Hyman (37), was in the helicopter. I only saw flames. Luckily everyone survived,” Greeff said.

He was diagnosed with cancer last year and had just completed radiation. On 25 February however, he was diagnosed with liver cancer and has been on special leave ever since. Greeff will retire at the end of December 2020. 🌟



▲ Japie Greeff (62) and Wayne Brown (47) in front of the Cape Columbine Lighthouse where they have been working together for 15 years.



UNTU President Hendrik Fourie, Japie Greeff, UNTU Organiser Nkosinathi Bence, UNTU Vice-President Trevor Wasserfall and Wayne Brown on the patio of the Cape Columbine Lighthouse in Paternoster. ▼



◀ UNTU Deputy General Secretary Sonja Carstens and UNTU Senior Organiser in the Western Cape, Nkosinathi Bence, inside the tower of the Cape Columbine Lighthouse.



The swimming pool with the most spectacular view. This is the swimming pool of the Cape Columbine Lighthouse as seen from the lighthouse tower. ▼



**Labour Report** is the official publication of United National Transport Union (UNTU) and is published quarterly

## UNTU - HEAD OFFICE

### Street Address

UNTU House,  
182 Louis Botha Avenue,  
Houghton Estate

### Postal Address

P.O. Box 31100, Braamfontein, 2017

### Telephone

011 728 0120

Fax: 011 728 8258

## DURBAN OFFICE

### Street Address

206 Che Guavara (Moore) Road,  
Durban

### Telephone

011 728 0120

E-mail: untudbn@untu.co.za

## CAPE TOWN OFFICE

### Street Address

12 Scharmberg Street, Parow,  
Cape Town

### Telephone

011 728 0120

## EDITORIAL QUERIES

### Editor: Sonja Carstens

E-mail: enquiries@untu.co.za

Tel: 011 728 0120

Cell: 082 463 6806

## LAYOUT, DESIGN, EDITING & PRINTING

### Aksent Media

aksentmedia@vodamail.co.za



## Numbers to know

- ▶▶ UNTU Palms – Tel: 039 681 3325
- ▶▶ Transmed Call Centre – Tel: 0800 450 010
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▲ Louise van der Merwe

# Centralisation affected Prasa’s service delivery

Prasa also lost ability to combat **theft and vandalism** of SA’s railway infrastructure

**T**he centralisation of Prasa’s regional offices in Pretoria and Johannesburg caused the rapid decline of this state-owned enterprise’s ability to deliver a safe and reliable passenger rail service.

The merging of the two offices a few years ago created confusion as to who is responsible for what, worsened the administrative burden and broke up a close-knit Prasa team that knew exactly what was expected of each other.

This is the view of Louise van der Merwe (62), senior administrative official and secretary to the regional engineer of Prasa, Mogamed Tromp.

Van der Merwe has been working for Prasa Metrorail for the past 35 years since she matriculated at the Hoërskool Oos-Moot in Waverley, the area where she still resides. Her father and her brother also worked in the rail environment. She was the secretary to the three previous regional managers.

“We were a close-knit family. But after the centralisation, Prasa also lost its ability to combat theft and vandalism of the railway infrastructure.

“A new point system would be installed today only to be stolen within two days. That is very demotivating to our teams who work 24/7 to restore the service as soon as possible. Our manpower simply can’t keep up if the situation continues. It also has a massive impact on our budget as items are stolen repeatedly.”

Despite her employer being described by Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula as “a broken company”, Van der Merwe remains positive that with the right leadership and support, Prasa will manage to turn itself around.

“I love working with people and I am surrounded by dedicated and committed employees.”

Van der Merwe, an image consultant and grandmother of six, is looking forward to enjoying her R6 000 payment from the UNTU Discretionary Fund when she retires in March 2021 at the age of 63. She is also keeping her free week at UNTU Palms, the Union’s holiday resort on the South Coast of KwaZulu-Natal, till after her retirement.

She loves going to the gym, going to the movies and reading. 🌟

## UNTU improves **benefits** for women & children

**F**rom 1 March 2020 the United National Transport Union (UNTU) improved two of its benefits aimed at assisting women and families with dependant children under the age of 21.

UNTU’s **Maternity Benefit** for female members who have been members of the Union for at least a year, has been increased to R1 800. This is for one confinement only. The Union’s **Funeral Assistance Benefit** for members’ children has also increased its maximum age from 18 to 21 years. This applies to children born after 1 March 2020. UNTU is committed to bringing you more value for your membership fee. 🌟

# Never stand back for anyone or anything – Letang Mathunda

**N**othing stops Letang Mathunda (34) from reaching her goals. “My motto is that there is a life for disabled people if they are not limiting themselves. Never stand back for anything or anyone. Believe that you can do it,” said this senior administrative officer of Risk Management at Transnet Freight Rail Inyanda.

She was diagnosed at birth with *Osteogenesis Imperfecta* (OI), a genetic disorder that prevents the body from building strong bones. People with OI break their bones easily, a condition that is commonly called brittle bone disease.

“Growing up in the North West, I had a very difficult childhood. I could not play with other children to prevent me from getting hurt. I had to play on my own. It was ok. I did not know the difference.”

Mathunda wanted to become a social worker to be able to help other people but did not have the finances to do so.

She obtained a learnership from Transnet when the state-owned enterprise was under pressure to employ disabled people and has been with the company for the past 15 years.

According to her, Transnet is very accommodating to the disabled. The building in which she works is accessible. She wants to grow into a management position.

Mathunda is a loyal member of UNTU and is very happy with the Union. She



▲ Letang Mathunda

would however like the leadership of the Union to visit her office block more often.

When she is not working, Mathunda loves spending time with her two-year-old daughter and enjoys reading. 🌟



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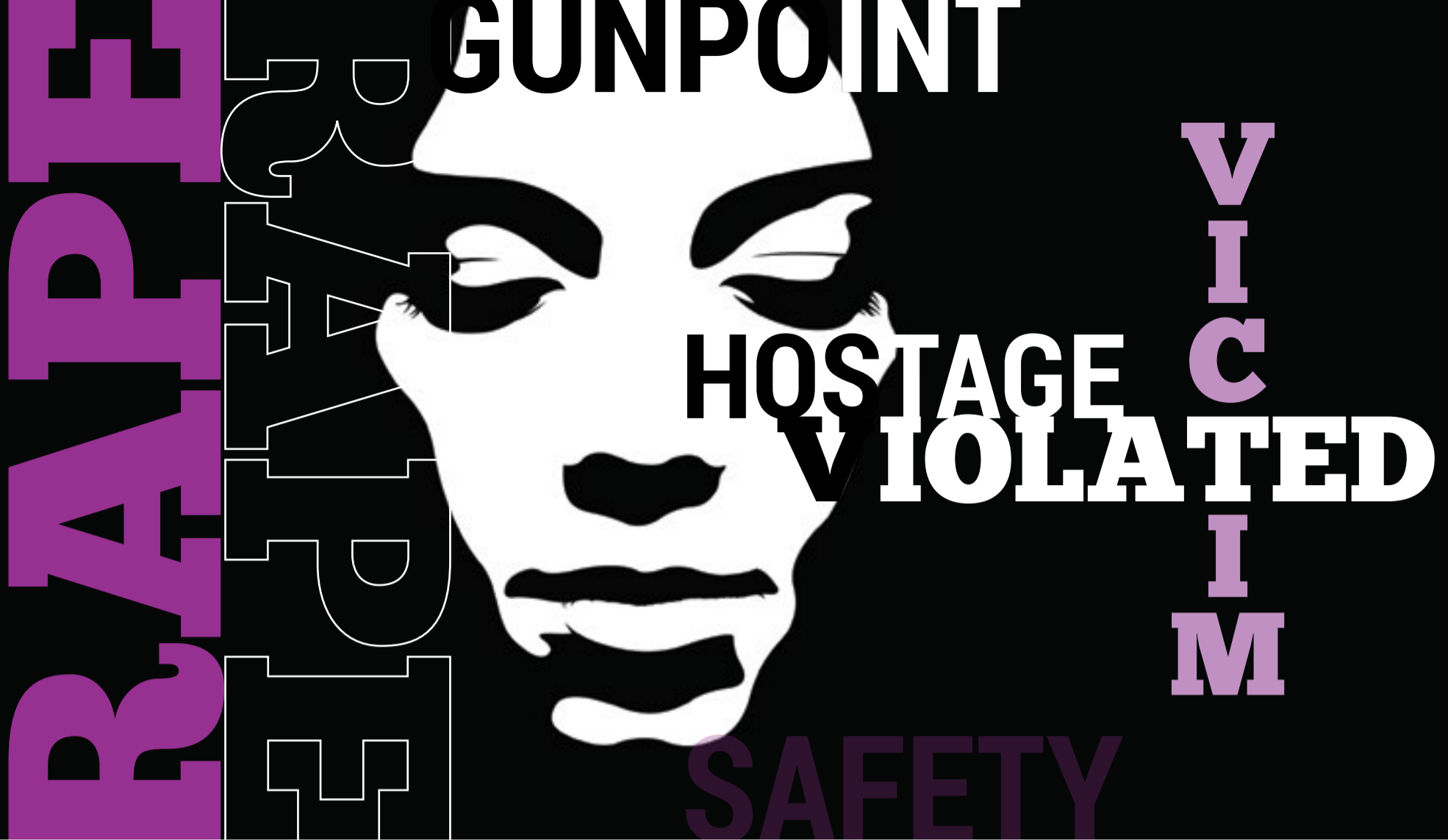
**Contact me for professional financial advice**

**Leon Abrahams**  
Financial Planner  
021 947 5001 | 082 445 0909  
leonabrahams@sanlam4u.co.za

**Madie Abrahams** BComm (Stell)  
Investment Specialist  
021 947 5001 | 082 476 8359  
madie@sanlam4u.co.za



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## Suitable placement for **VICTIM** – two years after incident at Prasa building

**M**ore than two years after a Prasa security guard was raped on duty by a member of a group of armed robbers, the state-owned enterprise (SOE) finally found a suitable placement where she can make a valuable contribution without being exposed daily to traumatic incidents.

UNTU had to intervene after the victim was left in an office with no work to do for more than a year. After the matter was brought to the attention of Bongisizwe Mpondo, Administrator of Prasa, and Thandeka Mabija, Acting Chief Executive, several meetings were held at the highest

level with the victim to find a suitable placement.

"I am so grateful to UNTU who assisted me and to all the Prasa managers who walked the extra mile to find a solution to the benefit of us all. God is Great," said this wife, mother and grandmother.

She was one of the employees that were overpowered and taken hostage at gunpoint on 24 November 2017 at a Prasa building in Gauteng. The victim was dragged through the building and had to show the robbers where the screens and laptops were located. One of the robbers raped her in the change rooms.

After the incident she and her family received five counselling sessions from Prasa. The SOE registered the incident

as an injury on duty.

She was only admitted to a psychiatric hospital after having to wait three months after the incident to see a psychologist allocated to her as part of Prasa's Employee Assistance Programme (EAP).

The victim managed to recover to such an extent that she resumed her duties and was promoted to a new position six months later.

In 2019 she had a relapse after being exposed to a mob of commuters attacking a train crew. Her psychiatrist recommended that she "be transferred to a safer occupational environment". Prasa implemented the transfer but neglected to give her any work to do.

Ever since the incident she had to endure gossiping and comments from

her peers to the effect that she was not "a virgin" and that it was only "one" armed robber who raped her.

Mabija apologised on behalf of Prasa to the victim for the prolonged waiting period and additional trauma experienced as a result of not being assisted by her employer. She informed the EAP staff that this should never happen again and ensured that the Prasa Exco learned from their mistakes.

Sonja Carstens, Deputy General Secretary of UNTU who assisted the victim, said the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Act 85 of 1993, requires the employer to provide and maintain as far as reasonable and practical a work environment that is safe and without risk to the health of employees. 🌟

## A lot needs to be done to eliminate **DISCRIMINATION** in workplace

**T**he discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people is rife in South African workplaces despite the country's brilliant Constitution which forbids any form of discrimination.

According to Nosipho Twala, an educator and researcher at the Labour Research Service, trade unions are at the forefront of fighting for the rights of workers but should do more to train their leadership and staff to be sensitive.

"Workers should unite to also support the LGBTI community who feels pressured to fit in with society's conventional ideas of being male or female. Those who don't fit the mould are subjected to systemic discrimination. These experiences with discrimination and stigmatisation can lead to a higher likelihood of emotional distress, depression and anxiety," Twala said.

UNTU participated in a dialogue

facilitated by Twala on LGBTI challenges in the workplace hosted by the Fedusa Social Justice Committee. UNTU is affiliated to Fedusa.

The need for greater sensitivity in LGBTI issues

was highlighted in South Africa when the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) barred South African Olympic gold medallist Caster Semenya from competing in 1 500 m distances and shorter. To prevent Semenya from defending her 800 m Olympic title at the Tokyo Olympic Games from 24 July to 9 August 2020, the IAAF imposed new regulations regarding the testosterone



levels in female athletes.

Semenya is intersex, a term used to describe variations in sex characteristics in someone who does not fit typical binary notions of male or female bodies.

In sport the issue centres on verifying the eligibility of an athlete to compete in an event that is limited to a single sex. In Semenya's case it is alleged that her testosterone levels give her an unfair advantage over female athletes.

Twala outlined that the rights of LGBTI is based on section 9 of the Constitution, which forbids discrimination on the basis of sex,

gender or sexual orientation, and applies to the Government and to private parties. The International Labour Organization (ILO), to which Fedusa is affiliated, is committed to eliminating discrimination in the world of work, promoting workplace diversity and achieving decent work for all women and men, including people of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity.

To deliver effectively upon its mandate to end discrimination in the world of work in all its forms, the ILO undertook country-specific studies to identify the extent and forms of discrimination faced by LGBTI workers.

Findings from the ILO's study *Pride at Work: A study on discrimination at work on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in South Africa* indicate that much more work needs to be done in South Africa to make the workplace more welcoming and inclusive for the LGBTI community. 🌟

# UNTU's leadership and Transnet CEO in frank talks

The state of Transnet properties, especially employees' housing, must be **top priority**

**T**he despicable state of Transnet properties, especially the housing of employees, the vandalism and theft of railway infrastructure and the urgent need for lifestyle audits on senior management are now being discussed at the highest level in Transnet.

Portia Derby, newly appointed Group Chief Executive Officer, agreed with UNTU's leadership that these issues warrant immediate attention and drastic action when she met with UNTU President Hendrik Fourie; Steve Harris, General Secretary of the Union; Wielligh Meyer, UNTU Exco member; and Trevor Wasserfall, Vice-President of UNTU.

According to Derby she was surprised with what she found during her nationwide visits in recent months to meet with Transnet employees. She realised that there is a serious need for a properties audit throughout Transnet to guide the company's future growth.

Although various reports were



▲ Steve Harris, General Secretary of UNTU; UNTU President Hendrik Fourie; Portia Derby, newly appointed Group Chief Executive Officer of Transnet; UNTU Exco member Wielligh Meyer (back); and Trevor Wasserfall, UNTU Vice-President.

submitted over the past few years on a variety of issues within Transnet, very few recommendations were implemented, Derby said.

Derby and Harris agreed that the safeguarding of Transnet infrastructure and the maintenance thereof should be one of the top priorities to ensure service delivery.

UNTU pointed out that Transnet Freight Rail is suffering just as badly as Prasa due to the ongoing vandalism and theft

of infrastructure. R42 billion had allegedly been spent over the past decade on the maintenance of the infrastructure.

"We can't see where the money was spent. The infrastructure is in its worst state ever," said Harris.

Last year Judge Bashier Vally ruled in the South Gauteng High Court that the five contracts Transnet handed to IGS Consulting Engineers were unlawful and that the profits should be refunded. 🗑️



## Railway Safety Regulator makes a mockery of **safety**

**T**he Railway Safety Regulator (RSR), whose core mandate is to be the watchdog over rail safety in South Africa, makes a mockery of the Gauteng North High Court order by prohibiting Shosholozha Meyl from operating and allowing Metrorail to continue with its services and not adhering to the court order directing both.

On 18 February 2020 the RSR decided to suspend all Shosholozha Meyl operations in reaction to the incident on 12 February when a Prasa Premier Class Shosholozha Meyl passenger train collided with a stationary goods train of Transnet Freight Rail in Roodepoort in Johannesburg.

One passenger died, one was critically injured and eight passengers and staff members were injured.

According to the RSR's preliminary investigation both trains were authorised on the same route by the Maraisburg Central Traffic Control.

Once again the RSR confirmed that Prasa ignored the court order of Judge Cassim Sardiwalla according to which a section manager of Prasa had to

oversee the manual authorisations of the train control officer. The RSR found that there was no section manager on duty at Maraisburg CTC when the incident occurred.

This is the second time within a year that lives were lost because Prasa did not adhere to the court order.

On 8 January 2019 four passengers died and 740 passengers were injured when a Metrorail train collided with a stationary Metrorail train at the Mountain View Station in Pretoria where trains have been operating under manual authorisation since November 2018.

According to the RSR the incident was a result of a breakdown in communication between the train control officer (TCO) and the train driver that was en route to the Pretoria Station.

"After the train driver repeated the authorisation incorrectly, the TCO acknowledged the incorrect authorisation," the RSR stated, but neglected to point out that once again Prasa ignored the court order and again there was no section manager to oversee this manual authorisation.

Neither the RSR nor Prasa

responded by filing reports to the court in March as they were ordered to do on 21 July 2019. On 26 February 2020 Judge Sardiwalla had to issue a third ruling against the parties to comply with his initial court order of 2018. The parties are due back in court soon.

But while the RSR took a drastic stance against Shosholozha Meyl, the main culprit, Metrorail, who had seven collisions in the last four years, continues to operate. The RSR extended Metrorail's safety operating permit with another three months in January 2020.

To date the RSR neglected to approach the Judge to grant it a contempt of court order.

Steve Harris, General Secretary of UNTU, said before the Roodepoort incident, Shosholozha Meyl was known as the safest passenger train despite the incident on 4 January 2018 when a truck got stuck on the railway line causing a collision with a Shosholozha Meyl passenger train at a railway crossing between Hennenman and Kroonstad in the Free State. Six passengers died and 254 people sustained injuries. 🗑️

## DEVELOPING **STORIES**

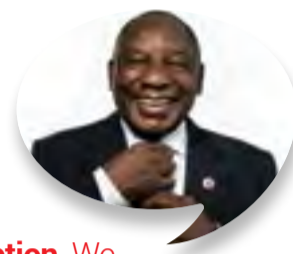
### **R9.7 BILLION**

**THE PASSENGER RAIL AGENCY OF SOUTH AFRICA** (Prasa)'s liabilities stand at R9.7 billion, administrator Bongizwe Mpondo said in March. In February commuters were left stranded as Eskom cut power supply to the Western Cape train service for an unpaid bill of R4 million. The City of Cape Town also threatened to cut services after the company failed to pay around R122 million the City says is outstanding for municipal rates and services. According to Mpondo he inherited the problems of a "broken" company.



### **R2.3 BILLION**

"Eskom and Transnet have recovered more than R2.3 billion lost to **corruption**. We know this is just a fraction of what has been lost to state capture." ~ President Cyril Ramaphosa ~



### **R1.4 BILLION**

**CAPE TOWN'S BUSY CENTRAL RAILWAY LINE** will be restored at a cost of about R1.4 billion, Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula said in March. Mbalula blamed Prasa's poor administration for the pathetic state of the rail services in Cape Town. The central line, which runs between Cape Town station and the Khayelitsha and Mitchell's Plain stations via Langa and Bonteheuwel, has been suspended since November 2019 after the infrastructure was vandalised. Mbalula said that by September there would be trains every 30 minutes daily. A full service is expected to provide 232 train journeys per day by April 2021.

### **R500 MILLION**

**DIESEL THEFT** from Transnet's fuel pipeline to Gauteng has racked up about R500 million in recent months, but experts say a breakthrough is expected soon. Two suspects appeared in a Delmas court in February after Transnet's security officials caught them in the act. The pipeline is considered a national key point. Any person tampering with, damaging or destroying essential infrastructure, such as the national fuel pipeline, commits a Schedule 5 violation (on the same level as high treason and murder). **Also read the article on page 14. >>**



### **COVID-19**

Transnet said it has plans in place to monitor incoming ships for **COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)**. All crew members must get health clearance before they can go ashore. The state-owned enterprise coordinates all vessels docked at South Africa's eight commercial ports – Richards Bay, Durban, East London, Ngqura, Port Elizabeth, Mossel Bay, Cape Town and Saldanha. Passengers on board the Blue Train are also monitored. All yachts must report to the port health department. The crew and passengers must also remain on board until they've received a clean bill of health.





# UNTU DIRECTORY



## AREA 1 – KWAZULU-NATAL

AREA COMMITTEE	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	Chairman	Short	John	071 481 6975	031 361 6164	–	john.short@transnet.net
	Secretary	Heijmans	Jacobus	078 282 3237	–	–	–
BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Durban Infra	Chairman	Biljoen	Linda	082 852 9478	031 361 4318	086 726 0711	linda.biljoen@transnet.net
	Secretary	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
Ermelo	Chairman	Msweli	Mthokozisi	083 346 0206	017 801 2206	–	IM.Msweli@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mpofu	Kuhle	073 474 8728	017 801 2286	–	kuhle.mpofu@yahoo.com
Ladysmith	Chairman	Mazibuko	Sipho	073 288 3574	–	–	Sipho.Mazibuko@transnet.net
	Secretary	De Bruin	Ernst	084 506 3709	036 271 2001	–	tingeling@telkomsa.net
Maritime Durban	Chairman	Phethwa	Wiseman	083 721 2250	031 361 8377	086 677 6040	wiseman.phethwa@transnet.net
	Secretary	Govender	Seelan	084 309 4287	031 361 6610	–	seelan.govender@transnet.net
Maritime Richards Bay	Chairman	Dunn	Ashmerelda	083 273 0985	035 905 3807	035 905 3189	ashmerelda.dunn@transnet.net
	Secretary	Dunn	Daryll	082 262 4360	035 905 3160	035 905 3189	daryll.dunn@transnet.net
Newcastle	Chairman	Van Der Hyde	Willem	083 308 5375	034 328 7202	–	Willemdude49@gmail.com
	Secretary	Potgieter	Reginald	078 076 5595	–	–	reginald.potgieter@transnet.net
Pietermaritzburg	Chairman	Thwala	Thembeka	072 536 5798	–	–	Thembeka.Thwala@transnet.net
	Secretary	Mnengela	Muzi	083 366 5200	033 897 2727	033 897 2773	utatupietermaritzburg@transnet.net
Metro Durban	Chairman	Luthuli	Bhekinkosi	084 256 1146	061 563 6128	–	Bhekinkosi.Luthuli@prasa.com
	Secretary	Roopnarain	Shireen	072 018 8064	031 813 0277	–	SRoopnarain@metrorail.co.za
Richards Bay	Chairman	Hattingh	Walter	083 547 3059	035 906 7193	–	walter.hattingh@transnet.net
	Secretary	Lutchiparsad	Niresh	083 980 0143	035 905 4314	–	Niresh.Lutchiparsad@transnet.net
TRE Durban	Chairman	Naidoo	Krishnan	084 686 1556	031 361 5103	–	UtataTRE.PortEg@transnet.net/ Krishnannaidoo@gmail.com
	Secretary	Rampersad	Sanjay	082 721 7833	031 361 5694	086 573 2747	Sanjay.Rampersad@transnet.net
TRE Traction Durban	Chairman	Bezuidenhout	Hendrik	083 412 3174	031 361 5963	–	Bez.Bezuidenhout2@transnet.net
	Secretary	Allanson	Michael	083 661 3528	031 361 5354	–	Michael.Allanson@transnet.net
TRE Richards Bay	Chairman	Msweli	Bonginkosi	082 588 5565	035 905 4178	–	bonginkosi.msweli@transnet.net
	Secretary	Mathiso	Cynthia	078 479 1492	–	–	cynthia.mathiso@transnet.net
Umbilo	Chairman	Rankin	Rodney	082 874 7797	031 361 5205	–	rodney.rankin@transnet.net
	Secretary	Heijmans	Jakobus	078 282 3237	031 361 4033	–	remon@iburst.co.za/remonheijmans@gmail.com
Vryheid	Chairman	Ndwandwe	Mandla	071 618 5320	034 989 9310	–	alexander.ndwandwe@transnet.net
	Secretary	Malinga	Nkosinathi	083 444 0386	034 989 9430	–	Nkosinathi.Malinga2@transnet.net
Piet Retief	Chairman	Nxumalo	IBM	083 341 4228	–	–	IBMNxumalo@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mazibuko	Siphamandla	079 650 2892	–	–	Siphamandla.Mazibuko@transnet.net
Wentworth	Chairman	Govender	Reagan	072 690 0706	031 361 4079	031 361 4330	untuwddtfr@transnet.net
	Secretary	Balmogim	Shaun	081 462 8344	031 361 5346	031 361 4330	untuwddtfr@transnet.net

## AREA 2 – EASTERN CAPE

AREA COMMITTEE	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	Chairman	Du Plessis	Clayton	078 212 6211	041 994 2288	–	clayten.duplessis@transnet.net
	Secretary	Godfrey	Edwin	072 236 2056	041 507 5167	041 507 5006	edwin.godfrey@transnet.net
BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Burgersdorp	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
Cradock	Chairman	Els	Andries	084 205 8529	049 802 8224	–	Andries.els.05@gmail.com
	Secretary	Pain	Basie	078 320 1130	049 822 8227	–	basie.pain@transnet.net
East London	Chairman	Pautz	Clive	078 802 5566	042 700 4317	042 700 4207	clive.pautz@transnet.net
	Secretary	Groves	Clayton	076 098 3309	043 700 4341	043 700 4546	clayton.groves@transnet.net
Mossel Bay	Chairman	Prinsloo	Marius	084 582 5932	044 604 6236	044 604 6209	marius.prinsloo@transnet.net
	Secretary	Mare	Jacques	076 993 7506	044 604 6281	044 604 6250	jacquessmare@gmail.com
Maritime East London	Chairman	Emery	Douglas	082 315 9826	043 700 2410	–	douglas.emery@transnet.net
	Secretary	Faltein	Kerwin	071 688 2883	043 700 2130	–	kerwin.faltein@transnet.net
Maritime Nqgura	Chairman	Venter	Anton	082 465 6686	041 507 8326	041 507 8328	anton.venter@transnet.net
	Secretary	Simayile	Nonkosazana	078 311 6613	041 507 6015	–	Simayilesn@gmail.com
Port Elizabeth	Chairman	Van Tonder	Wynand	076 125 7926	041 507 5204	041 504 5003	edwin.godfrey@transnet.net
	Secretary	Godfrey	Edwin	072 236 2056	041 507 5167	041 507 5006	edwin.godfrey@transnet.net
Metro East London	Chairman	Mrwebi	Thembinkosi	072 579 2049	043 700 2160	–	untuec@prasa.com
	Secretary	Nkumanda	Kholelwa	083 670 0013/083 947 1995	043 700 2353/2090/2160	–	kolelwa.nkumanda@prasa.com
TRE Swartkops	Chairman	Verwey	Barend	076 882 4789	041 507 5194	041 507 5224	barend.verwey@transnet.net
	Secretary	Dickson	Michael	072 827 8461	–	–	dicksonmichaeljames@yahoo.com
TRE Uitenhage	Chairman	Smith	Donavin	072 446 0200	–	–	donavin.smith@transnet.net
	Secretary	Bubb	Malcolm	083 952 4967	041 994 2341	041 994 2412	malcolm.bubb@transnet.net
Queenstown	Chairman	Barnardo	Petrus	071 893 2831	045 808 2080	–	petrus.barnardo@transnet.net
	Secretary	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–

## AREA 3 – WESTERN CAPE

AREA COMMITTEE	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	Chairman	Warrington	George	083 411 4962	021 940 2160	086 749 1740	george.warrington@transnet.net
	Secretary	Van Rooy	Olivia	082 322 5898	021 449 3045	–	Olivia.Vanrooy@transnet.net
BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Beaufort West	Chairman	Janse van Vuuren	Jacques	082 355 1166	023 449 2140	023 449 2177	jacques.jansevanvuuren@transnet.net
	Secretary	Meintjies	Reginald	078 907 2184	023 449 2140	023 449 2177	reginald.meintjies@transnet.net
Cape Town	Chairman	Davies	Peter	083 947 9119	021 940 2818	021 940 3438	Peter.Davies@transnet.net
	Secretary	Warrington	George	083 411 4962	021 940 2160	086 749 1740	george.warrington@transnet.net
Maritime Cape Town	Chairman	Coetzee	Chantal	076 083 1930	021 449 4285	–	chantel.coetzee2@transnet.net
	Secretary	Van Rooy	Olivia	082 322 5898	021 449 3045	021 449 4175	olivia.vanrooy@transnet.net
Maritime Saldanha	Chairman	Wevers	Ply	073 397 3179	022 703 4831	022 703 4952	ply.wewers@transnet.net
	Secretary	Soobramoney	Chantal	072 220 2882	–	–	chantal.soobramoney@transnet.net
Lions Head	Chairman	Malek	Calvin	081 036 0072	–	–	Calvin.Malek42@gmail.com
	Secretary	Matsepe	Moitheri	081 562 6650	–	–	mmatsepe@metrorail.co.za
Metro Disa	Chairman	Cupido	André	083 429 0161	–	–	Andreocupido@gmail.com
	Secretary	Rhelegushe	Simphiwe	063 443 1782/079 930 9275	021 940 3316	–	srelegusme@prasa.com
Metro Tafelberg	Chairman	Qoyi	Luyanda	078 866 8381	021 449 5532	–	lqoyi@prasa.com
	Secretary	Booyesen	Danfred	083 327 9624	021 449 2924	–	DanfredB@prasa.com
Saldanha Orex	Chairman	Saul	Lutwena	079 225 9168	022 703 2347	022 703 2229	Lutwena.Saul@transnet.net
	Secretary	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
TRE Cape Town	Chairman	Slabber	Shawn	082 723 3490	021 507 2388	–	Shawnslabbera99@gmail.com
	Secretary	Xolani	Mbolekwa	079 394 3907	021 507 2039	–	mbolekwax1@gmail.com
Vredendal	Chairman	Moolman	Ettienne	–	–	–	ettiennemoolman@gmail.com
	Secretary	Brand	Neil	078 445 6422	022 703 3515	022 703 3552	neilbrand8@gmail.com
Worcester	Chairman	Steyn	Leon	083 293 7523	023 348 4218	023 348 4306	leonsteyn1961@gmail.com
	Secretary	Miller	Leandre	060 996 6046	023 348 4262	–	farooleandre@gmail.com

## AREA 4 – FREE STATE

AREA COMMITTEE	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	Chairman	Van Rooyen	Pieter	079 526 9228	051 408 2663	–	pieter4901@gmail.com
	Secretary	Bezuidenhoudt	Kobus	071 268 6100	–	–	kobus.bezuidenhoudt@transnet.net
BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Bethlehem	Chairman	Nhlapo	Ally	072 763 1459	058 302 2018	058 302 2085	Ally.Nhlapo@transnet.net
	Secretary	Taaso	Thabo	083 409 6572	058 302 2160	058 302 2081	thabotaaso27@gmail.com
Bloemfontein	Chairman	Van Rooyen	Pieter	079 526 9228	051 408 2663	–	pieter4901@gmail.com
	Secretary	Swanepoel	Corné	060 564 4995	051 408 3302	–	corne.swanie@gmail.com

BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Kroonstad	Chairman	Dreyer	Douw	082 920 9450	011 978 2737	011 978 2737	douw@untu.co.za
	Secretary	Kruger	Andries	083 451 7351	056 268 2106/2141	056 268 2146	dries.kruger@transnet.net
TRE Bloemfontein	Chairman	Bezuidenhoudt	Kobus	071 268 6100	–	–	Kobus.Bezuidenhoudt@transnet.net
	Secretary	Meiring	Minette	065 393 6505	051 408 2543	–	minette.meiring@transnet.net

AREA 5 – GAUTENG CENTRAL

AREA COMMITTEE	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	Chairman	Ratshibaya	Suzan	065 875 8843	–	–	radzilanisuzan6@gmail.com
	Secretary	Grimsell	Kenneth	083 675 7619	011 365 7361	–	kgrimsell@gmail.com
BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Braamfontein	Chairman	Nkotwe	Martin	081 036 0098	–	–	martin.nkotwe.martin@gmail.com
	Secretary	Ratshibaya	Suzan	065 875 8843	–	–	radzilanisuzan6@gmail.com
Esselenpark	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	Maphunye	Chris	082 767 1076/083 476 2375	011 929 1112	011 774 9017	chris.maphunye@transnet.net
Germiston	Chairman	Motau	Thabo	083 880 2778	011 820 2622	011 820 2318	thabo.motau@transnet.net
	Secretary	Mathivha	Rendani	066 043 6574	–	–	Rendani.Mathivha@transnet.net
Heidelberg	Chairman	Njowa	Peter	083 399 9626	016 340 7227	–	peter.njowa@transnet.net
	Secretary	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
Isando	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	Mtshweni	Wenzile	074 028 8561/076 950 4934	011 570 7030	–	bwmtshweni1@gmail.com
Kaserne	Chairman	Mathekga	Noah	072 799 7297	011 330 6061	–	noahmathekga@gmail.com
	Secretary	De Koker	Scott	082 046 6815	082 324 9169	–	scott@untu.co.za
Krugersdorp	Chairman	Kalimashe	Ronald	083 574 6766	011 950 1238	–	Ronald.Kalimashe@transnet.net
	Secretary	Ramalete	Kelebouile	072 307 2529	011 950 1271	–	Kelebouile.Ramalete@transnet.net
Leeuhof	Chairman	Rossouw	Morne	084 504 0407	016 420 6246	016 420 6352	morne.rossouw@yahoo.com
	Secretary	Mathume	Ratau	073 843 0813	016 420 6278	–	msratau@webmail.co.za
Metro – Central	Chairman	Swart	Peet	071 462 2307	–	–	peet@untu.co.za/paswart@prasa.com
	Secretary	Matshidze	Thabelo	081 715 2205	–	–	blecngtm@gmail.com
Metro – East	Chairman	Grobler	Frederick	083 276 8715	–	–	Fgrobler@prasa.com
	Secretary	Van Zyl	Andries	083 276 8783	–	–	yzf1000.yama@gmail.com
Metro – West	Chairman	Hagemann	Ockert	083 275 9991	011 278 2304	–	ockert.hagemann@prasa.com
	Secretary	Smit	Albertus	083 459 9733	016 420 6204	–	smit.albertus.j@gmail.com
Parktown	Chairman	Mdyogolo	Luvuyo	071 363 6988	011 584 0574	011 774 9909	luvuyo.mdyogolo@transnet.net
	Secretary	Groenewald	Sannie	073 660 3605	011 584 0996	–	sannie.groenewald@transnet.net
Sentrarand	Chairman	Mulaudzi	Vhulahani	082 973 8120	011 960 2011	–	Mulaudzi777@gmail.com
	Secretary	Phoshane	Thabiso	071 248 6355	011 960 2197	–	Thabiso.Phoshane@gmail.com
Springs	Chairman	Malahlela	Sphiwe	078 180 2519	011 365 7361	–	sphiwekga@gmail.com
	Secretary	Grimsell	Kenneth	083 675 7619	011 365 7361	–	kgrimsell@gmail.com
Standerton	Chairman	Mthembu	Sibusiso	072 117 0882	083 748 3616	–	sbusisomthembu54@gmail.com
	Secretary	Letsoalo	Maredi	064 940 2217	076 279 9170	–	letsoalo727@gmail.com
TRE Germiston	Chairman	Mudau	Phindile	071 134 3906/076 540 0458	011 820 2716	–	Audrey.Mudau@transnet.net
	Secretary	Mudau	Shelton	072 228 8469	–	–	Shelton.Mudau@transnet.net
TRE Sentrarand	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	Dube	Vusi	072 130 4290	011 960 2405	–	vusi.dube@transnet.net

AREA 6 – NORTHERN CAPE

AREA COMMITTEE	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	Chairman	Menziwa	Yandiswa	083 480 1613	053 632 8303	–	Ymenziwayaya@gmail.com
	Secretary	Maphike	Sipho	073 842 6747	018 632 0894	–	sipho.maphike@transnet.net
BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Lichtenburg	Chairman	Maphike	Sipho	073 842 6747	018 632 0894	–	sipho.maphike@transnet.net
	Secretary	Jass	Mbulelo	072 454 8350	018 632 0274	–	Mbulelojass1@gmail.com
De Aar	Chairman	Manziwa	Yandiswa	083 480 1613	053 632 8303	–	Ymenziwayaya@gmail.com
	Secretary	Oliphant	Lesley	074 226 5676	053 632 8231	–	Lesley.oliphant@transnet.net
Kimberley	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	Visagie	Lincoln	063 296 7281	073 381 7190	–	Lincoln.Visagie@transnet.net
Mafikeng	Chairman	Malisha	Gundo	076 186 8304	018 381 9250	–	gundo.malisha@transnet.net
	Secretary	Manca	Collin	078 267 6257	018 381 9271	018 381 7201	Use Fax
North West (Klerksdorp)	Chairman	Cimela	Abram	071 586 4664	018 406 2206	018 406 2030	cimelaba@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mooketsi	Constance	073 647 2278	018 283 7617	–	Malebogomooketsi58@gmail.com
Postmasburg	Chairman	Mdiniso	Nandipha	081 003 2311	–	–	Olwethu.Mdiniso@gmail.com
	Secretary	Botha	Sobuza	083 678 7317	053 313 7210	–	GRP-TFR-UNTUPostmasburg@transnet.net
Sishen	Chairman	Goosen	Sharon	073 258 5810	053 723 9207	–	Sharon.Goosen@transnet.net
	Secretary	Oliphant	Lesley	078 014 6871	053 723 9204	–	leslieoliphant01@gmail.com
Warrenton	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	Mgwevu	Ndumiso	074 844 2482	053 494 3236	–	untuwarrenton@transnet.net
Upington	Chairman	Van der Merwe	Petrus	083 504 9205	054 338 6699	054 338 0185	caartie@telkomsa.net
	Secretary	Schamboua	Julius	083 938 5694	054 338 3408	054 338 3440	jjschamboua@gmail.com

AREA 7 – GAUTENG NORTH

AREA COMMITTEE	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
	Chairman	Muleya	Alfred	074 676 2136/078 261 6594	015 781 9035	–	alfredmuleya47@gmail.com
	Secretary	Tshotheli	Regina	076 476 0172	015 534 7209	015 534 7222	Regina.Tshotheli@gmail.com
BRANCH	POSITION	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CELL PHONE NO	TELEPHONE NO	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Komatipoort	Chairman	Sambo	Rudolph	076 840 9392	–	–	RZSambo@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mbuyane	Mandla	082 745 7847	013 793 9986	–	Mandla.Mbuyane@transnet.net
Lydenburg	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	Khoza	Khodani	076 954 1181	011 774 2015	–	kodimotumba.kk@gmail.com
Musina	Chairman	Matlala	Stephen	072 532 6699	015 519 4245	015 519 4248	Willem.vermaak@transnet.net
	Secretary	Tshotheli	Regina	076 476 0172	015 534 7209	015 534 7222	Regina.Tshotheli@gmail.com
Nelspruit	Chairman	Khoza	Menzi	073 311 3420	013 752 9236	–	Khovane@gmail.com
	Secretary	Ngomane	Thulane	078 204 2403	013 751 9233	–	ikemshika@gmail.com
Phalaborwa	Chairman	Muleya	Alfred	074 676 2136/078 261 6594	015 781 9035	–	alfredmuleya47@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mashinya	Loyce	082 216 9251	015 781 9035	–	Loyce.Mashinya@transnet.net
Polokwane	Chairman	Mosebedi	Sonnyboy	079 502 4142	015 299 6487	–	sonnyboy.mosebedi@transnet.net
	Secretary	Pheta	Modjadji	083 380 4775	015 299 6485	011 774 9440	modjadji.pheta@transnet.net
Pretoria	Chairman	Khotle	SK	072 805 2067	012 315 8409	–	GRP-TFR-UNTUPRETORIA@transnet.net
	Secretary	Seattholo	Shuping	078 442 4581	012 315 8237	–	GRP-TFR-UNTUPRETORIA@transnet.net
Metro Pretoria	Chairman	VACANT	–	–	–	–	–
	Secretary	Mashige	Michael	079 963 5454	–	–	michaelmashige@gmail.com
Pyramid	Chairman	Tajane	Gabaikanngwe	073 405 2108	012 521 9415	012 521 9497	Gabaikanngwe.Tajane@transnet.net
	Secretary	Mhlongo	Charles	071 869 9229	012 521 9573	012 521 9526	charles.mhlongo@transnet.net
Rustenburg	Chairman	Motlhabi	Tebogo	073 974 7074	–	014 590 2064	utatu.rustenburg@transnet.net
	Secretary	Mothibe	Elias	071 926 1779	014 590 2226	–	elias.mothibe@transnet.net
Thabazimbi	Chairman	Mathebula	Hlayisela	073 854 5673	014 590 2206	–	Hlayiseka.matheb@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mahlaudi	Julius	072 759 6031	014 590 2223	–	t.mahlauli@gmail.com
TRE Pretoria	Chairman	Nkambule	Lynette	072 368 5222	–	–	Lynette.Nkambule@transnet.net
	Secretary	Moloisana	Edward	071 533 9371	–	–	edwardmoloisana@gmail.com
TRE Koedoespoort	Chairman	Brink	Izak	082 827 9151	012 842 5317	–	izak.brink@transnet.net
	Secretary	Oosthuizen	Hannes	079 081 0907	012 842 5273	–	Johannes.Oosthuizen@transnet.net
Waterval-Boven	Chairman	Mmola	Evince	079 602 8585	013 257 5028	–	haizelmmla@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mhlongo	Oupa	073 420 7505	013 257 5024	–	doctoroupa@gmail.com
Witbank	Chairman	Mudalahothe	Obert	076 262 0674	–	–	avhatakali26@gmail.com
	Secretary	Mnguni	Jappie	082 213 9952	–	–	jappie.mnguni@transnet.net

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, PHONE US ON TEL: 011 728 0120

# "If you want to lead, be on top of your game"

To be able to lead and motivate employees, a manager should be up to date with the latest information and never stop learning. This is the view of Patience Malesa (42), yard manager in Pretoria, who believes that she can't lead educated employees if she is not educated herself. She is responsible for seven yards.

This mother of two boys received her degree in Business Management and Marketing this year. "I am not about to

stop studying. Strategic thinking comes with experience."

She started working for Transnet Freight Rail (TFR) in 2003 after she completed matric and saw an advertisement that Transnet was looking for yard officials. She was appointed as a yard official in Springs. In 2008 Malesa was promoted to the position of yard foreman in Watloo in Pretoria. Three years later she was appointed as yard master in Watloo and another three years later as

yard manager. She now has her sight set on a position in management.

According to her the vandalism and theft of railway infrastructure has a devastating effect on TFR's ability to deliver its services and has a very demoralising effect on employees.

Malesa's youngest son (10) plays soccer for SuperSport. She spends her weekends supporting him or spends time with her family in nature. She also loves going to the zoo and reading. 🌟



## UNTU STOP ORDER

Please complete all fields  
in clear print!

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_ SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_ I.D. NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMPLOYEE / SAP NO: \_\_\_\_\_ SHIRT RECEIVED: YES ☐ NO ☐ SIZE (S – 5XL): \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
TEL (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (W): \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
CELL: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CENTRE / DEPOT: \_\_\_\_\_ JOB TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

- Formula for calculating subscription: 1% of basic monthly salary (minimum of R48,00 and a maximum of R83,00).
- I, the undersigned, hereby authorise the relevant company as indicated in the table below to monthly deduct the amount as calculated per the above formula from my salary, and to pay this amount to UNTU.

(Please mark with X) **CONTRACT WORKER:** YES ☐ NO ☐ **WHERE ARE YOU EMPLOYED?**

Prasa – Metrorail		Transnet Port Terminals (TPT)		Transnet Freight Rail (TFR)		Transnet Pipelines (TPL)	
Prasa – MLPS		Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA)		Transnet Freight Rail (TFR) – RME		Bombela	
Prasa – CRES		Transnet Group Capital		Transnet Properties		Bombardier	
Prasa – Technical		Transnet Engineering (TE)		Transnet Corporate		Other	

### THIS STOP ORDER CANCELS THE MEMBERSHIP OF ANY OTHER UNION

I fully understand and accept that this STOP ORDER can only be cancelled by giving a month's written notice to the General Secretary.

NOMINEE FOR DEATH BENEFIT: I, the undersigned, hereby nominate and appoint:

(1): \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ I.D. NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
(2): \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ I.D. NO: \_\_\_\_\_

to be my nominee/s. This death grant shall form no part of my legal estate and shall be neither executable nor attachable at the instance of any creditor of mine, but shall be paid directly to my nominee.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENROLLED BY:** INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_ SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYEE NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
BANKING DETAILS: BANK: \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH: \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
ACCOUNT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ TYPE OF ACCOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_  
ENROLLER'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

#### FOR OFFICE USE

RECEIVED	PROCESSED	COMMISSION	PENALTY	SIGNATURE

#### SUBMIT COMPLETED FORM TO:

The General Secretary, P.O. Box 31100, Braamfontein, 2017 • Fax: 011 728 8258  
Internal Fax: 011 773 7920 • E-mail: [headoffice@untu.co.za](mailto:headoffice@untu.co.za)

## Education Assistance: Apply now!

**T**ertiary Education Assistance Applications for 2021 opened in February. The Tertiary Education Assistance criteria are as follows:

- ▶ The **top 8 applicants** (5 in matric and 3 at university or college) with the highest marks will be considered for the Tertiary Education Assistance Benefit.
  - ▶ The Tertiary Education Assistance amount is **R6 000 once-off**. (Example: If the applicant's tertiary studies cost R60 000, UNTU only contributes an amount of R6 000. The rest of the amount (R54 000) will need to be settled by the applicant him/herself.)
- The Tertiary Education Assistance Benefit is not a bursary or a loan and applies to all current UNTU members whose children matriculate in 2020 and will be furthering his/her studies at an institution in 2021, or if your child is already studying at an institution, to further his/her studies at that institution in 2021.

To apply for the Tertiary Education Assistance Benefit for 2021, UNTU will need the following documents:

- 1 A completed Tertiary Education Assistance application form.
- 2 A certified ID copy of the applicant.
- 3 Certified matric 3rd term results.
- 4 A confirmation letter from the institution you wish to study at.
- 5 If you are currently studying at an institution, your 2020 results.

• **For enquiries, phone Natasha Gordon on 011 728 0120 or send an e-mail to [enquiries@untu.co.za](mailto:enquiries@untu.co.za)** 🌟



Luleka Bhayi ▶

## Union always walk the extra mile for members

**L**uleka Bhayi will remain a loyal UNTU member forever because the Union cares about and fights for its members. She is one of hundreds of UNTU members at Transnet Sentrarand who are struggling to make ends meet after the state-owned enterprise (SOE) decided to unilaterally stop the buses that transported employees at this remote depot to and from work.

"It is very frustrating. We try to make use of a lift club, but if the car breaks, then we must arrange an alternative. Since the buses, taxis and communities are aware of our predicament, someone will offer to take you to work, but you have to pay up to R300 for one trip," said Bhayi, senior administrator in the planning office of Transnet Freight Rail Sentrarand.

She lives in Daveyton, the nearest township to Sentrarand. "When employees come late for work due to the transport problem, there is no sympathy from management. Not everyone can afford

to buy a car."

According to Bhayi UNTU listens to the concerns of its members, cares about the dire financial impact on their budgets and take steps to try and rectify the situation.

UNTU declared a dispute at the Transnet Bargaining Council against the decision of Transnet to do away with the buses and filed an application in the Labour Court in Johannesburg to review and set aside the decision.

Bhayi grew up in East London and dreamt of becoming a doctor. "I am a naturally slow person and could not manage to finish all my papers on time. Transnet appointed me because I had mathematics."

She struggles to get promoted despite walking the extra mile and feels that Transnet should do more to recognise employees. She believes there is too much favouritism preventing all employees to be given an equal opportunity.

When she is not working, this mother of two boys loves reading novels. 🌟

## "I might be one person, but I can make a huge **difference**"

**R**oland Long always strives to be the best he can be in whatever he is doing. This 58-year-old safety specialist: finance support at Transnet Freight Rail Inyanda in Johannesburg did on-the-job first aid training to keep up with developments.

"I can deliver a baby and I can administer a drip," he told *Labour Report*.

Long has been an UNTU member for as long as he can remember. "I never needed to call the Union until last year when UNTU Exco member Scott de Koker assisted me."

He grew up in Eldoradopark in Johannesburg and came out of apartheid where he fought for the rights of the majority of South Africans. Long was part of the Hector Peterson Movement and was very politically active to claim a democratic South Africa. Hector Peterson became the iconic image of the 1976 Soweto uprising when a newspaper photograph by Sam Nzima – of the dying Hector being carried by a fellow student – was published around the world. Hector was one of the first casualties of the 1976 uprising against the sole use of the Afrikaans language in schools.

Long dreamt of ending up in parliament, but never did. He completed a diploma, was a branch manager in the short-term insurance industry and had his own business in the construction industry but needed support from Government to develop his small business. Long's former wife told him about job opportunities at Transnet. He loves his job.

"We know Transnet is heading our economy. If Transnet fails, the whole infrastructure fails. If it was not for all the corruption in Transnet during the



▶ Roland Long

state capture period, the economy would have grown a lot faster.

"I might be one person, but I believe that I can make a huge difference. I always want justice and righteousness to be done. I can't stand injustice."

Long says UNTU is doing a lot for its members, but there is room for improvement. "The leadership of UNTU needs to be amongst its members to always keep up with their roots. I would like to have more UNTU general meetings and visits like the UNTU Super Team Phambili Drive."

Long recently remarried and is a family-orientated husband who encourages good deeds. 🌟

## Cannabis: Beware of zero tolerance in the workplace

**E**mployers in the rail environment prohibit employees from entering the workplace under the influence of an intoxicating substance which includes cannabis. Both Transnet and Prasa are obliged to maintain a safe working environment in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

After the cannabis judgment handed down by the Constitutional Court in 2018, it is now widely known that adults may use, possess and cultivate cannabis privately in South Africa.

According to a legal opinion written by Lizle Louw and Shane Johnson, Employment Law Specialists at Webber Wentzel, the judgment raises critical questions around medical testing in the workplace, especially in environments where employees have to operate complex machinery and may endanger their own lives and those of others if their faculties are impaired.

Impairment caused by cannabis will start immediately and last for between 6 and 8 hours. The duration of impairment

may last longer if there are higher levels of *tetrahydrocannabinol* (THC) in the cannabis used.

Other factors such as a lack of sleep, use of other medication, consumption of alcohol and other medical conditions can increase the duration and level of impairment.

When cannabis is consumed in other ways (e.g. ingesting through oils), its effect on the human body can differ, especially where certain *cannabinoids* are removed. Cannabis can negatively impact an employee's occupational capacity in many ways, including:

- performing tasks slower;
- performing poorly when handling routine, monotonous tasks;
- difficulty in multi-tasking;
- difficulty in taking instructions;
- difficulty in making crucial decisions, especially in high-risk situations; and
- difficulty in operating machinery or motor vehicles.

Traces of cannabis can be found in the human body for up to six months after

use, so it is challenging to determine the extent of impairment, if any, after such a long time.

The purpose of testing for cannabis is to prevent employees who are under the influence of an intoxicating substance to enter the workplace to prevent safety risks.

Steve Harris, General Secretary of UNTU, said that until the policies of the employers have been adjusted and amendments are made to the Act, employees must comply with the existing policies. 🌟

### DID YOU KNOW?

According to Section 65 of the National Road Traffic Act, "No person may drive a vehicle or occupy the driver's seat of a motor vehicle of which the engine is running on a public road while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug having a narcotic effect".





UNTU  
**PALMS**  
JEWEL OF THE SOUTH COAST

**NEWS**

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# RELAX & REJUVENATE

Are you looking for the perfect destination for that well-deserved family holiday? Look no further than UNTU Palms. Here is a guide to everything you need to know about the famous and affordable Jewel of the South Coast.

**U**NTU Palms is a beautiful family seaside holiday resort in Sunwich Port in KwaZulu-Natal. It offers direct access to the beach from its 54-stand tent and caravan park, chalets and cabanas.

The United National Transport Union (UNTU), the majority trade union in Transnet and the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa), acquired the holiday resort in 1991 when it was still known as Voetplaatpark.

The Union decided to keep the holiday resort on the shores of the Indian Ocean as a benefit to its 38 000 members, but that the general public could also enjoy the facilities at this magnificent venue, popularly known as the Jewel of the South Coast, with its subtropical forests and stunning birdlife.

Compared to similar facilities in the surrounding area, it is safe to say that UNTU Palms can be regarded as the best of the best. It boasts a variety of self-catering accommodation to suit every possible need – you can choose to camp in your own tent or rent one from UNTU Palms, park your caravan at one of three different camping sites in the caravan park, or enjoy the luxury of either a double story cabana that can accommodate a family of six or a simplex chalet fit for up to eight people.

The tidal pool on the beach is ideal for kids that are too young to brave the wild waves, but adrenaline junkies can look forward to some surfing, diving and fishing. UNTU Palms hosts one of the best surfing and rock fishing spots on the South Coast.

The resort has a large playground for children, a volleyball court, a swimming pool, a putt-putt course and a games room. There are two laundry facilities, one situated close to the caravan park and chalets, and one near the cabanas. UNTU Palms has access control throughout the premises of the resort.

“Take vacations, go to as many places as you can! You can always make money, but you can’t always make memories.”



## Various affordable accommodation options to choose from

### SELF-CATERING UNITS

The cabanas and the chalets are fully-equipped self-catering units with full DSTv and air conditioners. The cabanas have a communal braai area with a playground while each chalet has its own private braai area. The cabanas cater for up to six people and the chalets for up to eight people. These units are cleaned daily. There is undercover parking available for one vehicle, and ample parking for a second vehicle at the cabanas and at the chalets. UNTU Palms provides all its units with clean linen, but guests must bring their own towels and dishcloths.

### CAMPING FACILITIES

To accommodate backpackers, UNTU Palms has four sleeper tents with extensions available to rent. The staff will set up your tent on any of our 50 stands. UNTU Palms will provide the tent and two single beds. Bring your stretcher or sleeping bags along if you want four people to share the tent. All camping sites also have a braai area.

### A SELECTION OF STANDS

UNTU Palms has 18 regular sites available where you use the communal ablution block, 24 luxury stands with private ablution consisting of a private kitchen and bathroom, and 8 super luxury stands consisting of a private kitchen and bathroom and a bit more privacy. The stands have a communal braai area.



▲ Not in the mood to set up your own camp? No problem – UNTU Palms has sleeper tents available and will set up your tent and provide two single beds.

## Diverse fauna and flora



**T**he South Coast of KwaZulu-Natal is famous for its hardy coastal gardens that can withstand strong winds and high seasonal rainfall while flourishing in sandy soil. The gardens of UNTU Palms are no exception, and have their own diverse plant and flower species for visitors to explore. At UNTU Palms, gazanias are used as a groundcover. It is wind and sand tolerant and provides a cheerful bright yellow flower, adding colour to the garden. You will find hibiscus varieties in different colours only at UNTU Palms, situated on the Hibiscus Coast in Sunwich Port near Port Shepstone. UNTU Palms also has many interesting insects for nature lovers, and it supports the conservation and restoring of the indigenous flora and fauna of the South Coast.

## Loads of fun for the whole family

**U**NTU Palms hosts a variety of fun entertainment programmes over weekends and during holidays to entertain our guests. You are also welcome to make suggestions on how UNTU Palms can make your stay even better.

- ▶▶ Children's face painting
- ▶▶ Family sandcastle competition
- ▶▶ Street braais
- ▶▶ Treasure chocolate hunt
- ▶▶ Putt-putt competitions
- ▶▶ Pool boerewors braai
- ▶▶ Daily jumping castle next to the swimming pool area
- ▶▶ Crappie jig on the beach
- ▶▶ Water cascades
- ▶▶ Mr & Mrs UNTU Palms
- ▶▶ Master Chef – Who can make the best potjie?
- ▶▶ Boeresport
- ▶▶ UNTU Palms Karaoke
- ▶▶ Kiddies UNTU Palms photo competition.



## Plenty to do on the South Coast

- ▶▶ River rafting and tubing in the mouth of the Umzimkulu River
- ▶▶ Umtamvuna and Vernon Crookes Nature Reserves
- ▶▶ Oribi Gorge – a gorge 27 km long and 400 m deep that cuts its way through 365-year-old rock is a haven for thrillseekers. The world's highest bungee swing is located here. You can also do the world's highest natural commercial abseil at Oribi, take the Wild Slide, white-water raft or hike.
- ▶▶ Crocworld, home to the Nile crocodiles, at Scottburgh or the Riverbend Crocodile Farm
- ▶▶ Hlanganani Amusement Park in Margate
- ▶▶ Butterfly Farm at Ramsgate
- ▶▶ Port Shepstone Cultural History Museum
- ▶▶ Margate Municipal Art Museum
- ▶▶ Munster Motor Museum of vintage cars
- ▶▶ There are eight golf courses in the area – San Lameer is rated among South Africa's top 30 courses
- ▶▶ Beaver Creek Coffee Estate in Port Edward
- ▶▶ MacBanana Lifestyle Centre is the perfect place for a family day outing for adults and children
- ▶▶ Ster-Kinekor at Shelly Centre in Margate
- ▶▶ The famous Waffle House in Ramsgate
- ▶▶ Pistols Saloon and Wild West Museum in Ramsgate
- ▶▶ Pure Venom Reptile Park in Shelly Beach.



## From scrumptious food to sundowners

### AUNTY BETTY'S CAFÉ

The South Coast of KwaZulu-Natal is known for its curry dishes, and Kayshenie at Aunty Betty's Café prepares some of the best curries in South Africa. After Kayshenie and her husband, Clint Dippenaar, bought the beloved take-away – well-known nationwide for its typical United Kingdom-style fried fish – they revamped the café and added much more spice to the place. Now Aunty Betty's prepares mutton, chicken and vegetable biryani; mutton, chicken and bean curries; mutton, chicken, bean and sambal/ vinegar chillies; bunnies; and potato, mince and sweetcorn samosas. For those who don't like the extra spice in life, Aunty Betty's also serves its famous fish and chips, battered calamari, pap, gravy and wors, a variety of burgers and rolls, salads, sandwiches, breakfast and snack platters.

### ORCA'S PUB AND GRILL

Situated on the beachfront, this popular restaurant and bar attracts people from all over South Africa who want to sample some of Orca's Pub and Grill's great food. Orca's has a magnificent view of the dolphins and whales that pass by in the Indian Ocean. "Our atmosphere is the best. We are a genuine home away from home," says owner Joey Roberson. Her extensive menu includes a selection of breakfasts, light meals like salads, toasted sandwiches, rolls and burgers, starters like chicken livers, cheesy garlic rolls, fried haloumi and a mussel bowl. The main meals include chicken cordon bleu, eisbein, schnitzels, a seafood platter, prawns, hake and fish, rump, T-bone, ribs and beef, and chicken or vegetable curries. Those with a sweet tooth can enjoy chocolate mousse, ice cream and chocolate sauce. Joey is the mother of Bafana Bafana soccer legend Eric Tinkler.

Aunty Betty's Café prepares some of the best curries and UK style fried fish and chips in South Africa. ▼



The Waffle House in Ramsgate is a must!



“UNTU helped me to learn a lot about labour law and enabled me to **educate our members**. In my department I never lose a case. I always win.

”



▲  
Joyce Nkomo

## Greatest reward is satisfied customers

... but more can be done to develop **women**

**U**NTU Trade Union Representative (TUR) and Gender Co-ordinator Joyce Nkomo (44) loves her job communicating with customers and ensuring that they are satisfied. “A satisfied customer is my greatest reward. It makes up for all the challenges in the workplace,” said this Nerve Centre Operator at Transnet Freight Rail in Johannesburg. She has been with the state-owned enterprise for the past 12 years.

Growing up in Soweto Nkomo dreamt of becoming a businesswoman owning her own company one day. Today she has achieved this milestone although her “business” is her hobby of doing catering and decorating for functions over weekends.

“I am a creative person and I love making beautiful things. My favourite dish is lasagne. I also love singing and dancing and is very active in my church.”

After Nkomo obtained her matric, she joined the South African Police Service and became a constable.

“There was no work and I wanted to serve people. But the SAPS had lots of challenges and lots of corruption. I realised that hardworking people were overseen and that only friends of friends were being promoted.

“Then I saw the advertisement for the position in Transnet and got the job. I have not regretted my decision,” she added.

Nkomo struggled with her own difficult journey of bullying in the workplace and professional jealousy before becoming a TUR.

She did not get promoted, there were lots of internal politics and a manager was spreading malicious rumours about her.

“It was not good at all and affected me badly. It was only after I filed criminal charges of crimen injuria for the defamation of my character that it stopped. I also reported the matter internally.”

Today Nkomo is the one fighting for the rights of workers. She was recently re-elected as an UNTU TUR and Gender Co-ordinator for a second term. Nkomo has been a member of UNTU since she joined Transnet.

“UNTU helped me to learn a lot about labour law and enabled me to educate our members. In my department I never lose a case. I always win.”

Nkomo, a mother of three, is a gender activist and believes the Union can do more to develop women in the workplace. She is, however, very excited about the appointment of Portia Derby, Chief Group Executive at Transnet. 🌟

### MY TOP THREE THINGS



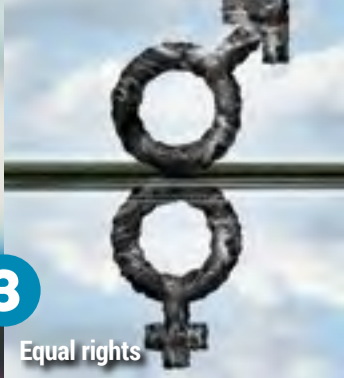
1

Lasagne



2

Singing



3

Equal rights

## Visagie **willing to fight** for fairness, equality and justice

**L**incoln Visagie, a Full-time Trade Union Representative (FTUR), is in his third year of studying for his LLB-degree and is set on becoming an advocate soon. “I like to be the spokesperson for people who can’t speak for themselves. I am willing to fight for fairness, equality and to seek justice for all Transnet employees.

“I am a firm believer in skills transfer. Whatever I learn, I give back in educating UNTU’s TUR’s so that they are better equipped to serve our members,” said this 33-year-old father of three.

He joined the South African Police Service in 2006 after completing matric. In 2012 Visagie decided to move on to Transnet after he acted as a commander in Sishen for a year, but did not get promoted. He completed a certificate in policing and a certificate in economic and management science.

Visagie was appointed as a leading protection officer in Transnet who investigated criminal and civil cases and testified as a witness for the state-owned enterprise in regional and high courts nationwide.

Thanks to Visagie’s thorough investigation, a thief who stole traction control motors was sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment in terms of the Criminal Matters Amendment Act that came into effect in 2015. “In that same year I saved Transnet R259 000 in a civil claim of a service provider.”



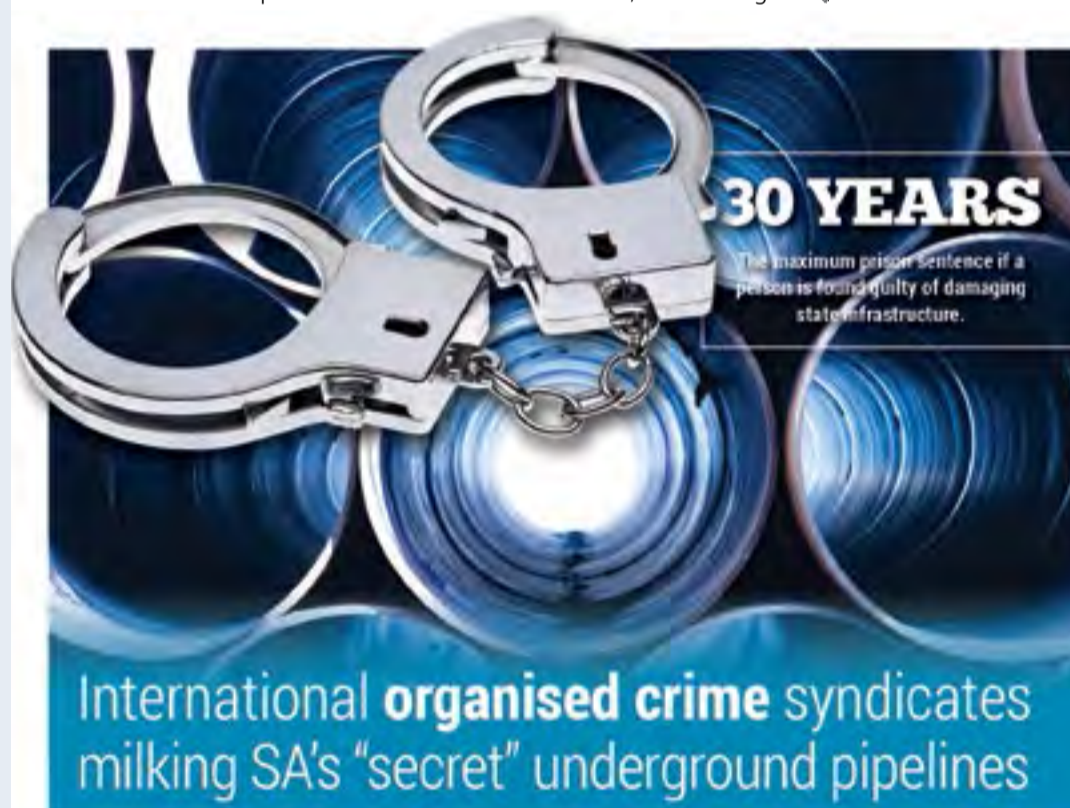
▲  
Lincoln Visagie

Visagie realised he had a passion for labour law in 2018 and became an initiator of cases for the employer. “That was when I realised that employees were not always getting a fair hearing. I availed myself to be elected as a TUR so that I can protect the rights of workers.”

Visagie was confronted by employee relation officers who felt that his position as a TUR created a conflict of interest for Transnet. “I took a bold decision and decided to remain a TUR.”

His loyalty to UNTU was rewarded when UNTU’s Exco decided to appoint him as a FTUR.

“My goal is to be admitted as an advocate. I did not grow up with much, but I know that I hold the key to my future. The sky is your limit if you are willing to work hard and make sacrifices. No one will close a door that has been opened by God,” said Visagie. 🌟



**I**nternational organised crime syndicates have discovered South Africa’s best kept secret: the whereabouts of Transnet Pipelines, a national key point.

Since January 2020 there has been a sharp increase in incidents where thieves either stole or tried to steal petroleum out of the underground system.

The Hawks, the priority crime investigating unit of the South African Police Service, is investigating the incidents that is believed to be the work of international crime syndicates.

Portia Derby, Group Chief Executive Officer of Transnet, said it is very disturbing that Transnet employees are allegedly involved with the syndicates and provide

them with classified information. Although a few suspects have been caught, the theft continues.

Derby agrees with UNTU that suspects that are arrested for tampering with the pipelines, should be prosecuted in terms of the Criminal Matters Amendment Act. This Act allows for the imprisonment to a maximum of 30 years if the accused is found guilty.

In March 2020 the Hawks arrested two Zimbabweans for allegedly stealing fuel worth R3 million at a Transnet station in Warden in the Free State. Owen Muterede (38) and Huggins Nyamutamba (43) were denied bail. It is believed that their arrest is only the tip of the iceberg. 🌟



# UNTU EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



**PRESIDENT**  
**Hendrik Fourie**  
Cell: 083 283 7482  
pote@untu.co.za



**VICE-PRESIDENT**  
**Trevor Wasserfall**  
Tel: 021 449 2148  
Cell: 071 362 6219  
trevor@untu.co.za



**SUPPORT SERVICES**  
**Douw Dreyer**  
Tel: 011 978 2737  
Cell: 082 920 9450 /  
082 378 3130  
douw@untu.co.za



**MARITIME  
EASTERN ZONE**  
**Douglas Emery**  
Tel: 043 700 2410  
Cell: 082 315 9826  
douglas@untu.co.za



**MARITIME  
WESTERN ZONE**  
**Careston Damos**  
Cell: 081 722 3011  
careston@untu.co.za



**PRASA  
CENTRAL ZONE**  
**Casper Botha**  
Cell: 063 687 4002  
cl@untu.co.za



**PRASA  
WESTERN ZONE**  
**Thamie Kwintshi**  
Cell: 082 737 8922  
TKwintshi@  
metrorail.co.za



**PRASA  
EASTERN ZONE**  
**Hardhaw Tikum**  
Tel: 061 016 0862  
Cell: 083 756 4484  
Hardhaw.Tikum@prasa.com



**RAIL FREIGHT  
EASTERN ZONE**  
**Steven Leshabana**  
Cell: 083 559 9419  
082 665 9559  
leshabana@untu.co.za



**RAIL FREIGHT  
CENTRAL ZONE**  
**Fisani Mabaso**  
Cell: 078 738 7296  
Fisani.Mabaso@  
transnet.net



**RAIL FREIGHT  
CENTRAL ZONE**  
**Linda Biljoen**  
Tel: 031 361 4318  
Cell: 082 852 9478  
linda@untu.co.za



**RAIL FREIGHT  
CENTRAL ZONE**  
**Scott de Koker**  
Tel: 011 330 6061  
Cell: 082 046 6815  
scott@untu.co.za



**RAIL FREIGHT  
WESTERN ZONE**  
**Lutwena Saul**  
Cell: 079 225 9168  
lutwena.saul@  
transnet.net



**RAIL FREIGHT  
WESTERN ZONE**  
**Henk Smith**  
Tel: 023 348 4316  
Cell: 071 363 3938  
henk@untu.co.za



**RAIL ENGINEERING  
CENTRAL ZONE**  
**Wielligh Meyer**  
Tel: 012 842 6085  
Cell: 063 687 3661  
wielligh@untu.co.za



**RAIL ENGINEERING  
WESTERN ZONE**  
**Clayten du Plessis**  
Tel: 041 994 2288  
Cell: 078 212 6211  
clayten@untu.co.za



**RAIL ENGINEERING  
EASTERN ZONE**  
**Zonke Cebekhulu**  
Tel: 035 906 7372  
Cell: 082 567 6637  
zonke@untu.co.za

## UNTU SECRETARIAT



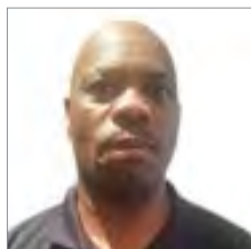
**GENERAL  
SECRETARY**  
**Steve Harris**  
Cell: 082 566 5516  
steve@untu.co.za



**DEPUTY GENERAL  
SECRETARY  
FINANCE & ADMIN**  
**Chris de Vos**  
Cell: 082 857 7471  
finance@untu.co.za



**MEDIA LIAISON &  
COMMUNICATION  
OFFICER & EDITOR**  
**Sonja Carstens**  
Cell: 082 463 6806  
sonja@untu.co.za



**DEPUTY  
GENERAL  
SECRETARY**  
**Cosmas Doncabe**  
Cell: 082 922 3960  
cosmas@untu.co.za



**DEPUTY  
GENERAL  
SECRETARY**  
**John Pereira**  
Cell: 079 501 6883  
johnp@untu.co.za



**DEPUTY  
GENERAL  
SECRETARY**  
**Neels Haasbroek**  
Cell: 082 904 2215  
neels@untu.co.za



**DEPUTY  
GENERAL  
SECRETARY**  
**Dan Khumalo**  
Cell: 072 558 1460  
dan@untu.co.za



**ORGANISER  
DURBAN**  
**Lucas Sabela**  
Cell: 073 025 0102  
lucas@untu.co.za



**NATIONAL  
ORGANISER  
JOHANNESBURG**  
**Maria Chonco**  
Cell: 082 920 5305  
maria@untu.co.za



**ORGANISER  
PORT ELIZABETH**  
**Liam MacKay**  
Cell: 072 603 9515  
liam@untu.co.za



**ORGANISER  
RICHARDS BAY**  
**Alfred Mthethwa**  
Cell: 079 220 3444  
alfred@untu.co.za



**NATIONAL  
ORGANISER  
CAPE TOWN**  
**George le Roux**  
Cell: 079 527 3087  
georgele@untu.co.za



**SENIOR  
ORGANISER  
CAPE TOWN**  
**Nkosinathi Bence**  
Cell: 073 649 3006  
bence@untu.co.za



**ORGANISER  
CAPE TOWN**  
**Tembile  
Mggolozana**  
Cell: 082 751 2165  
tembile@untu.co.za



# FULL-TIME TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

## TRANSNET FREIGHT RAIL



**Luvuhyo Mdyogolo**  
**Johannesburg**  
Cell: 062 009 2142  
Luvuyo.mdyogolo@transnet.net



**Sonnyboy Mosebedi**  
**Polokwane**  
Cell: 078 649 8119 /  
Sonnyboy.mosebedi@transnet.net



**Jannie Breytenbach**  
**Ermelo**  
Cell: 071 524 4136  
Jan.Breytenbach@transnet.net



**Obert Mudalahothe**  
**Witbank**  
Cell: 083 601 9359  
Avhatakali.Mudalahothe@transnet.net



**Shuping Seatlholo**  
**Pretoria**  
Cell: 078 442 4581  
utasarcpk@transnet.net



**Rudolph Sambo**  
**Komatipoort**  
Cell: 076 840 9392 /  
081 772 4876  
rzsambo@gmail.com



**Edwin Godfrey**  
**Port Elizabeth**  
Cell: 072 236 2056  
Edwin.Godfrey@transnet.net



**Lincoln Visagie**  
**Kimberley**  
Cell: 063 296 7281  
Lincoln.Visagie@transnet.net



**Wally Hattingh**  
**Richards Bay**  
Cell: 083 547 3059  
walter.hattingh@transnet.net



**Sharon Goosen**  
**Sishen**  
Cell: 073 258 5810  
Sharon.goosen@transnet.net



**Noah Mathekga**  
**Johannesburg**  
Cell: 072 799 7297  
Noah.mathekga@transnet.net

## TRANSNET NATIONAL PORTS AUTHORITY



**Ashmerelda Dunn**  
**Richards Bay**  
Cell: 083 273 0985  
Ashmerelda.Dunn@transnet.net



**Wiseman Phethwa**  
**Durban**  
Cell: 083 721 2250  
Wiseman.Phethwa@transnet.net



**Jabulile Madonsela**  
**Johannesburg**  
Cell: 060 414 5827  
Jabulile.Madonsela@transnet.net



**Minifa English**  
**Cape Town**  
Cell: 073 633 2610  
Munifa.english@transnet.net



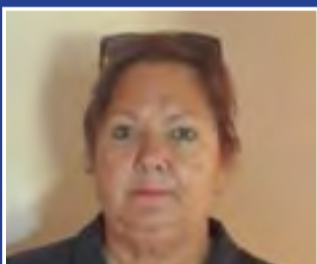
**Anja Möller**  
**Port Elizabeth**  
Cell: 083 469 3092  
Anja.Moller@transnet.net

## SUPPORT SERVICES

## TRANSNET PORT TERMINALS



**Jane Joseph**  
**Durban**  
Cell: 084 924 1726  
Jane.Joseph@transnet.net



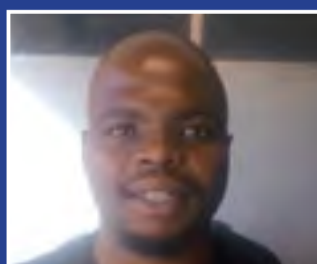
**Lorraine Wentzell**  
**Durban**  
Cell: 083 303 6103  
wentzell.lorraine@transnet.net



**Chantel Coetzee**  
**Cape Town**  
Cell: 076 083 1930  
chantel.coetzee2@transnet.net



**Ply Wewers**  
**Saldanha**  
Cell: 074 921 6815  
Ply.Wewers@transnet.net



**Sakhile Nyawose**  
**Richards Bay**  
Cell: 0732701396  
Sakhile.nyawose@transnet.net

## TRANSNET ENGINEERING



**John Short**  
**Durban**  
Cell: 071 481 6975  
john.short@transnet.net



**Minette Meiring**  
**Bloemfontein**  
Cell: 065 393 6505  
Minette.Meiring@transnet.net



**Kobus Zara**  
**Kimberley**  
Cell: 082 655 9058  
Jacobus.Zara@transnet.net



**George Warrington**  
**Kaapstad**  
Cell: 083 411 4962  
george.warrington@transnet.net