



merSETA

MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING
AND RELATED SERVICES SETA

The merSETA: Press Release

Attention: Business Editors; Education and Training Editors; Labour Editors

Ex-merSETA employee jailed over R6-million fraud

For immediate release,

A former employee of the merSETA and his accomplice at one of South Africa's banks have each been sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment after being found guilty of fraud by the Johannesburg Specialised Commercial Court.

Victor Kwenda, the former merSETA employee, and his accomplice Brenton Tshepo Diutlwileng, were handed the sentences for defrauding the merSETA of R6, 2-million.

Kwenda uploaded fraudulent changes in the bank details of 26 companies on the merSETA's database.

The R6, 2-million owing to the companies was then diverted to a bank account of a company owned by Diutlwileng, who had provided fraudulent bank letters containing company changes of details to Kwenda.

Both shared the ill-gotten spoils.

The court also ordered that the two men be barred from obtaining firearm licences on their release.

Responding to the conviction and sentence, the merSETA CEO Dr Raymond Patel said the organisation had moved swiftly against its former employee the moment it became aware of the fraud.

"We do not bask in the misfortune of others, but in this case, justice has been done. Kwenda used an elaborate scheme to defraud 26 companies of their due grants," Dr



Patel said. “Thousands of people could have been trained using that money. I trust this sends a message to all that the merSETA will not tolerate corruption in any form.”

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