

Press Release: DFA Regeneration Sites

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Fibre-Optic Regeneration Sites Ready For Action

Telecommunications company Plessey has completed 11 Regeneration Sites designed to boost the amount of bandwidth capacity available in South Africa.

The Regeneration Sites were completed on **31 January 2011**, deadline for a fibre optic cable being installed by Dark Fibre Africa (DFA). The sites are strategically located along the cable's route from Pretoria to Empangeni in KwaZulu Natal.

The technology installed by Plessey will strengthen – or regenerate – the communications signals that are passing through the fibre optic cable when the distances being covered grow too great.

Each site has mains power, a back-up generator and battery back-up facilities, providing highly resilient power to ensure that all sites are available 99.95% of the time.

Plessey will monitor each site from its Network Operations Centre in Midrand using a sophisticated Equipment Alarm System run by an experienced Network Operations Team. Plessey will also station technicians along the route to carry out preventative maintenance and respond to any incidents.

“Plessey is extremely pleased to deliver these sites and our Network Operations and Management capability on time to meet DFA's requirements,” said Operations and Management Executive Paul King. “This demonstrates that Plessey not only has the capability to deliver complex telecommunications infrastructure solutions, but is also able to provide efficient and reliable operations and management services in very remote locations.”

Plessey has a 15-year contract with DFA to provide space and power within each of the 11 sites to DFA and to large corporate customers who buy bandwidth capacity on the cable.

Plessey, a leading provider of turnkey infrastructure solutions, has established the 11 regeneration sites at Bronkhorstspuit, Middleburg, Hendrina, Ermelo, Panbult, Piet Retief, Paul Pietersberg, Vryheid, Zulu Rock, Melmoth and Empangeni.

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About Plessey

www.plessey.co.za

For more information please contact:

Plessey

Carol Earley

011 655 1687

Carol.earley@plessey.co.za