

Key global certification for SA telecoms provider

PAN-AFRICAN telecom enabler, Seacom, has earned the Carrier Ethernet 2.0 certification for services from the Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF), an industry association that provides a global services framework and the foundation for service innovation in the telecoms industry.

The MEF Certification Programme enables service providers to certify that their Carrier Ethernet services comply with the relevant MEF specifications.

It assures Seacom wholesale and commercial customers that the operator's network services conform to MEF's exacting standards of quality and performance.

Seacom was certified for all four MEF service types in November 2016. These include E-Line, E-LAN, E-Tree and E-Access.

"Only a handful of carriers in Africa have received this certification, and Seacom is one of the few to have achieved the certification across a full suite of services," the company said in a statement.

Worldwide, more than 200 MEF

certified service products have been deployed by more than 70 service providers using around 500 certified products from 80 equipment manufacturers.

Seacom's Head of Engineering Mark Tinka said, "We are delighted to have received this certification confirming that our Ethernet capabilities will meet the strictest requirements of the large enterprise clients and our wholesale service provider customers".

"Seacom offers the largest African MPLS backbone and our Ethernet services deliver high-quality connectivity with industry-leading PoP-to-PoP service level agreements."

Seacom's Ethernet Service provides flexible point-to-point and point-to-multipoint EoMPLS connectivity between major African and International interconnection points.

Investment in metro connectivity together with partnerships with leading regional service providers enable Seacom to deliver services directly into customer premises across Africa and the globe.

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Rental company reaches high with record month

WHILE many South African companies were relieved to see the back of 2016, Goscor Rental Company (GRC) defied the doom and gloom to notch up their best month ever in November.

GRC is a division of Goscor Lift Truck Company (GLTC), part of the Goscor Group of Companies and rents Crown, Doosan and Bendi forklifts and material handling equipment on a short-term basis to a wide range of customers. It also sells refurbished second-hand equipment.

"The entry level requirement of a business like ours is excellent product and that we have. All three of these brands are world leaders," said GM Shaun Morton.

"But our success is a result of making the most of these brands through providing a world-class service to match their quality and we

have managed to do this through an exceptional team performance. "We are all very proud to be part of this winning team."

He said the GRC team had taken full advantage of a market where rental has grown substantially over the years as a viable solution to the challenges of large capital equipment ownership.

The new equipment market has shrunk by almost 30% over the past two to three years, which means that companies are holding on to machines for longer periods and are generally looking to save money wherever they can.

"This has boosted the rental and refurbished sales market considerably and has meant the more creative solutions are required," said GRC sales manager Tanya Brummer.

"One of the secrets to our success is the way in which we handle the

equation of short-term rental versus long-term rental versus refurbished purchase versus new purchase. We take many factors into account and ultimately give the client the solution that best suits their needs," Brummer said.

Darryl Shafto, GLTC MD, says he is delighted with the performance of the GRC team. "Through their efforts they have built a reputation for reliability and value for money and, therefore, they have a very loyal clientele".

GRC which has a fleet of more than 700 machines, caters for the electric, LPG and diesel markets, provides big and small machines and has a team of qualified mechanics for each type of machine as well as highly trained operators and battery experts where required. All of its refurbished and rental machines are engine-inspected and fully load-tested.

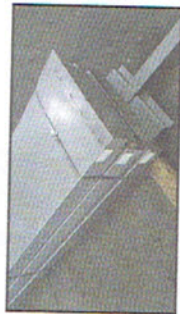
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Strapping way to secure header-box enclosures while in transit

BAND-IT heavy-duty stainless steel strapping from Banding & ID Solutions Africa is being used by P-pro Construction of Gauteng for a specialist transportation function.

A specialist construction and project management company, P-pro uses Band-It strapping to secure header box enclosures while being transported to power stations.

The header boxes or cassettes are used to enclose header pipes in the boilers in order to prevent heat loss,



Sales representative Matthew Campbell said that Band-It Grade 304 stainless steel strapping is popular for such industrial applications precisely due to its superior yield and high tensile strength, which results in maximum clamping strength.

"Light-duty strap is not suitable here due to the significant weight of the header-box enclosures," Carstens said. "These enclosures have to be strapped securely. If the incorrect strapping is used, it increases the risk

of failure. The solution is also sufficiently flexible in that 50m and 100m coils can be made to order, in accordance with specific customer requirements."

be made for even greater strength, threading the band through the Ear-Lokt buckle twice," he advised.

The Band & Buckle solution from Band-It can be formed easily to suit any diameter. It is available in thicknesses of 0.51 mm and 0.76 mm, and in widths of 6.5 mm, 9.5 mm, 12.7 mm, 15.8 mm and 19.7 mm. Packed in convenient 30 m rolls, it can be applied with a C001, C003 or C075 tool.

The solution is also sufficiently flexible in that 50m and 100m coils can be made to order, in accordance with specific customer requirements."