

SANRAL responsible for data breach

Sanral is now responsible for paying the costs of resuming normal service.

JOHANNESBURG, SA, SOUTH AFRICA, January 24, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- In early January the South African National Roads Agency (Sanral) learned that its new e-toll website was exposing its users' personal data to hackers. That personal data included 1 million e-tag users' full names, car registration numbers, mobile phone numbers, physical addresses, PINs and other sensitive information. The security flaw existed despite the fact that e-toll costs the company R25 million per month in operating costs.

The Sanral users' data was breached as a result of weak security measures, and as a result the company is now responsible for identifying how many users were affected as well as paying the costs of resuming normal service. With the high possibility of password re-use in bank accounts, home alarms, mobile phones etc., Sanral users face a potentially huge cyber security attack. For Sanral itself the consequences are equally damaging: a DDoS attack of this kind will provoke significant adverse media coverage and a high volume of customer complaints and compensation claims, which will cause the company to incur severe financial losses.

According to the 2012 Symantec cybercrime report there is a significant amount of cybercrime in South Africa: 70% of South Africans have been victim of cybercrime and risky behaviour compared to 50% globally.

Having solid information security controls in place is crucial for organisations like Sanral. IT Governance SA, the global leader in information security and [ISO27001](#) compliance expertise recommends all South African companies implement a robust Information Security Management System ([ISMS](#)) and protect themselves from cyber-attack while there is still time.

ISO27001 is the best-practice specification for an ISMS. The standard helps companies protect business, improve efficiency, identify vulnerabilities, and also strengthen and develop information security best practice. The ISO27001 Certified [ISMS Lead Implementer Online](#) training course delivers a comprehensive education in ISO27001 implementation. For more information contact us on +27 (0) 87 550 2768.

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