



**Date: Monday, 25 January 2010**

**For immediate release**

**Metrorail Train Drivers go on an unprotected strike**

Metrorail services in the Gauteng Region have been adversely affected this morning due to an unplanned, sporadic industrial action by a few train drivers affiliated to SATAWU. We understand that the current action was triggered by interventions Management has rolled out to improve efficiencies, optimize energy use and create capacity for improved reliability. The strike action will have an adverse effect on our operations and train scheduling resulting in significantly fewer trains available during this period.

We have a strong contingency plan in place designed to minimize disruption to the operations however we urge our commuters and those who depend on our services to make use of alternative transport at this time. At the heart of our contingency activation and our ability to deliver services to the masses is the fact that the majority of our employees did not heed the strike call, we thus express deep appreciation to all employees for their commitment to service delivery and rallying behind our collective effort to overhaul Metrorail to deliver better services.

While management respects employee's right to protest, it remains our view that the current action is unwarranted.

Management remains open to further engagements and discussions with SATAWU with a view to resolve the current impasse.

For more information on train service changes at this time, commuters can call the Customer Helpline on 0800 12 70 70.

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