

MEDIA STATEMENT

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South African Civil Aviation Authority scoops yet another award for Best Performing Institution in Transport

Midrand, 03-11-2014. The South African Civil Aviation Authority is the recipient of yet another award, this time from the Department of Transport at the inaugural Transport Sector Awards held at the Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre on Friday evening 31 October 2013. The awards were hosted by the Minister of Transport, Ms Dipuo Peters MP. The main purpose of the awards was to recognise and reward performance excellence by transport officials from the National and Provincial Departments of Transport as well as Transport Public Entities. In this respect outstanding performance was defined as the application of new ideas which result in benefits through economical, efficient and effective improvements in service delivery.

The SACAA scooped the Best Performing Institution in Transport award, and this category includes all transport entities in rail, road, maritime and aviation. This award comes a few weeks after the Regulator had received yet another award at the Auditor-General's awards early in October 2014 for a clean audit; the second year in a row.

Categories considered for the awards included that of 'Best Female Employee in Transport'; 'Best Male Employee in Transport'; 'Best Innovation Partnership in Service Delivery'; 'Best Performing Institution in Transport'; 'Best Manager in Transport'; 'Best Employee of the Year'; and 'Minister's Special award'.

The theme of the awards was 'Igniting excellence in Transport'. This recognition comes at the back foot of the SACAA's international and national achievements which include the Regulator's excellent performance in the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Coordinated Validation Mission where South Africa attracted no significant safety concerns. The Regulator participated in ICAO Security audits and attracted no findings. Since the inception of the SACAA, the organisation has always achieved unqualified results during the annual financial audits. The Auditor-General has commended the SACAA for a clean audit for two years in a row. Furthermore, South Africa boasts a zero fatal aircraft accident rate on South African soil in the scheduled commercial sector.

South Africa's Cargo Security System has received recognition by the US Transport Security Administration. South Africa also received an exemption from the EU's ACC3 regime. Last but not least the SACAA recently achieved a level 2 BBBEE contributor status.

"This award is the result of the hard work, commitment and dedication of the entire SACAA staff compliment and the unwavering support of the CAA Board and the Minister of Transport, Ms Dipuo Peters," said Ms Poppy Khoza, Director of Civil Aviation, during her acceptance speech. Ms Khoza said she was proud to be associated with a team of hard workers and she believes that this is only the beginning.

"The mandate of the SACAA is to regulate civil aviation safety and security by establishing regulations that will ensure that our skies are safe and secure, and where necessary enforce their implementation. Additionally, the Regulator is also entrusted with facilitating industry growth and development. These awards provide evidence that the Regulator is meeting its obligations in terms of performance, both at an operational and financial level. To ensure that we deliver on the secondary part of our mandate, the Regulator will be hosting the inaugural Aviation Industry Growth and Safety Conference this week from 4 - 6 November 2014. Through this event we hope to ensure that we create an environment that supports and nurtures growth in the industry," said Ms Khoza.

"The recognition of the SACAA is an achievement of the entire aviation industry because we firmly believe that we cannot achieve much without the support of our clients and strategic partners," concluded Ms Khoza.

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About the SACAA:

The South African Civil Aviation Authority ("SACAA") is a juristic body established in terms of the Civil Aviation Act, 2009 (Act No. 13 of 2009) ("the Act"). SACAA is governed and controlled by the Civil Aviation Authority Board ("the Board"). In terms of mandate, the SACAA is tasked with promoting and maintaining a safe, secure and sustainable civil aviation environment, by regulating and overseeing the functioning and development of the industry in an efficient, cost-effective, and customer-friendly manner according to international standards.

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