STEM Connect Access to Information Manual



X-DSL NETWORKING SOLUTIONS PTY LTD

(Registration Number: 2002/024167/07)

Trading as STEM CONNECT

PREPARED IN TERMS OF SECTION 51 OF THE PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT NO. 2 OF 2000

Particulars in terms of Section 51 of the Act

1. Introduction to the Promotion of Access to Information Act

On 9 March 2001 the Promotion of Access to Information Act ("the Act") came into affect. The Act seeks to advance a culture of transparency and accountability in both public and private bodies.

One of the main requirements specified in the Act is the compilation of a manual that provides information on both the types and categories of records held by the public or private body.

This manual has been compiled to meet the requirements of the Promotion of Access to Information Act.

2. Introduction to X-DSL Networking Solutions

- 2.1 X-DSL Networking Solutions (Pty) Ltd is a private body, and has compiled this manual to comply with the provisions of the Act and to ensure that members of the public have effective access to information in our possession which will assist them in the exercise and protection of their rights.
- 2.2 The head of X-DSL Networking Solutions (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to attend to all matters of compliance relating to the Act.

3. Company contact details

3.1 Name of body: X-DSL Networking Solutions (Pty) Ltd

3.2 Registration number: 2002/024167/07

3.3 Main Objective: Information Communication Technology Services

3.4 Information Officer: Tian Du Pisanie

3.5 Physical Address: 105 Club Avenue, Waterkloof Heights, Pretoria, 0181



3.6 Postal Address: 105 Club Avenue, Waterkloof Heights, Pretoria, 0181

3.7 Telephone Number: +27 87 980 0375

3.8 Email Address: accounts@stemconnect.net

3.9 Website: www.stemconnect.net

4. SECTION 10 - GUIDE ON HOW TO USE THE ACT

In terms of Section 10 of the Act, the Human Rights Commission must compile a guide which guide is intended to assist users in the interpretation of the Act. The guide contains a description of the objects of the Act, the contact details of information officers of all the public bodies, particulars of the public bodies, the manner of access to the records of those public bodies and the remedies available in law regarding a breach of any of the provisions of the Act.

The South African Human Rights Commission

PAIA Unit Research and Documentation Department

Private Bag 2700, Houghton, 2041

Telephone Number: (011) 484-8300
Fax Number: (011) 484-0582
Email Address: PAIA@SAHRC.org.za
Website: www.sahrc.org.za

5. RECORDS AUTOMATICALLY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

The following categories of records are automatically available for inspection, photocopying or purchase, and need not be requested in terms of the Act:-

- Media Releases
- Current Product and Service Information
- Advertising materials
- Posters

6. INFORMATION/DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN TERMS OF OTHER LEGISLATION (Section 51(1) of the Act)

X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd keeps information/documents in accordance with the following legislation (please note that this is not an exhaustive list):-

- 6.1 Basic Conditions of Employment Act No 75 of 1997
- 6.2 Companies Act No 61 of 1973
- 6.3 Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, No.130 of 1993
- 6.4 Employment Equity Act, No. 55 of 1998
- 6.5 Income Tax Act, No. 58 of 1962



- 6.6 Labour Relations Act, No. 6 of 1995
- 6.7 Regional Service Council Act, No. 109 of 1985
- 6.8 Skills Development Act, No. 97 of 1998
- 6.9 Skills Development Levies Act, No. 9 of 1999
- 6.10 Unemployment Contributions Act, No. 4 of 2002
- 6.11 Unemployment Insurance Act,. No 63 of 2001
- 6.12 VAT Act, No. 89 of 1991

7. INFORMATION/DOCUMENTS HELD IN TERMS OF THE ACT (Section 51(1)(e) of the Act)

The entities forming part of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd, where applicable, holds, including but not limited to, the following records:-

- 7.1 Accounting Records
 - 7.1.1 Books of account including journals and ledgers;
 - 7.1.2 Delivery notes, orders, invoices, statements, receipts, vouchers and bills of exchange;
 - 7.1.3 Annual Financial Statements;
 - 7.1.4 Quality assurance records, where applicable.
- 7.2 Financial Records
 - 7.2.1 Banking details;
 - 7.2.2 Bank account records;
- 7.3 Company's Secretarial
 - 7.3.1 Company articles of association;
 - 7.3.2 Registers;
 - 7.3.3 Minutes of meetings;
 - 7.3.4 Other Statutory records;
 - 7.3.5 Statutory returns;
- 7.4 Statutory Employee Records
 - 7.4.1 Employee's names and occupations;
 - 7.4.2 Days worked by each employee;
 - 7.4.3 Remuneration paid to each employee;
 - 7.4.4 Date of birth of each employee;
 - 7.4.5 Salary and wage register;
 - 7.4.6 Leave register;
 - 7.4.7 Letters of appointment;
 - 7.4.8 Employment Contracts;
 - 7.4.9 Job descriptions;
 - 7.4.10 Skills development Plan;
 - 7.4.11 Employment Equity Plan;



7 5	Personne	Pacarda
7.5	Personne	Records

- 7.5.1 Personal records provided by personnel;
- 7.5.2. Employment contracts;
- 7.5.3 Payroll records / UIF and Tax returns;
- 7.5.4 Internal evaluation records and other internal records;
- 7.5.5 Correspondence relating to personnel;
- 7.5.6 Training schedules and material and development records;
- 7.5.7 Disciplinary records;
- 7.5.8 Request for leave;
- 7.5.9 Absence record;
- 7.5.10 Personnel file.
- 7.6 Movable Property
 - 7.6.1 Asset register;
 - 7.6.2 Financing Agreements;
 - 7.6.3 Lease Agreements.
- 7.7 Intellectual Property
 - 7.7.1 Licensing Agreements;
 - 7.7.2 Designs, plans, know-how and copyright
- 7.8 Agreements and Contracts
 - 7.8.1 Material agreements concerning provision of services or materials;
 - 7.8.2 Confidentiality and non disclosure agreements;
 - 7.8.3 Joint Venture Agreements;
 - 7.8.4 Consulting Agreements;
 - 7.8.5 Service Levels Agreements with Customers;
 - 7.8.6 Warranty agreements;
 - 7.8.7 Sale agreements;
 - 7.8.8 Distributor and dealer agreements;
 - 7.8.9 Manufacturing and Supply agreements, where applicable;
 - 7.8.10 Restraint agreements;
 - 7.8.11 Sub-Contractor and Supplier agreements.
- 7.9 Taxation
 - 7.9.1 Copies of all income tax returns and other tax returns and documents.
- 7.10 Insurance
 - 7.10.1 Insurance policies
 - 7.10.2 Claim records;
 - 7.10.3 Details of insurance coverage limits and insurers;
- 7.11 Marketing Records
 - 7.11.1 Market information;



- 7.11.2 Performance records;
- 7.11.3 Product sales reports;
- 7.11.4 Marketing and future product strategies;
- 7.11.5 Customer Information and Database.
- 7.11.6 Product and Production Records.
- 7.12 Internal Policies and Procedures.

The X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd website is accessible to anyone with access to the internet. It contains a profile on most of the entities forming part of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd, its contact particulars, services rendered and fields of expertise.

It is recorded that any and all documents/information requested pertaining to the aforesaid shall only be made available to a requestor subject to the provisions of the Act. Save as contained under 5 above, none of the information/documents held by the company is automatically available without a person having to request access in terms and subject to the provisions of the Act.

8. HOW A PERSON MUST GO ABOUT ASKING FOR RECORDS

8.1 Request procedure:-

A "requester" is any person making a request for access to any records of an entity forming part of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd.

The "requester" must comply with all the procedural requirements contained in the Act relating to the request for access to records.

The "requester" must complete the prescribed form enclosed herewith in Annexure A and submit the same as well as payment of the request fee and a deposit, if applicable, to the Information Officer at the postal or physical, fax or electronic mail address as stated above.

The prescribed form must be filled in with sufficient particulars to at least enable Information Officer to identify:

- 8.1.1 The record or records requested;
- 8.1.2 The identity of the "requester", including but not limited to, the requester's details and capacity (and If a request is made on behalf of another person or entity, then the "requester" must submit proof of the capacity in which the "requester" is making a request to the reasonable satisfaction of the Information Officer and also the ground upon which that person is making the request.);
- 8.1.3 Which form of access is required, if the request is granted.
- 8.1.4 The postal address, telephone number and fax number of the "requester".
- 8.1.5 The "requester" must state that he/she require the information to exercise or protect her/his right and clearly state what the nature of the right is so to be exercised or protected. In addition, the "requester" must clearly specify why the records are necessary to exercise or protect such a right.
- 8.1.6 X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd will process the request within 30 days, unless otherwise provided in the Act.



- 8.1.7 The "requester" shall be informed whether the access has been granted or denied. If, in addition, the "requester" requires the reasons for the decision in any other manner, he/she must state the manner of the particulars so required.
- 8.1.8 If an individual is unable to complete the prescribed form because of illiteracy of disability, such person may make the request orally.
- 8.1.9 The "requester" must pay the prescribed fee, before any further processing can take place and/or the records may be withheld until the fees are paid in full.

9. FEES

- 9.1 The Act provides for two types of fees namely:
 - a) A request fee, which will be a standard fee and;
 - b) An access fee, which must be calculated by taking into account reproduction cost, search and preparation time and costs, as well as postal costs.
- 9.2 When the request is received by the Information Officer, such officer shall by notice require the "requester" to pay the prescribed request fee before further processing of the request.
- 9.3 If the search for the record has been made and the preparation of the record for disclosure including arrangements to make it available in the request form, requires more than the hours prescribed in the regulations for this purpose, the
 - Information Officer shall notify the "requester" to pay as a deposit the prescribed portion of the access fee which would be payable if the request is granted.
- 9.4 The Information Officer shall withhold the record until the "requester" has paid the fees as indicated in Annexure B hereto.
- 9.5 A "requester" whose request for access to a record has been granted, must pay an access fee for reproduction and for search and preparation, and for any time reasonably required in excess of the prescribed hours to search for and prepare the records for disclosure including making arrangements to make it available in the request form.
- 9.6 If a deposit has been paid in respect of a request for access, which is refused, then the Information Officer concerned must repay the deposit to the "requester" with interest at the prescribed rate.

10. REMEDIES AVAILABLE WHEN THE RELEVANT ENTITY OF X-DSL NETWORKING SOLUTIONS PTY LTD REFUSES REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

10.1 Internal Remedies

X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd does not have an internal appeal procedure.

As such, the decision made by the Information Officer is final and requesters will have to exercise such external remedies at their disposal if the request for information is refused and the requester is not satisfied with the answer supplied by the Information Officer.

10.2 External Remedies

A requester that is dissatisfied with an Information Officer's refusal to disclose information, may within 30 days of notification of the decision, apply to a Court for relief.



Likewise, a third party dissatisfied with an Information Officer's decision to grant a request for information, may within 30 days of notification of the decision, apply to a Court for relief.

10.3 Decision

The relevant entity forming part of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd will, within 30 days of receipt of the request, decide whether to grant or to recline the request and give notice with reasons, if required, to that effect.

The thirty-day period within which the company has to decide whether to grant or refuse the request, may be extended for a further period of not more than 30 days if the request is for vast number of information, or the request requires a search for information held at another office of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd and the information cannot reasonably be obtained within the original 30 day period. The relevant entity of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd will notify the requester in writing should an extension be sought.

10.4 Decision making process

In terms of Section 54 of the Act, if all reasonable steps have been taken to find the record requested and there are reasonable grounds to believe that the record is in possession of the relevant entity of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd, but cannot be found, and if it does not exist, then the Information Officer must notify by way of affidavit or affirmation, the requester that it is not possible to give access to that record. If after notice is given, the record in question is found, the requester must be given access thereto unless the ground for the refusal of access exists.

If the request is declined for any reason the notice must include adequate reasons for the decision, together with the relevant provisions of the Act relied upon and provide the procedure to be followed should the requester wish appeal the decision.

Section 59 provides that the Information Officer may sever a record and grant access only to that portion which the law does not prohibit access to.

11. AVAILABILITY OF THIS MANUAL

This manual is available for inspection at the offices of X-DSL Networking Solutions Pty Ltd as set out above free of charge.

Copies of the manual may be obtained, subject to payment of the prescribed fee at the offices of the said company as set out above.



Annexure A

REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO RECORD OF PRIVATE BODY – (Company name)

(Section 53(1) of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No 2 of 2000)

	TICULARS OF PRIVATE BODY				
The H	Head:				
PART	TICULARS OF PERSON REQUESTING ACCESS TO THE RECORD				
(a)	The particulars of the person who requests access to the records must be recorded				
(b)	Furnish an address and/or fax number in the Republic to which information must be				
(c)	Proof of the capacity in which the request is made, if applicable, must be attached.				
Full N	lame and Surname:				
Identi	ity Number:				
Posta	l Address:				
Telep	hone Number:				
E-mai	il Address:				
	city in which request is made, when made on behalf of another person:				



C	DADTICILI	A DC OF DEDCON	ON WUCCE DELIA	LF REQUEST IS MADE:
L.	PARTICUL	AKSUFFEKSUN		LF KEWUESI ISMADE.

This s	section must be completed only if a request for information is made on behalf of anothern.	r	
Full N	lames and Surname:		
Identi	ity Number:		
PART	ICULARS OF RECORD:		
(a)	Provide full particulars of the record to which access is requested, including the reference number if that is known to you, to enable the record to be located.	è	
(b)	If the provided space is inadequate please continue on a separate folio and attach it to this form. <i>The requester must sign all the additional folios.</i>	5	
Descr	ription of record or relevant part of the record:		
Reference number, if available:			
Any fu	urther particulars of record:		
FEES			

E. FEES

D.

- (a) A request for access to a record, other than a record containing personal information about yourself, will be processed only after a request fee has been paid.
- (b) You will be notified of the amount required to be paid as the request fee.
- (c) The fee payable for access to a record depends on the form in which access is required and the reasonable time required to search for and prepare a record.
- (d) If you qualify for exemption of the payment of any fee, please state the reason therefore.



Reas	on for exemption from paym	nent of fees:		
FORM	1 OF ACCESS TO RECORD			
	ss provided for in 1 to 4 here			or listening to the record in the form of y and indicate in which form the record is
Disak	pility:		Formi	n which record is required:
			1	
Mark	the appropriate box with an	"X"		
NOT	ES:			
(a)	Your indication as to the available.	required form o	f access de	epends on the form in which the record is
(b)	Access in the form reque	sted may be refu	used in cer	tain circumstances.
	In such a case you will be	informed if acce	ess will be g	granted in another form.
(c)	The fee payable for acc which access is requested		d, if any, v	will be determined partly by the form in
1.	If the record is in written	or printed form:		
	Copy of record*			Inspection of record
2.	If record consists of visua (this includes photogr sketches, etc.)	•	video reco	ordings, computer-generated images,
	View the images	Copy of the	e images*	Transcription of the images*
3.	If record consists of recor	ded words or inf	formation	which can be reproduced in sound:
	Listen to the soundtrack			Transcription of soundtrack* (written or printed document)

F.



	If record is held on co	omputer or in an electronic or machine-read	dable form:	
	Printed copy of Record	Printed copy of information derived from the record*	Copy in co	
to cop	u requested a copy or to be tal fee is payable.	ranscription of a record (above), do you wis posted to you?	sh YES	NO
PARTI	CULARS OF RIGHT TO BI	EXERCISED OR PROTECTED:		
	provided space is inadec	uate please continue on a separate folio and	d attach it to this	form.
Indica	te which right is to be ex	ercised or protected:		
Explai right:	n why the requested rec	ord is required for the exercising or protect	ion of the aforen	nentioned
NOTIC	CE OF DECISION REGARD			
		DING REQUEST FOR ACCESS:		
You w		whether your request has been approved / anner, pleas specify the manner and provide		
You w inform to ena	ned thereof in another mable compliance with you would you prefer to be	whether your request has been approved / anner, pleas specify the manner and provide	e the necessary p	particulars

SIGNATURE OF REQUESTER/PERSON ON WHOSE BEHALF REQUEST IS MADE

G.

H.



Annexure B

FEES IN RESPECT OF PRIVATE BODIES

- 1. Where a private body has voluntarily provided the Minister with a list of categories of records that will automatically be made available to any person requesting access thereto, the only charge that may be levied for obtaining such records, will be a fee for reproduction of the record in question.
- 2. Fees payable with regards to your request:

Item	Cost per A4 page	No. of pages	Total
Photocopy (per page)	R1.10		
Printed copy (per page)	R0.75		
For a copy in a computer readable form on – Flash drive (to be provided by requester)	R40.00		
For a transcription of an audio record, for an A4 size page or part thereof	Service to be outsourced. Will depend on quotation from		
For a copy of visual images	service provider.		
For a transcription of an audio record, for an A4 size page or part thereof	R24.00		
For a copy of visual images	R40.00		
Postage, e-mail or other electronic transfer:	Actual costs		
Search and Preparation Fees:	R15 per hour		
TOTAL			

- 3. Where a private body receives a request for access to information held on a person other than the requester himself/herself and the information officer upon receipt of the request is of the opinion that the preparation of the required record for disclosure will take more than 6 (six) hours, a deposit is payable by the requester. One third of the access fee is payable as a deposit by the requester.
- 4. The actual postage is payable when a copy of a record must be posted to a requester.