

MEDIA STATEMENT BY THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN BUS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION (SABOA)

South African Bus Operators pioneer new road safety code of conduct

Recognising the need to further prioritise road safety throughout South Africa, the Southern African Bus Operators Association (SABOA) has compiled a Road Safety Code of Conduct which will apply to all its members. Individual companies will continue to operate according to their own internal procedures but the Road Safety Code of Conduct will ensure that there is a synchronised general approach to road safety.

The Code of Conduct aims to ensure that customers receive a safe and reliable service, to protect the reputation of SABOA and its members and to ensure adherence to South Africa's common and statutory laws.

The Code of Conduct covers vehicles and drivers as well as general issues related to the spirit of the Code. This includes not only prohibited behaviours such as driving under the influence of alcohol and illegal substances, use of cellular telephones whilst driving, safe passenger loading and roadworthiness of vehicles, but also includes more abstract concepts such as treating passengers with dignity and respect. Most importantly the Code demands that: "Drivers undertake to always drive safely, with due care and attention, at an appropriate speed for the road and prevailing conditions and within the terms of current traffic legislation".

According to SABOA Executive Manager, Eric Cornelius, the Association hopes that adopting the Code will go some way to addressing the plethora of safety-related issues facing South African bus operators. "SABOA and its operating member organisations have always been committed to providing safe bus transport. This Code merely formalises that commitment and ensures that SABOA and its members are all on the same page when it comes to making our roads safer for all road users," says Cornelius.

The Southern African Bus Operators Association's Road Safety Code of Conduct is attached for further information and is also available on the SABOA website.

ISSUED BY THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN BUS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

POSTNET SUITE 393

PRIVATE BAG X 033

RIVONIA 2128

TEL NO: (011) 511 7641

FAX NO: (011) 511 0007

E-MAIL: saboa@saboa.co.za

CONTACT PERSON: ERIC CORNELIUS

CELL NO: 082 773 1086