



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA**

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: 28 MAY 2007

UPDATE ON HORROR CRASH ON THE R34

The R34 road in Gluckstad between Melmoth and Vryheid has been opened to traffic after it was closed for two hours. This follows the accident that happened in the early hours of today (28/05/07) where seven people were killed.

It is alleged that the Colt overturned after it failed to negotiate the bend, colliding with a Tata Indica. A Toyota Corolla then collided with both vehicles. The Colt then burst into flames, resulting in the deaths of seven; a male and female from the Colt, two males and one female from the Tata; and two teenagers from the Toyota Corolla. The parents and two other siblings of the teenagers were taken to Vryheid Hospital, where they are reported to be in critical condition. Meanwhile the SAPS are investigating seven counts of culpable homicide.

Ends

Issued by the Office of the MEC

Media contact -Nonkululeko Mbatha (083 645 6252)

Media Liaison & Public Relations Directorate

Street Address: 172 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Republic of South Africa
Postal Address: Private Bag X9043, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Republic of South Africa
Tel: (27) (33) 355 8624 Fax: (27) (33) 355 8632
Internet: <http://www.kzntransport.gov.za>