



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

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### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA  
DATE : THURSDAY, 29 MAY 2014  
ATTENTION : EDITORS, NEWS EDITORS AND PR WIRES

#### **MEC WILLIES MCHUNU ANNOUNCES SUSPENSION OF DURBAN VEHICLE TESTING STATION**

The focus on rooting out bad elements in the vehicle testing industry has intensified with the announcement by the **MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu**, of the suspension of a testing station in Durban.

This morning, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport's (KZN DOT) officials served notice to suspend the North Coast Vehicle Testing Station in Phoenix following a joint operation by law enforcement agencies, which uncovered irregular activities.

The joint operation conducted by KZN DOT, Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) and SAPS Organised Crime Unit, uncovered fraud and corrupt activities that led to the arrests of two employees for allegedly issuing fraudulent vehicle roadworthiness certificates.

For example, one examiner is reported to have issued a roadworthiness certificate while he was off sick. The said examiner was arrested last year together with a clerk.

Mchunu has welcomed the suspension of the vehicle testing station's operations, saying that the issuing of fraudulent roadworthiness certificates undermines government's efforts to reduce the scourge of road fatalities.

**"Roadworthiness is a key prerequisite for motor vehicles to be on our roads. In many accidents, we have observed that unroadworthy vehicles, with all types of faults, have often been cited as major contributing factors and it is all because of individuals who have no respect for our laws and people's lives. This bold decision by the department is a clear indication that we will deal harshly with all those who break the law, especially vehicle roadworthiness and driver licence testing stations. We will aggressively and proactively take radical measures to prevent road accidents, crashes and fatalities,"** said Mchunu.

Ends.

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