

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### **MINISTER NALEDI PANDOR LAUNCHES DURBAN QUANTUM STADIUM PROJECT**

The University of KwaZulu-Natal invites members of the media to the Launch of the Durban Quantum Stadium Project on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> May at 17h00 at the Moses Mabhida Stadium. The project will be launched by Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor.

### **UKZN Research Group secures communication for the 2010 World Cup**

Quantum cryptography is a new method of communication security that provides an ultra-high communication security solution. This method of encryption differs from conventional methods in that it encodes data within quantum particles. This means that an eavesdropper, a person that tries to tap into the information feed, is required to break the established laws of quantum mechanics to intercept the information without being noticed.

Building on the quantumCity initiative, the eThekweni Municipality and the Centre for Quantum Technology, a research group of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), has moved to secure the network linking the Moses Mabhida Stadium and the Joint Operation Centre in the city of Durban during the 2010 FIFA World Cup. It aims to provide an ultra high-level security system between one of the most crucial links of Durban's ICT (Information Communication and Technology) FIFA initiatives.

The quantum Stadium project is the first public global event to use a quantum based encryption solution. This network carries voice, email and data traffic between the two buildings. It was installed in April 2010 and will at least run until the end of the FIFA World Cup.

This is the first long-term, commercially based network of its kind in the world, providing eThekweni Municipality with the leverage to enter the global quantum technology market.

Ends.

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