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AVR REMAND UTILISATION REPORT END OF MAY 2013

NO	MAGISTRATES COURTS	CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES	NO OF CASES POSTPONED	CURRENT STATUS	REMARKS
WESTERN CAPE					
1.	Belville	Goodwood	463	Operational	Courts are in process of building up new court rolls. AVR Utilization issues raised was discussed on Regional Level during the Lower Court Case Flow Management Meeting on 23 April 2013. Expect an incline in utilization from May.
2.	Mitchels Plain	Pollsmoor	1836	Operational	
3.	Cape Town		250	Operational	
4.	Blue Downs		33	Operational	
5.	Wynberg		180	Operational	
6.	Athlone		92	Operational	
7.	Khayelitsha		484	Operational	
8.	Paarl	Allandale	98	Operational	
KWA-ZULU NATAL					
9.	Durban	Durban	363	Operational	Problems with video remand system – no remands in December
10.	Pinetown		969	Operational	The low stats are due to the fact that the AVR system at Correctional Services was out of order for most of the month
11.	Emlazi		140	Operational	
12.	Verulam		600	Operational	The low stats are due to the fact that the AVR system at Correctional Services was out of order for most of the month
13.	Ladysmith	Ladysmith	20	Temporarily Not Operational	No cases were allocated for remand purposes by the judiciary and the prosecution. Matter will be tabled before the Case Flow Monitoring Committee.
14.	Pietermaritzburg	Pietermaritzburg	10	Operational	The challenges with the setting of AVR matters have been resolved. A meeting was held with the stakeholders on the 3 rd of April 2013. This was to encourage the usage of the AVR and the way forward

					on matters that were to be placed on the AVR roll. It was made clear that the system is fully functional and tests were done together with DCS to confirm. Cases have been set down for dates in May 2013.
EASTERN CAPE					
15.	East London	East London	0	Not Operational	Damaged camera replaced by the one borrowed from Mthatha.
16.	Mdantsane		18	Operational	Meeting arranged for 9 th May 2013 by Director Court Ops for implementation at the site
17.	Port Elizabeth	Saint Albans	732	Operational	Challenges with sound quality experienced between the court and prison. Remote control for the main camera stolen; awaiting replacement. One has been borrowed from St Albans in the interim
18.	New Brighton		1337	Operational	Status quo the same; no challenges reported
19.	Uitenhage		461	Operational	Challenges with sound quality experienced between the court and prison
20.	Mthata	Mthata	0	Not Operational	Camera has been removed and moved to EL
GAUTENG					
21.	Palm Ridge	Boksburg	78	Operational	Bandwidth need to be increase and the matter has been escalated to National Office(ISM).
22.	Boksburg		0	Not Operational	Tested the connectivity between the court and the Correctional services. We cannot connect to any Correctional services and a matter has been escalated to ISM.
23.	Germiston		0	Not Operational	System checked, there is a faulty screen and a call has been logged waiting for a technician from DVP.
24.	Johannesburg		0	Not Operational	The stakeholders indicated that they would like the AVR system to be moved to the channelization court and it was requested by the Regional Court President for this purpose. The matter will be followed up.

25.	Wynberg	Johannesburg	0	Not Operational	Few district cases that can utilize the AVR system as most of their accused are released on warning. A quotation has been received to replace a camera at the amount of R 140 000 which it's exorbitant and the security company replaced two television sets.
26.	Hilbrow		0	Not Operational	The stakeholders have indicated that there is no need for AVR equipment and it should be transferred to another court and approval will be sought to transfer the equipment to the Randburg magistrates court
27.	Orlando		55	Operational	
28.	Randburg		129	Operational	
29.	Soweto		0	Not Operational	
30.	Krugersdorp	Krugersdorp	182	Operational	
31.	Roodepoort		159	Operational	
32.	Benoni	Modderbee	12	Operational	District Courts has few cases that can go through the AVR system and the buy in has been requested from the Regional Court Magistrate DCS gave the court only one day a week to utilize the AVR court.
33.	Kempton Park	Modderbee	244	Operational	
34.	Tembisa		0	Not Operational	No challenges, except that no cases have been placed on the roll for this court
35.	Pretoria Court 17	Pretoria	830	Operational	System error, pictures freezes and the matter has been escalated to National office(ISM) to increase bandwidth and check Quality of Service and also a router need to be changed by Sita.
36.	Pretoria Court N		0	Not Operational	Site completely destroyed by fire.
37.	Pretoria north		59	Operational	The system was not working properly for the whole month (April). Call logged.
38.	Temba		108	Operational	There was no signal from the beginning of April Month; the problem was only solved on the 26 April 2013.
39.	Ga-Rankuwa		193	Operational	Cases which were placed on the roll were withdrawn due to the system not working at Correctional Services. The matter was reported to the AVR co-ordinator (Motlhamme Steve) and awaiting the report of the

					investigations.
40.	Vereeniging	Vereeniging	521	Operational	
41.	Sebokeng		122	Operational	No challenges, except that no cases have been placed on the roll for this court.
MPUMALANGA					
42.	Nelspruit	Nelspruit	0	Not Operational	Investigating the relocation of the system to another court
43.	Evander	Bethal	0	Not Operational	Awaiting response from ISM to ensure funds are available to relocate the system from Evander to Secunda Magistrates Court. It was established that no new proclamation is needed.
LIMPOPO					
44.	Thohoyandou	Thohoyandou	0	Not operational	The system was tested on the 31/01/2013 the system still hangs and terminates calls on its own with some error messages, we also managed to connect to Pollsmoor Juvenile, the system was still hanging and terminating calls after +-35 seconds. At the moment the court officials, cannot use the AVR system for court proceedings due to this challenges. No new development this month. This was reported on several occasions to ISM and there is no improvement for months.
NORTHERN CAPE					
45.	Kimberley	Kimberley	223	Operational	
FREE STATE					

46.	Bloemfontein	Bloemfontein	956	Operational	System up and going
47.	Kroonstad	Kroonstad	1	Not Operational	The AVR-system is properly functioning correct between Correctional services and the Kroonstad magistrate court. They will have cases before the end of May.
TOTAL			11943		

BENEFITS OF AVR SYSTEM

- The system assist to minimise the risk of transporting dangerous criminals, like Bonga Moyo who escaped repeatedly.
- Help to reduce the number of inmates who physically appear in courts for the purpose of remand
- Reduction of transportation costs.
- Reduction in security risks within the court and the prevention of potential escapes during transit and from court.
- Smuggling of items (e.g dangerous weapon, drugs etc.) from the outside world threatening security in the Correctional Centre is reduced.
- Reduction in numbers of SAPS and DCS officials guarding inmates.
- Reduction in the number of persons at the magistrate courts at any given time.
- Shortened turnaround times to conduct postponements.
- Reduced administration at holding cells and correctional facility.
- System provides for the postponement of a range of cases, for further investigation, formal bail application, legal aid, etc.
- Accused granted unopposed bail resulting in the speedy release of accused.
- Bail previously set is reduced allowing the detainee to be released without further delays.
- Cases withdrawn results in the speedy release of accused.

CHALLENGES

- Theft of equipments (lack of security)
- Continuous power failures
- Lack of cooperation between DCS, DOJ, SAPS, Judiciary and prosecution

- Section 159A in terms of proclamation
- Lack of accountability and responsibility (equipment were not properly signed and accounted for during delivery)
- Lack of resources (e.g. furniture)
- Submission of monthly stats for evaluation of performance
- Development of a proper tool for collection of statistics

OPERATIONAL AND COST SAVINGS BENEFITS

There is a high number of Remand Detainees that are transported to different courts daily. Remand detainees sit the entire day at the court and have to wait for when the SAPS transports them to the Correctional Centre. High costs on transport occur by the SAPS. There is also high risk for escapes to and from courts as well as from within the courts. Certain courts start very late in the day due to the SAPS that need to travel far in some areas to courts and also faced with traffic congestions.

The main operational and cost saving benefits is considered to be realized from amongst the following activities:

- Infrastructure – allocation of dedicated transportation and resources to perform this function daily, commencing in instances at 05:00 and terminating after 18:30
- operating cost – special vehicles fitted with security features for the holding and safeguarding of prisoners and are required to be operated daily to the prisons, and to the courts and again to the prisons. The costs for the procurement of the vehicles, fitting it with security features and daily operating costs is eliminated with this development
- human resources – personnel are required to operate the vehicles and render support to the numbers of prisoners fetched and transported daily.

- Administration – activities are lessened both at the DCS as well as the courts in view of the prisoners not being physically present. High numbers of Remand Detainees (± 350 to 410 per day for Pollsmoor Admission) are being transported from the Courts by the SAPS from different Courts to Pollsmoor Admission Centre.

DCS Procedure for the movement of remand detainees without the AVR system:

- After identification and the capturing of Remand Detainees information on the Admission and Release System the Remand Detainees will be moved to a holding cell for overnight purposes.
- The next morning Remand Detainees will be woken-up at 05h00.
- At 06h00 breakfast is served to all Remand Detainees.
- From 07h00 officials will start to identify the different Courts for the day and also the Remand Detainees who need to appear in those Courts (± 350 to 410 RD's).
- If it happens that there is still Remand Detainees outstanding from the different Units to appear in Courts for the day the officials will go and double check where the Remand Detainees are. (Normally takes an hour and more).
- The identification and verification process of each and every Remand Detainee takes ± 3 to 5 minutes including the handing out of valuable items. Taking of thumb prints again on the warrants by the SAPS to identify the Remand Detainees.
- The release of the Remand Detainees are being recorded in the variation system as prove that the Remand Detainees have been released.
- After the identification process the Remand Detainees will then searched by the DCS officials and hand over the detainees to the specific SAPS official(s) of a specific Court.
- From the total of ± 350 to 410 Remand Detainees a percentage of 85% of them only go to Courts for the purpose of postponement.
- On a daily bases the last Remand Detainees will only arrive from Courts after 18:30.
- Remand Detainees will arrive at the Correctional Centre and will be searched by DCS officials.
- Remand Detainees will then move through to the Reception Office where they will be identified and verified through thumb prints that are made on the warrant. Valuable items (money, cell phones, etc.) will then be collected and recorded on the SAP216 and stored in a safe place. Valuables are being recorded in two different registers (one for personal property and one for cash).

DCS procedure with the implementation of the Audio Visual Remand System (AVR) at Correctional Centres

- Identification of Remand Detainees for the Court roll will be prepared the day before the Court date to ensure that there is no time wasted on the day of Court appearances.
- Remand Detainees will still be woken-up at 05h00 in the morning to ensure that they are ready for breakfast and will be moved to the Audio Remand holding cell for the days Court proceedings.
- Before the Court proceeding starts, DCS officials will identify and verify the Remand Detainees once again to ensure that it is the right detainees for the specific day of Court appearance.
- DCS officials will conduct a testing process of the Audio Remand System with the specific Court(s) for the day of Court proceedings.
- Court proceedings will start at 09h00 in the morning until the last case has been dealt with.
- After each Court cases the Court will fax a new J7-warrant or J1-Warrant of Liberation to DCS as proof of the outcome.
- The original warrant(s) will be brought from Court by the SAPS after the day's Court proceedings to ensure that DCS are in position of the original warrant of detention.
- There will no longer be a high number of Remand Detainees that will be transported by the SAPS from Courts to the Correctional Centres.
- No late arrivals of Remand Detainees and they will be admitted within normal working hours.