FRAUD AND CORRUPTION AWARENESS





Letaba House, Riverside Office Park, 1303 Heuwel Avenue, Centurion, 0046 Private Bag X105, Centurion, 0046 Tel: 012-848 5300

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Be warned of fraudulent requests for Quotes/Purchase orders/Appointment letters/and Request for delivery

Verify with the respective department before submitting any documents.

Use the contact details available on the department's website.

> REPORT GOVERNMENT QUOTATION AND TENDER SCAM <

• Scam alert.

Over the past years companies have lost tens of thousands of Rands due to alleged fraudulent request for quotations (RFQs) and orders and appointment letters, supposedly from government departments.

The fraudsters would send a fictitious RFQ from what would seem to be a governmental email address, use a fake RFQ form with a logo and contact details of the contact person. These requests are usually "urgent" and the whole process is concluded within a short space of time. During this process the "SCM officials" will be in contact with the unsuspecting service provider until the goods are delivered either outside the building or at an agreed address.

Companies are therefore advised to verify all the RFQs and orders by calling the respective departments using the Departmental contact details listed on their respective websites to verify authenticity prior to responding to any RFQs or orders to avoid falling prey to these fraudsters.

Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent would like to warn the prospective suppliers / bidders about an alarming scam which is currently circulating which seeks to request suppliers to submit quotations to MISA or charge a non-refundable fee for supplier registration forms, quotations or tender documents. Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent does not charge any fees for supplier database registration forms, quotations or tender documentation; therefore, all prospective suppliers / bidders are cautioned to contact Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent when they suspect any scam as well as when fictitious purchase orders placed for goods or services and MISA name is being used.

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TO REPORT FRAUD & CORRUPTION:

CONTACT THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION HOTLINE ON 0800 701 701

Tips and clues

- 1. Before one can even verify the sender's email address. Why in the world would the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent need drill bits? This is a red flag!
- 2. MISA simply deals with the public sector i.e. Civil Servants across the government sectors. The department is more human resources orientated and drilling and heavy equipment are all totally not part of the department's functions or mandates.
- **3.** To save your time and data it would be wise to then check the senders email address, and not what is just shown in block letters. Moving your curser on the sender's name simply reveals the hidden email address.
- The senders address is tenders@misa.gov.za and email addresses are follows
 @MISA.org.za. This is a red flag!
- 5. MISA is a government department in South Africa (gov.za) and not an organization.
- 6. The telephone number given is just a number diverted to a cellphone where the scammers will mostly like have a lady pretending to be at the MISA answering all calls. These are normally people desperate for jobs or tenders being used by the scammers to fool the public.
- 7. The fax number given is just an online faxing facility registered by the fraudsters. For their own landline number, the scammers gave a number that is not constant with government phone listings. This is a red flag!
- **8.** The stamp on the RFQ is only a desperate move from the scammers to try and make this bogus email seem legit.

AS PER TREASURY RULES ALL GOVERNMENT RELATED TENDERS AND RFQ's WILL BE ADVERTISED ON <u>http://www.etenders.gov.za</u> and bidders need to be registered on the <u>https://secure.csd.gov.za</u>