

## IDEMIA South Africa achieves level 1 B-BBEE status

This achievement recognises the continued efforts of the company in creating opportunities for black South Africans in its employment, supply chain and contribution to the community.

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“Simply put, we consider it the right thing to do,” says Paul Jeremias, IDEMIA’s Director of Public Security & Identity and Country Manager, South Africa. **“We achieved B-BBEE Level 2 last year and our improvement this year demonstrates that the action plan we put together has set us on the right track to support our community even better.”**

As part of the action plan to improve its status to Level 1, IDEMIA now works with over 40 black-owned local suppliers. This represents over 30% of IDEMIA’s local suppliers. Within the number of black-owned suppliers, more than half are owned/run by black women. In addition, 39% of the company’s employees are black women.

Empowerment is more than statistics. To truly create more opportunities for previously disadvantaged individuals, training and education are crucial. To this end, IDEMIA offers several training programmes for its employees, including finance for non-financial managers and intermediate & advanced level courses in the Microsoft Office Suite. Other training includes courses in soft skills such as conflict management and public speaking. In 2020, IDEMIA **trained over 80% of its employees** on skills that have value-added to their daily course of work.

As part of the IDEMIA’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme<sup>1</sup>, IMPACT, the company is exploring initiatives with local education institutions to raise awareness of the STEM<sup>1</sup> fields, and create opportunities for students in STEM education. IDEMIA IMPACT aims to redefine sustainable business through 17 priorities, including a commitment to work on a global community program focused on education, young people and technology, under five key pillars (Communities, Environment, People, Customers/Partners/Suppliers, Ethics) by 2023. The company’s CSR achievements and ambitions are outlined here.

“As a technology company, expanding STEM education to even more children is an essential pillar of IDEMIA’s IMPACT programme,” says Jeremias. “We have been an active supporter of initiatives such as the MTN Business App of the Year, which are geared to uncovering and developing local talent. Now with the opportunity to work directly with local schools, we will be able to have a direct positive impact on enabling the expansion of the South Africa technical talent pool.”

The global leader in Augmented Identity, IDEMIA has been supporting the country’s economy with technology solutions for over two decades. Working with customers such as South Africa’s government agencies, financial institutions and mobile operators, IDEMIA has been facilitating a trusted environment enabling citizens and consumers alike to perform their daily critical activities (such as pay, connect and travel), in the physical as well as digital space. Located in Johannesburg, IDEMIA operates a state-of-the-art personalisation center and has grown to over 200-persons strong in the country. No stranger to innovation awards, IDEMIA’s biometric technology achieved the best accuracy with

and without a mask during the 2020 Biometric Technology Rally, hosted by the US Department of Homeland Security<sup>ii</sup>.

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<sup>i</sup> The company's CSR achievements and ambitions are outlined here : <https://www.idemia.com/corporate-social-responsibility-idemia>

<sup>i</sup> STEM: Science, Technology Engineering, Mathematics

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.idemia.com/press-release/idemias-facial-recognition-ranked-1-nists-latest-frvt-test-2021-04-06>

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**About us** - IDEMIA, the global leader in Augmented Identity, provides a trusted environment enabling citizens and consumers alike to perform their daily critical activities (such as pay, connect and travel), in the physical as well as digital space.

Securing our identity has become mission critical in the world we live in today. By standing for Augmented Identity, an identity that ensures privacy and trust and guarantees secure, authenticated and verifiable transactions, we reinvent the way we think, produce, use and protect one of our greatest assets – our identity – whether for individuals or for objects, whenever and wherever security matters. We provide Augmented Identity for international clients from Financial, Telecom, Identity, Public Security and IoT sectors. With close to 15,000 employees around the world, IDEMIA serves clients in 180 countries.

For more information, visit [www.idemia.com](http://www.idemia.com) / Follow @IDEMIAGroup on Twitter



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