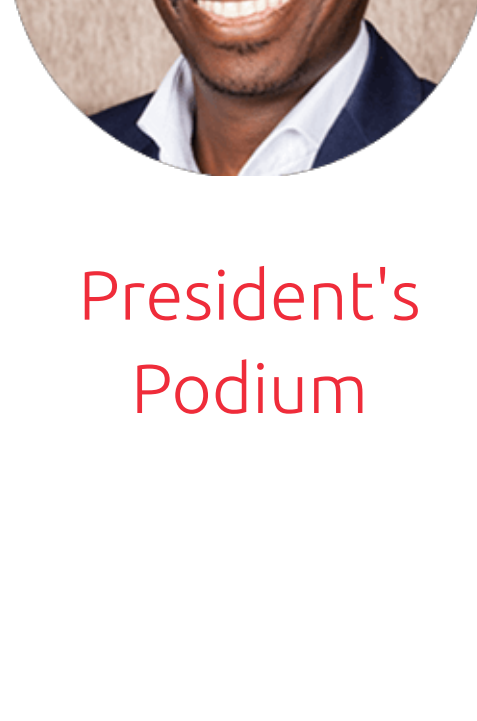




A DUTY OF CARE IN EVERYTHING DIGITAL



President's Podium

It was all eyes on the President, as he delivered one of the most anxiously-awaited State of the Nation addresses in recent years. Overcoming challenges such as a stagnant economy, loadshedding and unemployment will be no simple feat, and it will demand renewed efforts by both public and private sector if we are to turn our country around.

It was encouraging, however, to see a commitment to bolstering energy generation, delivering free or low-cost access to broadband and to fast-track ICT skills development in schools.

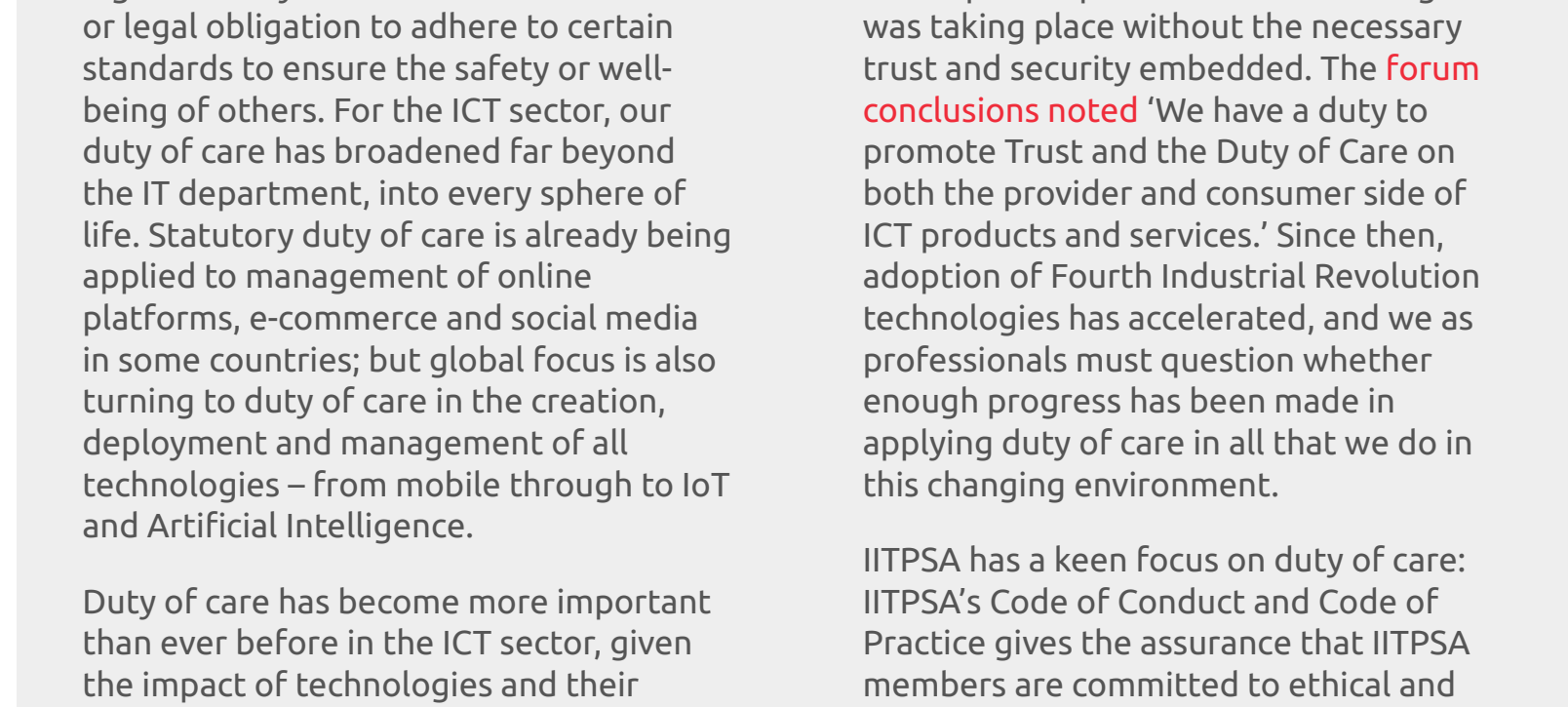
As the industry body representing the ICT sector, we believe we speak for all ICT stakeholders when we say we stand ready to apply our knowledge, resources and technologies to help overcome the country's challenges and support 4IR progress. Our world class ICT professionals have the capability to find and deploy digital solutions that can help maximise state revenues, optimise national infrastructure, ensure transparent governance and support accurate service delivery planning.

Our industry has the potential to grow strongly, tap into international markets and create much-needed jobs and new business opportunities.

For the private sector, the ICT industry offers a plethora of solutions to the challenge of trying to do more with less, all the while grappling with infrastructure challenges that threaten business continuity. It is in difficult times such as these that advanced digital technologies offer innovative new ways for businesses to survive and thrive.

Every cloud has a silver lining, and IITPSA believes ICT can offer the silver lining in challenging times. If we apply our minds to solutions relevant to South Africa's current climate, we can help the country to weather its storms and emerge as a competitive force in the global market.

Thabo Mashegoane



CEO's Communiqué

The world will soon be overwhelmingly digital, and amid this change, the tort law duty of care must extend to all things digital. A duty of care is defined as a moral or legal obligation to adhere to certain standards to ensure the safety or well-being of others. For the ICT sector, our duty of care has broadened far beyond the IT department, into every sphere of life. Statutory duty of care is already being applied to management of online platforms, e-commerce and social media in some countries; but global focus is also turning to duty of care in the creation, deployment and management of all technologies – from mobile through to IoT and Artificial Intelligence.

Duty of care has become more important than ever before in the ICT sector, given the impact of technologies and their potential to cause harm if deployed or managed without care. Professionalism, ethics, privacy and security are therefore of paramount importance as we build and deploy the new technologies that run the world. Now more than ever, we have to test thoroughly, consider the potential impact of our innovations and make every effort to mitigate risk.

As far back as 2010, the International Telecommunications Union World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) noted that rapid adoption of new technologies was taking place without the necessary trust and security embedded. The forum **conclusions noted** 'We have a duty to promote Trust and the Duty of Care on both the provider and consumer side of ICT products and services'. Since then, adoption of Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies has accelerated, and we as professionals must question whether enough progress has been made in applying duty of care in all that we do in this changing environment.

IITPSA has a keen focus on duty of care: IITPSA's Code of Conduct and Code of Practice gives the assurance that IITPSA members are committed to ethical and professional behaviour, and by working together with organisations such as SAQA and IFIP's International Professional Practice Partnership (IP3), IITPSA helps to establish and grow appropriate, relevant professional standards for the ICT profession.

Best regards
Tony



In The News



IoT in KZN: big potential but slow uptake

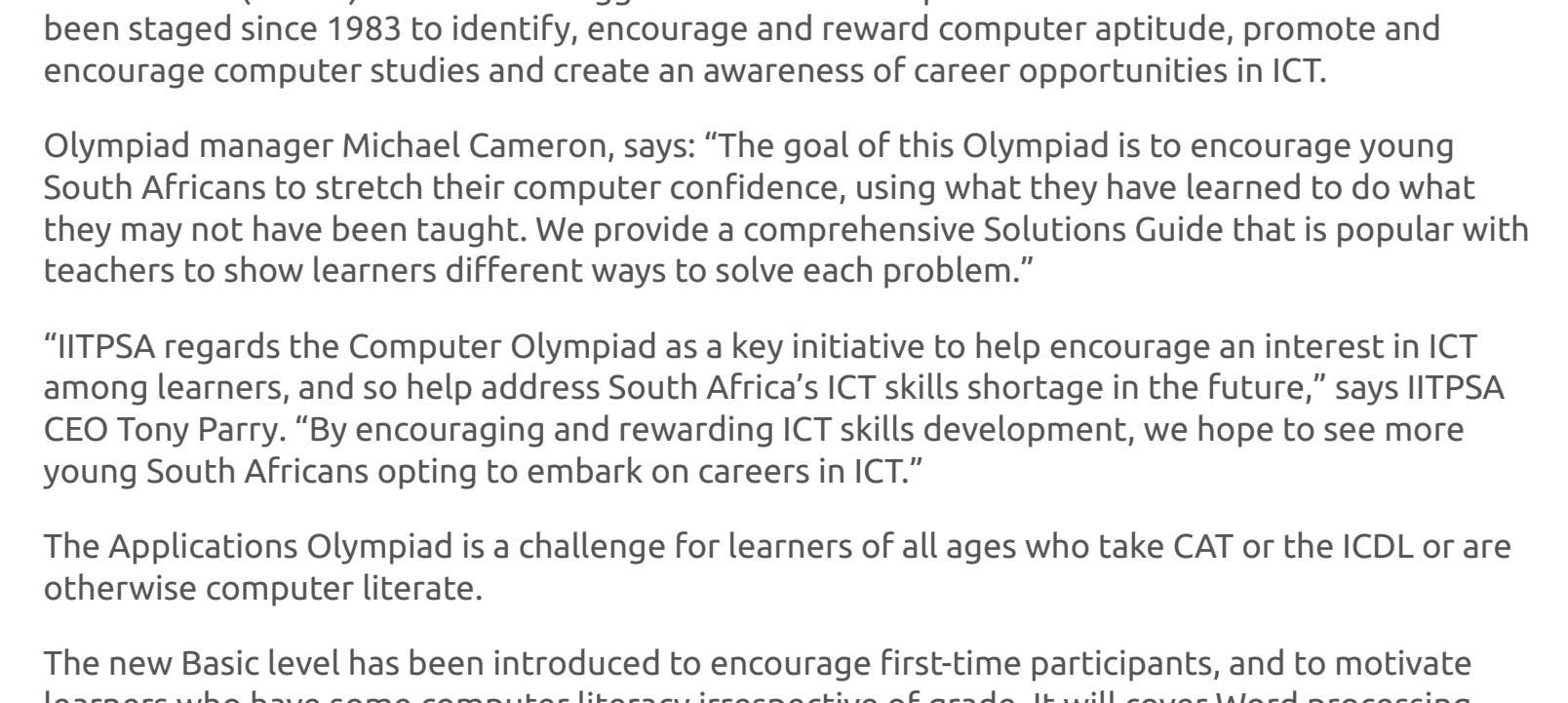
With a cross-section of most major industries present in KwaZulu Natal, Internet of Things (IoT) technologies could improve processes and competitiveness throughout the province. But uptake has been relatively slow in the province amid economic constraints and a lack of understanding of what IoT can do for business.

This is according to Trevor Hart-Jones, Founder and managing director of Pylot Pty Ltd, an IoT and systems integration specialist firm headquartered in Umhlalanga. Although Pylot has implemented some IoT projects in KwaZulu Natal, the bulk of its work comes from across Africa, Hart-Jones says. "We find that there is interest locally in what IoT can do for business, but the IoT market in the province is generally quite immature," he says.

Key challenges in the way of more widespread IoT adoption in the province include budget constraints and a lack of understanding of how the technology can be applied to business, he says.

"IoT is a big buzzword, but not necessarily something everyone understands – particularly when it comes to how it fits into digital transformation and business as a whole. In KwaZulu Natal, many of the businesses are mid-sized companies rather than large enterprises, and as such they do not have massive digital transformation budgets," Hart-Jones says the province is home to a significant manufacturing sector, logistics, retail and agriculture – all of which could benefit from IoT.

To help local business and IT understand the potential for IoT within business, Hart-Jones will address an IITPSA KwaZulu Natal chapter SIG Event on the Internet of Things on 26 February, when he will provide an overview of IoT, the new technologies shaping the landscape, and how IoT fits in an organisation. Members interested in attending this free event may register at the link under the upcoming events section of this newsletter.



SA Applications Olympiad gets new Basic level

The Computer Olympiad, sponsored by the Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa (IITPSA) is one of the biggest and oldest competitions of its kind in the world. It has been staged since 1983 to identify, encourage and reward computer aptitude, promote and encourage computer studies and create an awareness of career opportunities in ICT.

Olympiad manager Michael Cameron, says: "The goal of this Olympiad is to encourage young South Africans to stretch their computer confidence, using what they have learned to do what they may not have been taught. We provide a comprehensive Solutions Guide that is popular with teachers to show learners different ways to solve each problem."

"IITPSA regards the Computer Olympiad as a key initiative to help encourage an interest in ICT among learners, and so help address South Africa's ICT skills shortage in the future," says IITPSA CEO Tony Parry. "By encouraging and rewarding ICT skills development, we hope to see more young South Africans opting to embark on careers in ICT."

The Applications Olympiad is a challenge for learners of all ages who take CAT or the ICDL or are otherwise computer literate.

The new Basic level has been introduced to encourage first-time participants, and to motivate learners who have some computer literacy irrespective of grade. It will cover Word processing, Spreadsheets (Excel) and presentations (PowerPoint), and will suit those who are not familiar with databases.

Confident learners may choose to take part in the original Open division of the Applications Olympiad, which includes database questions using Access. The participants have to solve a number of problems using a common office package and the data provided. Contestants are allowed to use the application of their choice, such as the Word Processor, Spreadsheet, Database and Presentation Tool. Most participants will use a popular office package such as Microsoft Office. Open Office Libre Office. Only the Open division can lead to the Second Round and the Finals of the challenge.

The Applications Olympiad is available in English and Afrikaans and participation is free. The Olympiad will run for the week of 2-6 March, and participating schools will choose a preferred day and time. Schools with reliable internet may participate online. However, internet is not a requirement – just a computer per learner – and the teacher downloads the question paper and data files. For offline participants, marking the short answers is quick and easy.

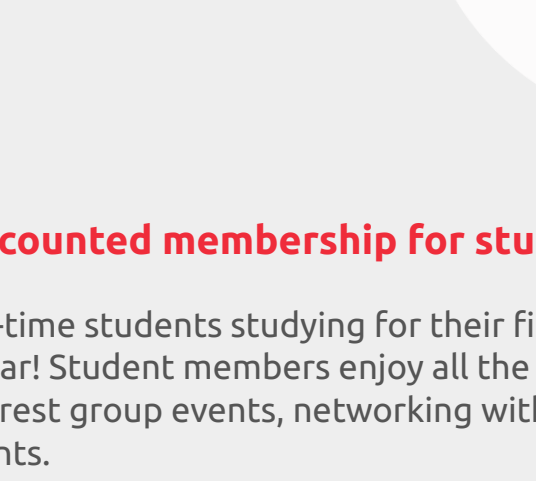
[Read more about the Computer Olympiad](#)



IITPSA Board members: ICT skills shortages hamper 4IR

While the local ICT sector is 'alive and well' skills shortages still stand in the way of progress, IITPSA board members said.

[Read more](#)

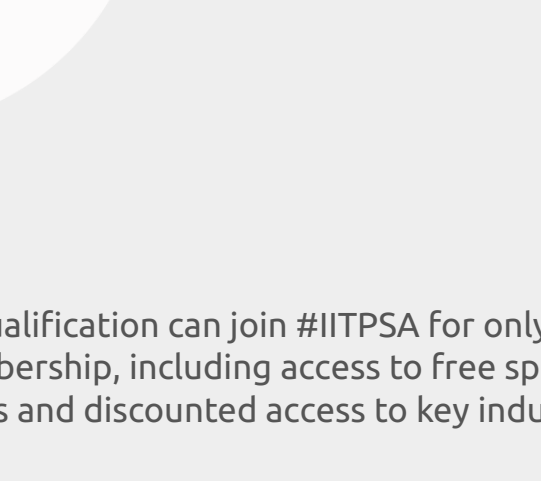


IT Personality of the Year Finalist invited to UNESCO education plenary

IT Personality of the Year Finalist Prof. Jean Greyling, associate professor in Computing Sciences at Nelson Mandela University, has been selected as a panelist for UNESCO Mobile Learning Week in Paris – the United Nations' flagship annual education conference.

Prof. Greyling said he had been invited as a plenary panelist at the event based on the TANKS project's high relevance to this year's theme of 'Artificial Intelligence and Inclusion' and the outstanding quality of the project proposal. "Out of 250 submissions, ours was the only one invited for a plenary. Nearly 1000 delegates (including global political, industry and NGO role players) will attend," he said.

Because of his nomination for the 2019 IITPSA President's Awards, he was also on ITWeb's radar, and featured in an article on the achievement.

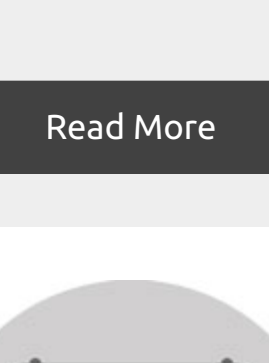


IITPSA President's Awards winners make the cover of Brainstorm

February's Brainstorm magazine features IITPSA's 2019 Visionary GO, Sandra La Bella of Alexander Forbes and IT Personality Tiyani Nghonyama of Ceekulcha.

[Click here to read the feature articles](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REMINDERS

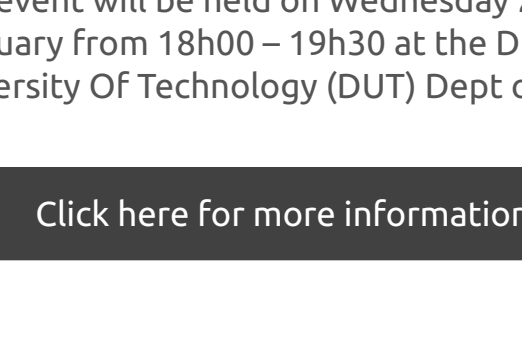


Discounted membership for students

Full-time students studying for their first ICT related qualification can join #IITPSA for only R65 a year! Student members enjoy all the benefits of membership, including access to free special interest group events, networking with industry leaders and discounted access to key industry events.

[Read More](#)

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



26 FEBRUARY IOT SIG – AN IITPSA KZN CHAPTER EVENT

Trevor Hart-Jones, the managing director of Pylot Pty Ltd will provide an overview of the Internet of Things (IoT) and the new technologies shaping the landscape. Jones will also discuss how IoT fits in an organisation, and will provide some examples and cases that he is involved in.

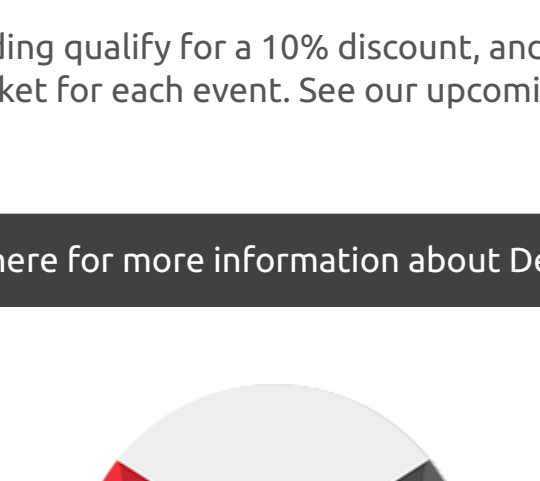
This event will be held on Wednesday 26 February from 18h00 – 19h30 at the Durban University Of Technology (DUT) Dept of IT.

[Click here for more information](#)

27 FEBRUARY IITPSA EASTERN CAPE CHAPTER AGM

The 2019/2020 Annual General Meeting of members of the Eastern Cape Chapter of IITPSA NPC (Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa) - (a Non Profit Company in terms of the Companies Act 71 of 2008), registration number 1958/001036/08, will be held at PE St George's Club, 12 Bird Street, Central Port Elizabeth, South Africa, 6001 at 17:00 on Thursday 27 February 2020.

[Click here for more information, and to register](#)



31 MARCH DEVCONF CAPE TOWN

2 APRIL DEVCONF JOHANNESBURG

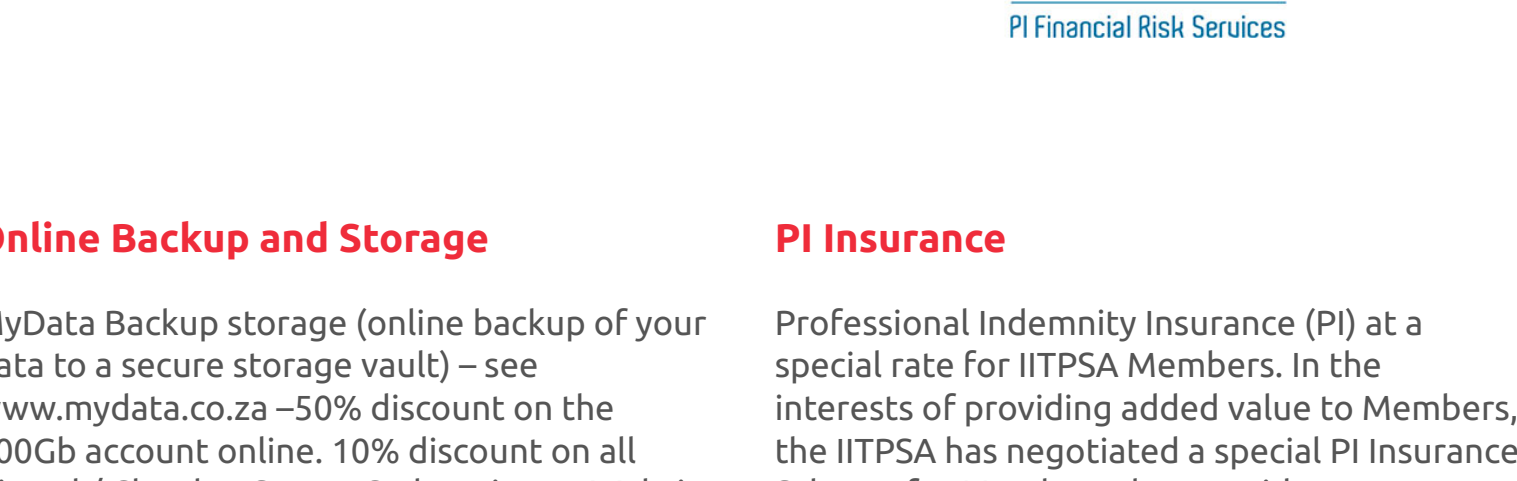
IITPSA has partnered with DevConf, the annual conference for professional software developers. DevConf outlines the tools, practices and principles applicable to tackling challenges in the South African software development environment. It's an event where attendees can learn, network and be inspired regardless of their specific technology stack and programming language of choice.

IITPSA members in good standing qualify for a 10% discount, and IITPSA will also hold a lucky draw to give away one free ticket for each event. See our upcoming flyers for more information about the draw.

[Click here for more information about DevConf](#)



MEMBER BENEFITS



Anti-Virus Products

AVG is a leading developer of Security Software with over 120 million home and business users around the world.

IITPSA is pleased to advise that we are again being sponsored by AVG South Africa, with the computers at the IITPSA National Office being protected by the AVG Internet Security Suite (Business Edition).

ITWeb Publications - Brainstorm

ITWeb Brainstorm is available free of charge to Fellows (FIITPSA) and paid-up Professional Members (PMIITPSA) of the Institute.

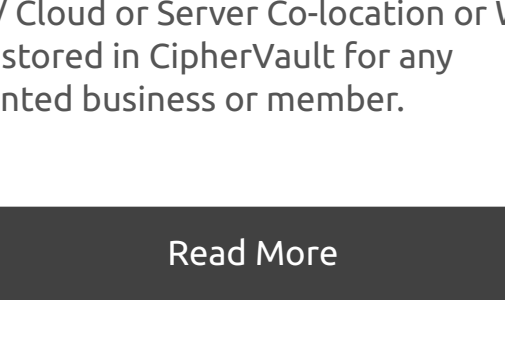
To subscribe, please contact the IITPSA National Office.

[Read More](#)

Career Opportunities

IITPSA has partnered with CareerJunction, SA's #1 Quality Candidate provider, to offer a job search/advertising service on its site. Go to www.iitpsa.org.za and click on 'Careers' in the 'Activities' menu to see it in action, or simply click on the link below.

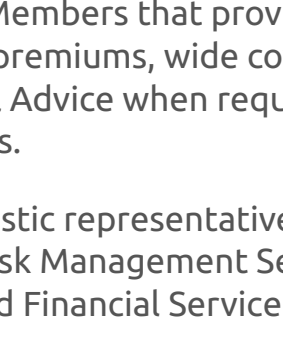
[Read More](#)



Online Backup and Storage

MyData Backup storage (online backup of your data to a secure storage vault) – see www.mydata.co.za – 50% discount on the 100Gb account online. 10% discount on all Virtual / Cloud or Server Co-location or Website servers stored in CipherVault for any represented business or member.

[Read More](#)



PI Insurance

Professional Indemnity Insurance (PI) at a special rate for IITPSA Members. In the interests of providing added value to Members, the IITPSA has negotiated a special PI Insurance Scheme for Members that provides very competitive premiums, wide coverage and also affords Legal Advice when required to protect your interests.

PIFRS is a juristic representative and division of FirstEquity Risk Management Services (Pty) Ltd, an Authorised Financial Services Provider.

[Read More](#)

