



ZONKE-UNICODE
(PTY) Ltd

A 27-year partnership with SAPS to be proud of

Zonke-Unicode is a Private-Public Partnership (PPP) company founded in 1992. From its inception it has operated as a secure channel between the SAPS and the short-term insurance industry on instruction of the latter. The 27-year relationship with the SAPS is based on a very onerous contract in terms of data security, access control and data integrity without any breach.

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From 1996, Zonke-Unicode concentrated on developing the most comprehensive motor vehicle database with the purpose of facilitating the detection, investigation and combating of vehicle-related crime. The company therefore became the de facto information sharing system for vehicle crime between the private and public sectors in South Africa and the only gateway for the private sector to access the SAPS's circulation and property (evidence asset management) systems.

Department of Transport (face value documents)

Zonke-Unicode keeps record of Face Value Documents (FVDs) which are reported as stolen or lost. FVDs are secured paper documents used by the Department of Transport for all its security documents. Currently Zonke-Unicode stores more than 1.3 million documents. The company has also developed a functionality on smart phones for law enforcement to enquire whether an FVD is reported as stolen or lost.



Insurance companies

Only approximately 30% of all vehicles on South African roads are insured. When the details of a vehicle that is circulated is received from SAPS in the Zonke-Unicode system, the system will check for any insurance claims for the specific vehicle. If a claim has been registered, the name of the insurance company as well as the claim number is returned to the SAPS to update the SAPS Circulation System (vehicles).

The automatic electronic update saves the SAPS valuable man-hours and money, where previously the SAPS had to make numerous telephone calls and enter into correspondence. It also necessitated visits by the investigation officer to the complainant, supplementary statements to be taken and additional SAPS manual circulation updates.

This service ensures that the correct disposal is made at the time of recovery. Without the correct updates by the Zonke-Unicode system, it could result in possible litigation against SAPS which not only posed a huge financial risk but also serious reputational damage to organisation. The SAPS's CAS reference for the specific vehicle is electronically furnished to the insurance company by Zonke-Unicode. When the SAPS cancels the vehicle circulation, the Zonke-Unicode system sends an electronic notice to the insurance company. This enables the SAPS to detect false cancellations and assists in quick disposal of vehicles, limiting the time the recovered vehicle has to spend in a vehicle pound or safeguarding unit.

Financial institutions

Zonke-Unicode has developed an application for Ports of Entry (POE) to create an electronic "gate list" and simultaneously detect sought vehicles and stolen face value documents which are used to "legalise" sought vehicles. The POE App is also used to detect attempted unauthorised border crossings of financed and rental vehicles.

Vehicle dealers

When a vehicle is traded or sold through a dealership network, an enquiry is done via platforms such as TransUnion or Lightstone on the Zonke-Unicode system to establish whether the vehicle is stolen, cloned or sought. Alerts for sought vehicles presented at a vehicle dealer for trade or sale are sent to the National Vehicle Information Control Centre (NaVICC) for the required police action.

Vehicle manufacturers, importers and builders

On request of the SAPS, Zonke-Unicode receives data from motor manufacturers, importers and builders when vehicles are manufactured or imported to South Africa. Zonke-Unicode then filters the information through algorithms to verify the accuracy of the data, which is then electronically uploaded to the SAPS system. This process assists the SAPS to determine the authenticity of the make, model, colour, VIN and engine numbers of vehicles. Having this information saves the SAPS countless man-hours, telephone calls, correspondence and physical visits to vehicle manufacturers in order to obtain factory details on a vehicle's identification and description needed during investigations.

The Zonke-Unicode system also alerts manufacturers, importers and builders when certain makes and models are reported as stolen. The manufacturer then "blocks" the warranty/service record on their system and an alert will be generated at NaVICC and the dealer, should a sought vehicle be presented for a service or a warranty claim.

Tracking companies

Zonke-Unicode developed a tracking module linking and confirming tracking activations with SAPS circulations and de-activations with cancellations. This system also provides arrest information and alerts to the SAPS that are performed by tracking companies.

Micro-dotting companies

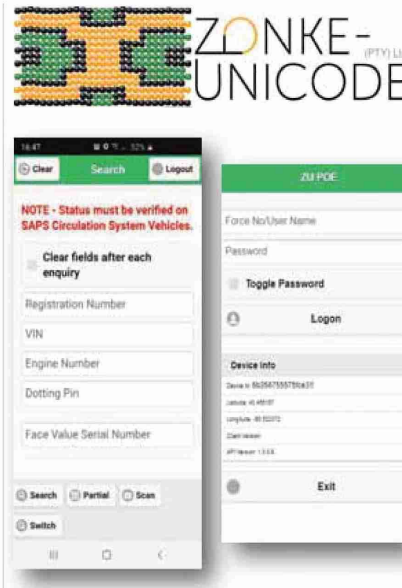
On request of the SAPS, Zonke-Unicode receives all micro-dotting fitment information, filters the information through agreed algorithms to verify the accuracy of the data and then uploads it to the SAPS system. This combined database is accessible at no cost, by any SAPS investigating officer, 24/7, to query a specific microdot and receive the fitment and vehicle identification details to which it was applied. This information assists the SAPS with the identification of stolen vehicles of which the identification marks are not original, tampered with or obliterated. This one point of enquiry again saves the SAPS man-hours, telephone calls and correspondence to try and identify to which company the microdot belongs, to which vehicle it was fitted and the fitment details of such vehicle.

Fleet car rental companies

Zonke-Unicode hosts the vehicle portfolios of major vehicle rental companies and fleets and monitors the status of their vehicles. Alerts will be generated if a vehicle is reported as sought or if a sought vehicle is cancelled or entered into a pound.

Camera enquiries (LPR and ANPR)

Zonke-Unicode provides a portal for its clients and users who have a vested interest in proactively identifying stolen and sought vehicles. This is done in an effort to timeously prevent and detect crime through the use of cameras or other devices which are enabled to automatically read the number plate or other identification



number, and by interacting with the SAPS: Circulation System (Vehicles) (CSV) to identify those vehicles which are sought by the SAPS.

Zonke-Unicode App for smart phones

Zonke-Unicode has developed an App for smart phones which enables law enforcement officers to securely do enquiries via their cellphones on stolen vehicles, micro-dots and face value documents. This assists first responders and vehicle crime investigators to detect, investigate and address vehicle-related crime.

Ports of Entry Application

Zonke-Unicode also facilitates an App for the SAPS which captures all vehicles departing from and arriving in South Africa. This creates accurate gate lists while it simultaneously detects sought vehicles and stolen face value documents which are used to "legalise" sought vehicles. The application is also used to detect attempted unauthorised border crossings of rental and financed vehicles.

For the past 27 years Zonke-Unicode has been assisting the police in the fight against vehicle-related crime. It is a crime category that continues to show an increase which is why this important partnership is vital to everyone in this environment - and not only to the SAPS.