



# PRESENTATION ON NON FERROUS METAL THEFT IN THE EASTERN CAPE



ON 2011-07-23 IN POLOKWANE

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# INTRODUCTION

- The document serves to present the situation in the Eastern Cape on non ferrous metal related offences and strategies that have been developed by the Province to address the phenomenon.



# THREAT ANALYSIS

- The theft of Non-ferrous metal is a huge problem in the Province
- Railway lines, Pendrol springs, Sleepers and Cables are being cut off and removed by criminals which could cause train derailment and/or train crush.
- Major suspects are: legal scrap metal dealers, employees, individual and syndicates.



# THREAT ANALYSIS CONTINUES

- Criminals are targeting: Transnet Freight Rail, Eskom, Telkom, Municipalities, Residential Places, Schools, Businesses, Cemeteries and Churches
- They steal copper cables, copper wires, copper pipes, water taps, door handles etc



# HOTSPOT AREAS

- Butterworth
- Mthatha
- Port Elizabeth
- Cradock
- Queenstown
- East London
- Grahamstown
- King Williams' Town



# CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CASES FROM PREVIUOS FINANCIAL YEAR TO JUNE 2011

	EAST LONDON	GRAHAMSTOWN	MTHATHA	PORT ELIZABETH	QUEENSTOWN	CRADOCK	GRAAFF-REINET	TOTAL
CASE REPORTED	109	259	244	256	154	210	54	1286
ARRESTS	33	94	82	82	57	74	14	436
CASES PENDING	102	138	134	152	58	122	16	722
STOLEN ITEMS	TELKOM AERIAL CBLES,COPPER WIRES,COPPER CABLES,RAILWAY LINES,PENDROL SPRINGS,SLEEPERS AND RAILWAY CABLES	COPPER WIRE,TRAIN TRUCK WHEELS,SOLAR PANELS, ROAD BARRIERS,COPPER CABLES ,COPPER WIRES,WINDOW CLIPS,DOOR LOCKS,	ELECTRIC BOXES,SOLAR PANELS,COPPER CABLES,COPPER WIRES,AIRDEC,ELECTRIC AND TELEPHONES POLES	COPPER CABBLES,COPPER PIPES,COPPER WIRES AND MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS	COPPER WIRE,SOLAR PANELS ,COPPER CABBLES,TELEPHONE CABLES,RAILWAY CABLES	COPPER WIRE,SOLAR PANELS ,COPPER CABBLES,TELEPHONE CABLES,RAILWAY CABLES	COPPER WIRE,SOLAR PANELS ,COPPER CABBLES,TELEPHONE CABLES,RAILWAY CABLES	
VALUE OF GOODS STOLEN	R101 490 800-00	R686 402-00	R442 145-00	R2 337 776-41	R144 400-00	R1 790 214-00	R185 000-00	R5 687 427.41
VALUE OF GOODS RECOVERD	R164 800-00	R228 748-00	R102 422-00	R1 167 766-41	R43100-00	R37400-00	R54 000-00	R1 798 236-41
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION	307	344	104	488	104	245	74	1666
J534'S ISSUED	107	23	16	51	2	3	2	204
SYNDICATES DETECTED	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	2

# OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES DEVELOPED

- IN JANUARY 2008 THE PROVINCIAL NON FERROUS FORUM WAS ESTABLISHED TO ADOPT AN INTEGRATED APPROACH IN FIGHTING NON FERROUS METAL CRIMES
- THIS FORUM CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING ROLEPLAYERS:
  - ❖ SAPS
    - ORGANISED CRIME MEMBERS,
    - SUB -FORUM CHAIRPERSONS,
    - LEGAL SERVICES ,
    - VISIBLE POLICING ,
    - CORPORATE COMMUNICATION ,
    - CRIME INTELLIGENCE GATHERING,
    - DETECTIVES, ETC



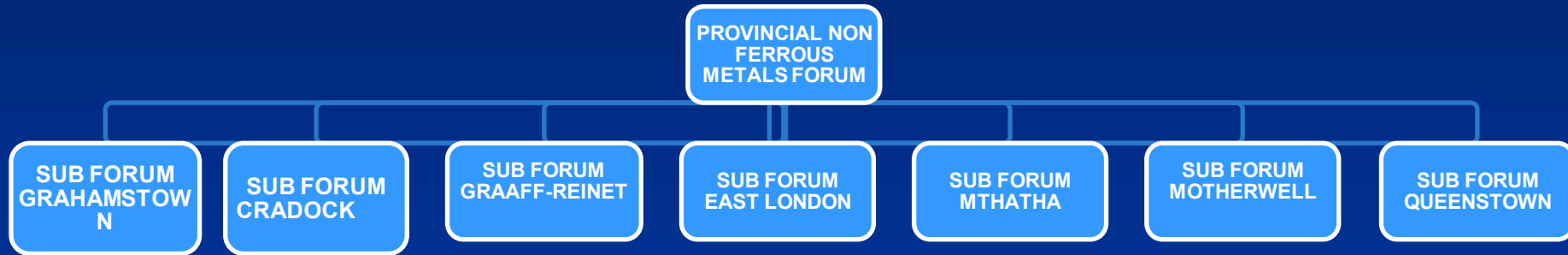


# OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES CONTINUES

- ❖ ESKOM
- ❖ TELKOM
- ❖ TRANSNET
- ❖ BUFFALO CITY MUNICIPALITY
- ❖ NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY
- ❖ SARS (SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICES )
- ❖ AFU ( ASSET FORFEITURE UNIT )
- ❖ MAKANA MUNICIPALITY
- ❖ NODAL POINT PROSECUTORS



# PROVINCIAL STRUCTURES ON NON FERROUS METAL



# FUNCTIONING OF THE FORUMS

- The Provincial Non Ferrous Forum co-chaired by the Provincial Head Visible Policing Major General Mbambala and the Provincial Commander Organised Crime Brig Galawe and meeting on a monthly basis
- Cluster forums chaired by Cluster Commanders.
- The sub forums chaired by the Visible Policing Commanders at Cluster level and Unit Commanders of Organized Crime
- The Provincial Non Ferrous coordinators coordinating and monitoring all investigations and reported cases in the Province



# FUNCTIONING OF THE FORUMS CONTINUES

- Communication with regards to Non Ferrous related matters including Awareness Campaigns jointly conducted by SAPS and Corporate communication officers from the parastatals
- Public Awareness Campaigns conducted jointly and severally by role players (Distribution of pamphlets, t-shirts, caps, pens, pencil, rulers and other materials during awareness campaign and Imbizos)
- Gathering of Intelligence and sharing of information done amongst stakeholders.
- Disruptive Operations conducted jointly with the stakeholders



# CHALLENGES WITH THIS APPROACH

- Non Ferrous Metal cases were handled at station level by inexperienced members and allocated to inexperienced detectives and would then be closed undetected.
- In instances where there were arrests prosecutors/magistrates regarded these cases as minor cases resulting to light sentences.
- New approach had to be developed to improve the situation.



# TASK TEAM APPROACH

- In June 2010 the Province established a Task Team as a pilot project in Port Elizabeth area.
- The task team is intelligence driven and comprise of all stakeholders in the area.
- Non Ferrous Metal cases are consolidated and given to experienced prosecutor for decision as opposed to single faceted prosecutions.



# SUCCESSSES

- This approach proved to be working as a number of cases are being solved through a dedicated team of different role players and amongst our successes is SWARTKOP CAS 52/05/2011, where vehicle parts to the value of R1 167 766-41 were recovered from the Scrap Metal Dealer in a container that was parked inside his yard the matter is pending in court.
- There are approximately eighty (80) cases that were consolidated for investigation and prosecution purposes and that has improved our success rate.



# ROLL OUT ON TASK TEAM

- The Task Team approach has recently been rolled out through the Province.
- This has resulted to, for instance, in identification of two syndicates that are operating one in the East London area and one in Port Elizabeth who are now being addressed.





# ROLL OUT ON TASK TEAM

- All DPP Offices have dedicated a DDPP to supervise on non ferrous metal cases.
- The DoJ&CD has been engaged in order to conduct workshops to magistrates on the seriousness of this scourge.
- The DoJ&CD will also look at the applicable laws to determine if they need to be reconsidered and enable heavier sentences (Draft Act No 6 of 2009) .



# THIEVES AT WORK – CASE STUDY

- Power lines cut and copper wire removed





# THEFT FROM ESKOM TRANSFORMERS

Transformers are opened and copper wire removed





# CASE STUDY ON CABLE THEFT

- CABLE THIEVES CAUGHT IN ACTION AT EAST LONDON





# CASE STUDY CONTINUES





# CASE STUDY CONTINUES

- Suspects stripping wires for sale at Scrap Metal Dealers in East London





# CASE STUDY CONTINUES

- Ashes after copper cables have been stripped/ burned in order to remove the copper





# CASE STUDY CONTINUES

- 3 suspects arrested in possession of suspected stolen property – 500kg copper Telkom wire





# CASE STUDY CONTINUES

TELKOM WIRE HIDDEN IN A COMPARTMENT IN A TRUCK





# CASE STUDY CONTINUES

A TRUCK UTILIZED TO CONVEY STOLEN COPPER WIRE



# CONCLUSION

- Non Ferrous cases require an integrated approach to fight them.
- The syndicates are taking advantage where there is no centralised prosecution point and each case treated in isolation.
- There should be a coordinated effort between visible and detection (investigation) in policing.
- Three new Organised Crime Units need to be established along the borders of our Province, i.e Cradock, Aliwal North & Mount Fletcher.



THANK YOU

BRIGADIER KD GALAWE

