

## Employees experience the Premiership



The Absa Premiership provides some of the most exciting and fast-paced soccer action to stadiums full of die-hard soccer fanatics, and the Absa Premiership's new slogan "Re Kaofela" certainly lives up to its promise.

To ensure that employees share in the excitement, Absa launched the Absa Premiership Employee Experience, a competition that sees employees winning tickets to the Premiership games. The first took place in November 2008 at the Soweto Derby between Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates in Mafikeng.

"Exciting and exuberant" were the words used by employees to describe the atmosphere Absa created by bringing together employees from all the different business units to enjoy an exclusive soccer opportunity. "This initiative was launched as a platform for employees to share in the experience with thousands of other fans and take part in the carnival atmosphere at the stadium," says Renny Letswalo, General Manager for Brand Leadership.

"Watching a soccer match can be quite an experience, it surpasses what actual viewing of the soccer match on TV offers," says Rendani Mabidi, a regular at the Absa Premiership matches.

There is no doubt that live soccer action is here to stay. To experience this one of a kind event, be sure to enter the competitions and get your Absa Premiership tickets. This experience includes hospitality, tickets, transportation to the game and interaction with other colleagues within the Absa family. Please refer to the intranet for more details regarding employee competitions. -

## A place to find your home needs



Absa Home Loans has introduced HomeBuy a first in the South African banking market. This is an internet-based solution that provides an easy, value-added and savings-driven service for home owners.

The purpose of HomeBuy is to provide measurable savings to homeowners and minimise as many of the hassles typically associated with homeownership as possible.

HomeBuy offers customers and employees the ability to conduct research via homeowner guides on buying, selling, building and even improving a home. It also provides a directory of accredited vendors offering a wide variety of home services as well as shop-on-a-portal which offers branded products and discounts. A car search facility also allows customers to browse for special offers on new and used vehicles.

"Although developed for Absa employees and customers, HomeBuy is available to non-Absa customers too. However Absa Home Loan customers receive additional savings and a host of other exclusive benefits," says Luthando Vutula, Managing Executive: Absa Home Loans. "The bank is proud of this new service which will make customers' lives easier and we will continuously add more features and upgrade the offering to ensure it meets with customer requirements.

HomeBuy can be accessed at [www.homebuy.co.za](http://www.homebuy.co.za) -

## Absa scoops global award for ATM security



Absa took top honours for its contribution to ATM security at the ATM Industry Association (ATMIA) Conference. This took place from 10-12 February in Nashville, USA. Absa walked away with the Global ATM Security Alliance - ATMIA Best Contribution to ATM Security Award.

Allen Mahadeo, General Manager: Absa Self Service Channel and Distribution said: "We are extremely proud to receive international recognition for our efforts in making banking safer. We are continuously looking at innovative ways to make banking more secure for our customers."

Card skimming has been a perennial concern for the financial services industry in South Africa. In March 2008, Absa was a pioneer in introducing 'Jitter software' in order to address this challenge. Jitter causes a vibration to the ATM card reader which sends a disrupted signal to any illegal skimming device. This prohibits the copying of the track from banking cards and makes this form of card skimming impossible. Since the implementation of Jitter there have been no incidents of card skimming where an illegal reader was placed inside an Absa ATM.

Absa also played a pivotal role in introducing security best practice in South African banking. The recently developed Security Standards document was developed by Absa and incorporated by all the leading banks in South Africa. -