



Science, Technology and Innovation
Trade Industry and Competition



Companies and Intellectual
Property Commission
a member of the dtic group



NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT OFFICE
An initiative of the Department of Science, Technology and Innovation



technology innovation
A G E N C Y
Innovating Tomorrow Together



VAAI UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY
Inspiring thought. Shaping talent

MEDIA ADVISORY

TO: All Media

ATTENTION: News Editors / All Reporters

For immediate release

DATE: Thursday, 02 April 2026

WIPD Media Launch to spotlight the convergence of IP and sport

Leaders from government, state agencies, academia, business, and sport will form part of the World Intellectual Property Day Media Launch on Thursday, 9 April at the Vaal University of Technology (VUT), highlighting the convergence of intellectual property (IP) and sport.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of World IP Day, themed “**IP and Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate!**”, to focus on how IP drives innovation and contributes to the growth and sustainability of the global sporting ecosystem.

Organised by the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), in partnership with the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, the Department of Science, Technology and Innovation, through the National Intellectual Property Management Office, Technology Innovation Agency and the Vaal University of Technology.

The programme will feature messages of support from partner institutions. It will include a thought-provoking panel discussion featuring Aaron Mokoena, former Bafana Bafana captain, scout, and coach; Grant van Velden, Cricket South Africa Head of High Performance; and Tumelo Mashabela, Director and Registered Patent Attorney at Tshaya Mashabela Attorneys, among others.

Speakers will explore how IP helps drive innovation and supports growth in sport, and how human ideas are protected by law and turned into commercial opportunities. VUT Technology Transfer and Innovation will exhibit its work that day, focusing on commercialising research, protecting IP and other areas.

Members of the media are invited to the World IP Day Media Launch as follows:

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, 09 April 2026

Time: 10:00 – 12:00

Venue: VUT Southern Gauteng Science and Technology Park in Sebokeng

Address: 5 Moshoeshoe Street, Sebokeng 1983

RSVP by Wednesday, 08 April 2026 before 12:00 to:

Nontobeko Moimane – VUT Communications Officer at nontobekoz@vut.ac.za or 0836306185

Media Enquiries:

Ndileka Cola – CIPC Head of Communications

Cell phone: 073 376 8758

Telephone: 087 000 0000

Email: NCola@cipc.co.za