Kenyan gov't embraces open source

By Duncan McLeod: @mcleodd

10 Sep 2012

TechCentral wraps up the major technology news from around the African continent.

The Kenyan government is ditching proprietary software in favour of free and open-source software alternatives in a move it hopes will save it money.

According to a report in *Business Daily*, the migration away from proprietary systems will see related costs go down by 20% initially but by as much as 80% within three years of the move having taken place.

…**Sanlam, Bharti partner on financial services**

Indian-controlled mobile operator Bharti Airtel, which has operations in 17 countries across Africa, has partnered with SA's Sanlam to offer insurance products on a non-exclusive basis in seven countries on the continent.

…**Airtel, Essar want lower wholesale rates**

Bharti Airtel and Essar Telecom Kenya have written to the Kenyan government asking for a reduction in the country's mobile termination rates, the fees operators charge each other to carry calls between their networks. The rates are set at 2,21 shillings, or about R0,21/minute.

Read the full story on www.techcentral.co.za.

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Award-wining Duncan McLeod is the founder and editor of TechCentral (www.TechCentral.co.za, @TechCentral]]), South Africa's latest technology news site offering breaking news, in-depth analysis and opinion that launched in September 2009. Before that, he was associate editor at the *Financial Mail/FM*. Contact Duncan on email duncan at techcentral dot co dot za and follow him on Twitter at @mcleodd.

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