



'IDC Directions' Returns to South Africa to Provide ICT Industry with Strategic Guidance for the Year Ahead

Johannesburg – IDC Directions 2020, the seminal ICT industry event for Sub-Saharan Africa, takes place at The Maslow Hotel, Sandton in Johannesburg on January 30. Hosted by International Data Corporation (IDC), the event will bring together South Africa's most influential technology vendors, telecommunications operators, and IT service providers, delivering expert guidance on the challenges and opportunities that lie in wait as the digital economy enters a new phase of evolution.

"Over the past five years, IDC has documented the rise of the digital economy and advised organizations on their digital transformation strategies," says Jyoti Lalchandani, IDC's group vice president and regional managing director, who will be delivering the event's keynote speech. "Today, the digital economy is at a critical tipping point. In just a few short years, IDC forecasts that nearly half of all GDP worldwide will come from products and services offered by digitally transformed organizations. As such, technology suppliers must transform their approach in order to meet the new buying requirements of their digital customers and connect technology to the business goals of a new digital-inspired CEO agenda."

Running under the theme 'Multiplied Innovation Goes Mainstream: Thriving in the Digital Economy', IDC Directions 2020 will see prominent IDC thought leaders share their latest forecasts and predictions for South Africa's technology markets as they contextualize the impact of global trends on the local environment. Offering a unique opportunity to interact with IDC's industry-leading analysts, the event will provide senior ICT industry executives with in-depth analysis of the latest trends and developments shaping South Africa's ICT outlook, helping them to pinpoint the key sectors and segments to target.

"With greater clarity about what the future enterprise will look like and what will be required to compete in redefined industries, organizations are rethinking their digital transformation strategies," says Mark Walker, IDC's associate vice president for South Africa. "As such, they are increasingly pivoting away from digital for the sake of innovation to digital for the sake of the business. There is now a focus on applying digital technologies to address the future of work, customer engagement, intelligence, operations, and leadership. Digital presents a multibillion-dollar tech opportunity for suppliers, but a new playbook is required that is focused on creating business value, scaling digital innovation, and embracing future of work."

The event will examine the evolving priorities of C-suite executives across South Africa, while dedicated sessions will offer strategic guidance on enabling a secure, agile, and scalable digital enterprise for the future. There will also be fascinating fiscal insights from Gina Schoeman, economist and head of research at Citibank South Africa.

For more information about 'IDC Directions 2020' and to arrange an exclusive one-to-one meeting with an IDC analyst, please contact Andries Lombaard at alombaard@idc.com or on +27 11 517 3240. To learn more about the event, please visit www.idc.com/mea/events/67058-idc-directions-2020 or join the conversation on Twitter using the hashtag #IDCDirections.

About IDC

International Data Corporation (IDC) is the premier global provider of market intelligence, advisory services, and events for the information technology, telecommunications, and consumer technology markets. With more than 1,100 analysts worldwide, IDC offers global, regional, and local expertise on technology and industry opportunities and trends in over 110 countries. IDC's analysis and insight helps IT professionals, business executives, and the investment community to make fact-based technology decisions and to achieve their key business objectives. Founded in 1964, IDC is a subsidiary of IDG, the world's leading technology media, research, and events company. To learn more about IDC, please visit www.idc.com. Follow IDC on Twitter at @IDC.

IDC in the Middle East, Turkey, and Africa

For the Middle East, Turkey, and Africa region, IDC retains a coordinated network of offices in Riyadh, Nairobi, Lagos, Johannesburg, Cairo, and Istanbul, with a regional center in Dubai. Our coverage couples local insight with an international perspective to provide a comprehensive understanding of markets in these dynamic regions. Our market intelligence services are unparalleled in depth, consistency, scope, and accuracy. IDC Middle East, Africa, and Turkey currently fields over 130 analysts, consultants, and conference associates across the region. To learn more about IDC MEA, please visit www.idc.com/mea. You can follow IDC MEA on Twitter at @IDCMEA.

About IDC

IDC is the premier global provider of market intelligence, advisory services, and events for the information technology and telecommunications industries. IDC helps IT professionals, business executives, and the investment community make fact-based decisions on technology purchases and business strategy. Over 775 IDC analysts in 50 countries provide global, regional, and local expertise on technology and industry opportunities and trends. For more than 40 years, IDC has provided strategic insights to help our clients achieve their key business objectives. IDC is a subsidiary of IDG, the world's leading technology media, research, and events company. You can learn more about IDC by visiting <http://www.idc.com/>.

IDC is a subsidiary of IDG, the world's leading technology media, research, and events company. Additional information can be found at www.idc.com.

All product and company names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders.

For more information contact:

Sheila Manek
smanek@idc.com
+971 4 446 3154
Andries Lombaard
alombaard@idc.com
+27 11 517 3240