

HUMAN CAPITAL SYSTEM

BUSINES REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATIONS

PAYROLL





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1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) is undertaking a digital transformation programme aimed at modernising core enterprise systems, improving efficiency, and strengthening compliance across all business units. A critical component of this programme is the **Human Capital (HC) Payroll System**, which directly supports one of the organisation's most important functions: the accurate, compliant, and timely management of employee remuneration.

Currently, payroll processing is fragmented and highly manual, relying on multiple legacy systems, spreadsheets, and manual reconciliations. This has led to challenges including:

- **Compliance Risks:** Difficulty in meeting statutory requirements from SARS, UIF, and retirement fund administrators due to inefficiencies and limited system capabilities.
- **Operational Inefficiency:** Duplicate data entry across systems, limited automation, and significant reliance on manual interventions for payroll runs, reconciliations, and reporting.
- Lack of Integration: Minimal integration between payroll, HC, and finance systems, leading to data inconsistencies, delays, and increased error rates.
- **Limited Transparency & Access:** Employees and managers lack real-time self-service access to payslips, benefits information, claims, and approvals, placing additional strain on payroll and HC staff.
- **Inadequate Security & Controls:** Current systems lack robust access controls, encryption, and audit functionality required to safeguard sensitive payroll data and ensure compliance with POPIA.

To address these gaps, SABS requires a modern, integrated payroll solution that will:

- Ensure full compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements (SARS, UIF, retirement funds, medical aids).
- Provide accuracy and efficiency through automation of payroll runs, statutory submissions, and reporting.
- Enable seamless integration with HC, Finance, and ERP systems (Oracle, JD Edwards, etc.).
- Empower employees and managers through **self-service functionality** for payslips, claims, leave, and pay package structuring.
- Provide robust security including role-based access, audit trails, and encryption of payroll data.
- Ensure **scalability and flexibility**, supporting multiple payrolls, cost centers, currencies, and employee types.
- Deliver **long-term operational stability** through a structured support and maintenance agreement, including statutory updates, penetration testing, and system upgrades over a 36-month period.

The payroll system is therefore positioned as a **mission-critical enabler** within the SABS digital transformation journey, underpinning organisational efficiency, compliance, financial control, and employee experience.



2. HC PAYROLL BUSINESS, FUNCTIONAL & SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS - RFP SPECIFICATION

Requirement	Business Need	Functional / Non-Functional	Priority	Integration /
Category		Requirement		Dependencies
Data	Handle diverse workforce	Support multiple payrolls	High	HC Master Data,
Requirements	and entities	(companies/divisions)		Finance
			Medium	Finance, Treasury
	Allocate costs accurately	Multiple cost centers with split-pay	High	Finance (GL, Cost
		option		Centre Accounting)
	Flexible pay structures	Multiple employee types, pay scales, pay rates (hourly, weekly, monthly)	High	HC Job Data
	Manage employee	Multiple banks, medical aids,	High	Vendors (Medical
	benefits	pension/provident funds with default fund allocation		Aid, Pension)
	Retain historical data	Maintain historical payroll & employee pay records	High	HC & Finance Archiving
Employee Master Data	Organisational Management	Ability to create and manage organisational structure Creation of positions and align to correct organization/company, location, job code, title, shift and workdays Audit trail on changes made on the Organisational Structure	High	HC
	Compensation & Benefits	Ability to track salary changes Manage employee benefits	High	НС
	Leave Management	Set up leave parameters Capability to perform batch uploads Allow for user defined calendars Set up reporting to function to ensure workflow management of the employee leave transactions	High	HC
	Administration	Creating, modifying and querying employees and ensure all employee data is captured – eg Biographical, banking, tax, pay, etc Ensure that mandatory fields are completed fully before moving to the next transaction Track and manage onboarding activities Set up reminders for contract end dates Audit logs of all changes and views		HC
Payroll	Ensure accurate and	Standard payroll runs	High	Finance
Processing	compliant payroll	(monthly/weekly/bi-weekly)		



Test and validation before	Dummy payroll simulation capability	High	HC /Finance
execution			
Detect payroll exceptions	Payroll for individual employee	Medium	HC
Accurate net pay	Gross-to-net calculation, accurate statutory deductions and any other employee deductions	High	SARS, UIF
Process	Allowances, loans, garnishes, medical	High	Vendors
allowances/deductions	aid, pension/provident fund		
Manage payroll	Retroactive increases, corrections with	High	HC /Finance
adjustments	full audit trail		
Enable salary	Salary increases (fixed/percentage),	High	HC /Management
management	"What-if" scenario modelling		Approvals
Manage on/off-boarding of employees	Process all employee movement related calculations	High	HC Termination Process
Financial integration	Interface with financial systems (Oracle, JD Edwards, Great Plains)	High	Finance ERP
	GL Integration including leave costing		

	Data import/export ability	Import/export via MS Excel with field	Medium	HC & Finance
		selection		
Reporting	Provide statutory	Generate SARS, UIF, IRP5 Statutory	High	SARS, UIF
	compliance	reports		
	Customization of payroll	Generate ad-hoc, user-defined, and	High	HC & Finance
	reporting	consolidated payroll reports		
	Support management	Internal reports that combine relevant	Medium	HC Planning
	insights	data to provide decision-makers with actionable insights		
	Employment Equity & Skills Development	Customize reports for compliance reporting	High	HC
Employee Self-	Employee Access	Empower employees to independently	High	ESS Portal
Service (ESS)		access and manage their HC data e.g. View/download payslips/IRP5s, online leave applications and viewing of balances		
	Streamline employee data	Update employee information, viewing of	High	ESS Integration
		leave balances		with Payroll
	Deliver employee	Automatic transmission of encrypted	High	ESS Portal
	information	pays lips to employees via email. Bulk distribution of employee information such as increases letters etc.		
	Automated leave workflows	Check leave balances, submit leave application and route approvals accordingly	High	HC, Vendors



HOTAL	Streamline requests	Run leave	High	HC Workflow
	·	applications		
	Enable pay planning	Dummy simulation	Medium	HC /Payroll
Manager Self- Service (MSS)	Improve decision-making	Access workflows for leave applications, confirmation of new hires, etc.	High	MSS Portal
	Improve efficiency	Approve workflows for leave, new hires and terminations. View leave transactions for team. Workflow to various departments (e.g. ICT) for creation of new hires profiles and allocation of laptops	High	HC Workflow
	Support staff	Facilitate employee addition/termination	High	HC Admin
	management	processes		
Security	Protect sensitive payroll	Role-based access control (RBAC),	High	ICT Security, Active
Requirements	and employee financial	read-only/read-write restrictions,		Directory
	data	segregation of duties		
	Secure employee access	Multi-factor authentication (MFA) for payroll and ESS/MSS	High	ICT Security
	Maintain accountability	Comprehensive audit trail at record- level for all logins as well as any payroll transactions performed	High	HC & ICT Audit
	Protect data in motion & at rest	End-to-end encryption (AES256 or equivalent), SSL/TLS for data exchange	High	ICT Infrastructure
	Control privileged access	Workflow overrides only under exceptional approval, with alerts & logging	High	ICT Governance
	Prevent unauthorized entry	IP whitelisting, VPN requirement for remote access	High	Network Security
	Ensure compliance	Alignment with POPIA, GDPR (if applicable), and SARS security guidelines	High	Compliance
System	Ensure resilience against	Annual independent penetration testing	High	Vendor/ ICT
Penetration	cyber threats	covering application, network, and		Security Team
Testing		database layers		
	Validate security fixes	Post-patch penetration/ethical hacking tests after major upgrades	High	ICT Security
	Transparent reporting	Vendor must supply penetration test reports & remediation plan	High	ICT Governance
Support &	Ensure operational	36-month post-implementation support	High	Vendor
Maintenance (36	continuity	& maintenance contract		
Months)				
Months)	Defined support structure	Tiered support (L1–helpdesk, L2–	High	Vendor & Internal



Skilled resources	Minimum vendor team: Payroll	High	Vendor
	Functional Consultant, Payroll Systems		
	Engineer, Application DBA, Security		
	Specialist, Support Manager		
SLA rules	Response Times: Critical issues <4hrs,	High	Vendor Contract
	High <8hrs, Medium <24hrs, Low		
	<72hrs		
Support channels	Multi-channel support (ticketing system,	High	Vendor
	email, hotline)		
Maintenance inclusions	Bug fixes, statutory/tax updates (SARS,	High	Vendor
	UIF), system upgrades, security		
	patches		
Knowledge transfer	Quarterly knowledge-sharing/training	Medium	Vendor & Internal
	sessions with SABS Payroll team		HC
Monitoring & reporting	Vendor must provide monthly support	High	Vendor
	performance reports and compliance		
	with SLA		
Exit/transition planning	Vendor must prepare exit strategy and	High	Vendor & Internal
	documentation for knowledge handover		HC
	at end of 36 months		



3. HUMAN CAPITAL (HC) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Category	Functional Requirement	Description
Goal & Objective	Strategic alignment	Cascading of corporate, divisional, and individual goals.
Setting		
	Individual goal setting	Employees set personal goals aligned to organisational
		strategy.
	KPI/scorecard definition	Configurable KPIs and balanced scorecard formats.
Performance Reviews	Review scheduling	Supports quarterly, mid-year, and annual reviews.
	Configurable templates	Customizable review forms and rating scales.
	360-degree feedback	Peer, subordinate, and manager feedback functionality.
	Automated workflows	Routing of reviews to employees, managers, and HR.
Talent Development	IDP integration	Link individual development plans to review outcomes.
	Learning recommendations	Suggest training and development interventions.
	Succession planning	Tools for identifying and tracking successors for critical roles.
Performance	PIP (Performance Improvement	Ability to create, track, and manage PIPs.
Management	Plan)	
	Calibration	Manager calibration of scores across teams.
Notifications & Alerts	Automated reminders	Email/system alerts for pending reviews, feedback, and
		approvals.
Analytics & Reporting	Dashboards	Real-time performance dashboards for managers and
		executives.
	Standard reports	% completion of reviews, distribution of scores, high/low
		performers.
	Custom reports	Ability to generate custom analytics.
Integration	ERP/HR systems	Interface with payroll, HR records, ERP (Oracle/JDE etc.).
	Data import/export	Secure transfer of employee and performance data.
Security & Access	Role-based permissions	Differentiated access for employees, managers, HR, and
		executives.
		Audit trail for all activities conducted on the system
	POPIA compliance	Ensure data privacy and audit trails.

3. TRAINING & CHANGE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Category Business Need	Requirement	Priority [Dependencies
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User Training	Equip payroll users, HC	Vendor must provide structured training for	High	Training Facilities,
	staff, and finance teams	different user groups: Payroll Admins, HC		User Guides
	with system knowledge	Staff, Finance, ICT Support,		
		Managers, Employees		
	Ensure sustainability	Training must include system navigation,	High	Vendor Trainers
	and skills transfer	payroll processing, statutory		
		reporting,		
		ESS/MSS functions		
	Provide ongoing support	Vendor to provide training manuals, e-	Medium	LMS Integration
		learning modules, quick reference guides,		
		and video tutorials		
Change	Ensure smooth adoption	Vendor to provide a structured change	High	HC & PMO
Management	of payroll system	management plan aligned to SABS digital		
		transformation strategy		
	Manage user transition	Communication plan to inform	High	Internal Comms
		employees/managers of changes and		
		benefits of the new system		
	Support business	Change impact assessment,	Medium	PMO
	readiness	readiness		
	Duild internal caret-195	surveys, and end-user adoption tracking	Himb	LIC /Daymall Comer
	Build internal capability	Train-the-trainer programme to enable	High	HC /Payroll Super
		internal champions within SABS		Users

4. DEPLOYMENT AND HOSTING REQUIREMENTS

Category	Business Need	Requirement	Priority	Dependencies
Deployment	Allow choice of hosting	Vendor must provide options for Cloud	High	ICT
Flexibility	model based on SABS	Hosting (private/public cloud) or On-		Infrastructure
	policies and security posture	Premise Hosting		Strategy
Cloud Hosting	Enable scalability and	Cloud hosting must be secure, POPIA	High	Cloud Service
	remote access	compliant, and hosted within South		Provider
		Africa (data sovereignty requirement)		
	Ensure system resilience	Cloud deployment must include SLAs	High	Vendor
		for uptime (≥99.5%), redundancy,		Infrastructure
		disaster recovery, and backups		
	Security of cloud	Cloud must include ISO 27001 certified	High	ICT Security
	environment	environment, data encryption, and 24/7		
		monitoring		
On-Premises	Support organizations with	On-premises option must be fully	Medium	SABSICT



Hosting	restricted data policies	supported by vendor including setup,		
		installation, and performance tuning		
	Maintenance & upgrades	Vendor must provide support for OS	High	Vendor/ ICT
		updates, database patches, and system		
		upgrades		
Hybrid	Ensure flexibility in future	e Vendor should allow migration between		Vendor/ ICT
Approach	strategy	on-premises and cloud hosting without		
		data loss or extensive re-implementation		
Access	Enable user access	System must be accessible via SABS	High	ICT Security
	securely	Intranet and Internet with secure		
		authentication		

5. LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Licensing Model

Vendors must clearly state their licensing model, including whether it is:

- Per User (Named or Concurrent) specify the number of licences required for payroll admins, HC staff, finance
 users, managers, and employees.
- Enterprise/Organisation-Wide unlimited users across the organisation.
- Subscription-Based (monthly/annual) indicate terms, renewal, and escalation clauses.
- Perpetual Licensing with annual maintenance and support fees.

2. Headcount Coverage

- The payroll system must accommodate a headcount of 850 employees, plus 350 pensioners including:
 - Payroll Administrators ~10 core users with full access.
 - o HC & Finance Users ~40 users requiring edit/reporting rights.
 - Managers ~100 users requiring MSS (approval, reporting).
 - Employees ~700+ users requiring ESS (payslips, leave, claims, banking details).

3. Vendor Requirements

- Vendors must specify:
 - 1. Number of licenses required under their model to cover 850 employees plus 350 pensioners.
 - 2. Scalability provisions (costs for growth to 1,300+ employees).
 - 3. Named vs. concurrent user definitions (if applicable).
 - 4. Whether ESS/MSS licenses are included in the enterprise license or priced separately.
 - 5. Statutory compliance updates (SARS/UIF tax changes) must be included in license/subscription fees.
 - 6. Integration licenses (if separate) for interfacing with Oracle, JD Edwards, medical aid/pension fund vendors.
 - 7. License terms for cloud vs. on-premises deployment.

4. License Cost Transparency

- Vendors must provide a detailed breakdown of:
 - o Initial license acquisition fees.
 - Annual maintenance/support fees.



- o Subscription escalation rates (if subscription-based).
- o Additional license cost per user (for future growth).
- o Any hidden costs (reporting tools, database, middleware).



7. DATA MIGRATION

Scope of Migration

The service provider must:

- Conduct a full migration of all payroll-related data from the existing payroll solution to the new system.
- Ensure migration covers historical and current data, including but not limited to:
 - o Employee master data (personal details, bank details, tax numbers, dependents).
 - o Employment records (contracts, job grades, position history).
 - o Payroll history (earnings, deductions, benefits, allowances, overtime, garnishments).
 - o Leave balances and accruals.
 - o Statutory compliance history (EMP201, EMP501, IRP5, UIF, SDL submissions).
 - o Audit trails and governance records.

Data Assessment and Cleansing

- Conduct a data quality assessment before migration.
- Identify, document, and cleanse duplicate, incomplete, or inconsistent data.
- Provide SABS with a data cleansing report and obtain formal sign-off prior to migration.
- Establish data validation rules to ensure accuracy and completeness.

Migration Approach

The provider must:

- Develop a data migration plan aligned with project timelines.
- Use automated migration tools where possible, with minimal manual handling.
- Ensure mapping of legacy data fields to the new system data structures.



- Provide at least two trial migration runs (mock migrations) before the final cutover.
- Define a rollback/contingency plan in case of migration errors.

Data Verification and Reconciliation

- Perform parallel payroll runs in both systems for at least two consecutive payroll cycles to validate results.
- Provide reconciliation reports comparing:
 - Gross to net pay results.
 - Tax deductions and benefits.
 - Leave balances and accruals.
 - Year-to-date (YTD) values.
- Obtain formal SABS sign-off before production cutover.

Security & Compliance in Migration

- Ensure all data migration activities comply with:
 - o Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA).
 - o SABS data protection and information security policies.
- Apply data encryption during extraction, transfer, and loading.
- Provide an audit trial of all migration activities (including logs of changes).
- Guarantee that no data is stored on provider devices post-migration.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Service Provider:
 - Develop and execute the migration plan.
 - Provide technical and functional migration expertise.
 - Ensure payroll accuracy post-migration.
- SABS:
 - $\circ\quad$ Provide access to existing systems and legacy data.
 - Assign a data owner for validation and approvals.
 - o Participate in user acceptance testing (UAT) for payroll migration.

Deliverables

The provider must deliver:

- Data migration strategy and detailed plan.
- Data cleansing and validation report.
- Data field mapping documents.
- Migration test results and reconciliation reports.
- Final migration cutover report with SABS approval

