



FOR PROFESSIONALS  
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## ONLINE GRADUATE RECRUITMENT TOOL - KEY TO ADDRESSING UNEMPLOYMENT

28 January 2015: Statistics released by the UN Population Fund this month, indicate that South Africa has a 67,2% unemployment rate among young people. In an effort to address the issue of unemployment among South African graduates, PPS has launched the *Professionals Connect* career portal, which aims to provide graduates with career advice and assist in connecting them with employment opportunities within various companies.

According to Rama Govenden, Executive: HR at PPS, more needs to be done to retain the valuable skills that graduates can offer the country. "As many graduates near the end of their studies, we hope that this online tool can assist in preparing them for the working world, as well as help them to find places of employment."

Young professionals are increasingly using the internet, social media and online sites, as their main source of information. Statistics by The Real Time Report, published in June last year, revealed that 5 out of every 6 millennials claim that they connect with companies through social media and other online networks.

Seeing the need, Govenden says that the company created the online portal to assist newly graduated professionals in their efforts of finding employment. "These individuals are in many ways the driving force behind the development of the economy. It is vital that young professionals are placed into jobs as soon as possible after graduation to ensure they do not begin seeking employment overseas, thereby resulting in the loss of further skills in the country."

Govenden explains that the *Professionals Connect* portal offers a wide range of job opportunities and career guidance that exclusively caters for graduate professionals. "The website provides both graduates and professionals with a user-friendly and secure interface for the purpose of networking, career guidance and finding potential jobs or candidates, all within the graduate professional space."

It is very easy to register as a job provider on the portal and vacancies can be posted in a personal capacity or with an organisation, says Govenden. "Job providers are also encouraged to post content that will be relevant to young professionals. The initiative is not designed as a commercial venture, therefore there are no costs involved for job providers to post content."

The new website is a niche career portal dedicated to graduates holding a four-year degree or more.

Visit the website at [www.professionalsconnect.co.za](http://www.professionalsconnect.co.za) to register as a job provider in your personal capacity.