

Manual

Of

Averge Technologies Pty Ltd (Private Body)

Prepared and compiled on 2021-12-13 in accordance with Section 51 of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, No 2 of 2000 (as amended) in respect of Averge Technologies Pty Ltd.

Registration number: 2011/124452/07

Energy
DC Power Systems
Telecommunications
Network Optimization
Specialized Services

Address
Poplar Place Unit 3, 16B Axle
Drive
Clayville, Olifantsfontein

Tel: +27 (0) 12 450 0940
e-mail: sales@averge.co.za

www.averge.co.za

Update: 2021-12-13

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1. INTRODUCTION

Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd operate within the energy and telecommunication industry specialising in innovative DC Power systems; energy; network optimization and telecommunications.

2. THE ACT

The Promotion of Access to Information Act, No 2 of 2000 (“The Act”) was enacted on 3 February 2000, giving effect to the right of access to any information held by Government, as well as any information held by another person who is required for the exercising or protection of any rights. This right is entrenched in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of South Africa. Where a request is made in terms of The Act, the body to which the request is made is not obliged to release the information, except where The Act expressly provides that the information may or must be released. The Act sets out the requisite procedural issues attached to such request.

3. PURPOSE OF THE MANUAL

In order to promote effective governance of private bodies, it is necessary to ensure that everyone is empowered and educated to understand their rights in terms of The Act in order for them to exercise their rights in relation to public and private bodies.

Section 9 of The Act, however, recognizes that such right to access to information cannot be unlimited and should be subject to justifiable limitations, including, but not limited to:

- a. Limitations aimed at the reasonable protection of privacy;
- b. Commercial confidentiality; and
- c. Effective, efficient and good governance

And in a manner that balances that right with any other rights, including such rights contained in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution.

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Wherever reference is made to “Private Body” in this manual, it will refer to Averge Technologies Pty Ltd.

This PAIA Manual assist you to-

- 3.1 check the categories of records held by Averge Technologies Pty Ltd which are available without a person having to submit a formal PAIA request;
- 3.2 have a sufficient understanding of how to make a request for access to a record of Averge Technologies Pty Ltd, by providing a description of the subjects on which Averge Technologies Pty Ltd holds records and the categories of records held on each subject;
- 3.3 know the description of the records of Averge Technologies Pty Ltd which are available in accordance with any other legislation;
- 3.4 access all the relevant contact details of the Information Officer and Deputy Information Officer who will assist you with the records you intend to access;
- 3.5 know the description of the guide on how to use PAIA, as updated by the Regulator and how to obtain access to it;
- 3.6 know if Averge Technologies Pty Ltd will process personal information, the purpose of processing of personal information and the description of the categories of data subjects and of the information or categories of information relating thereto;
- 3.7 know the description of the categories of data subjects and of the information or categories of information relating thereto;
- 3.8 know the recipients or categories of recipients to whom the personal information may be supplied;

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- 3.9 know if Averge Technologies Pty Ltd has planned to transfer or process personal information outside the Republic of South Africa and the recipients or categories of recipients to whom the personal information may be supplied; and
- 3.10 know whether Averge Technologies Pty Ltd has appropriate security measures to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the personal information which is to be processed.

4. CONTACT DETAILS:

Information Officer:
Ettiene De Wet Visser

Postal Address:
Unit 3, Poplar Place
16B Axle Drive
Olifantsfontein
Clayville Industrial
Gauteng
1666

Physical Address:
Unit 3, Poplar Place
16B Axle Drive
Olifantsfontein
Clayville Industrial
Gauteng
1666

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Telephone No:
+27 (0)12 450 0940

E-mail:
evisser@averge.co.za
finance@averge.co.za

Deputy Information Officer:

Johannes Samuel Gouws
+27 (0)12 450 0940
jgouws@averge.co.za

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of **Private Body: Averge
Technologies Pty Ltd**

Registration No:
2011/124452/07

Postal Address: Unit
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16B Axle Drive
Olifantsfontein
Clayville Industrial
Gauteng
1666

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Physical Address (or principal place of business):

Unit 3, Poplar Place
16B Axle Drive
Olifantsfontein
Clayville Industrial
Gauteng
1666

Telephone No:

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E-mail:

evisser@averge.co.za
finance@averge.co.za

Website:

www.averge.co.za

5. GUIDE ON HOW TO USE PAIA AND HOW TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE GUIDE

- 5.1. The Regulator has, in terms of section 10(1) of PAIA, as amended, updated and made available the revised Guide on how to use PAIA ("Guide"), in an easily comprehensible form and manner, as may reasonably be required by a person who wishes to exercise any right contemplated in PAIA and POPIA.
- 5.2. The Guide is available in each of the official languages and in braille.

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- 5.3. The aforesaid Guide contains the description of-
- 5.3.1. the objects of PAIA and POPIA;
 - 5.3.2. the postal and street address, phone and fax number and, if available, electronic mail address of-
 - 5.3.2.1 the Information Officer of every public body, and
 - 5.3.2.2 every Deputy Information Officer of every public and private body designated in terms of section 17(1) of PAIA and section 56 of POPIA;
 - 5.3.3 the manner and form of a request for-
 - 5.3.3.1 access to a record of a public body contemplated in section 11 of PAIA; and
 - 5.3.3.2 access to a record of a private body contemplated in section 50 of PAIA;
 - 5.3.4 the assistance available from the IO of a public body in terms of PAIA and POPIA;
 - 5.3.5 the assistance available from the Regulator in terms of PAIA and POPIA;
 - 5.3.6 all remedies in law available regarding an act or failure to act in respect of a right or duty conferred or imposed by PAIA and POPIA, including the manner of lodging-
 - 5.3.6.1 an internal appeal;
 - 5.3.6.2 a complaint to the Regulator; and

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- 5.3.6.3 an application with a court against a decision by the information officer of a public body, a decision on internal appeal or a decision by the Regulator or a decision of the head of a private body;
- 5.3.7 the provisions of sections 14 and 51 of PAIA requiring a public body and private body, respectively, to compile a manual, and how to obtain access to a manual;
- 5.3.8 the provisions of sections 15 and 52 of PAIA providing for the voluntary disclosure of categories of records by a public body and private body, respectively;
- 5.3.9 the notices issued in terms of sections 22 and 54 of PAIA regarding fees to be paid in relation to requests for access; and
- 5.3.10 the regulations made in terms of section 92 of PAIA.
- 5.4 Members of the public can inspect or make copies of the Guide from the offices of the public and private bodies, including the office of the Regulator, during normal working hours.
- 5.5 The Guide can also be obtained-
 - 5.5.1 upon request to the Information Officer;
 - 5.5.2 from the website of the Regulator (<https://www.justice.gov.za/inforeg/>).
- 5.6 A copy of the Guide is also available in two official languages, for public inspection during normal office hours.

6. RECORDS AUTOMATICALLY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

Types of the Record	Category of Records	Available on Website	Available upon Request
BBBEE Certificate	Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act 53 of 2003	No	Yes
Registration Certificate	Trade Marks Act 194 of 1993	No	Yes
Terms and Conditions of Use of Website, Privacy Policy	Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 25 of 2002	No	Yes
PAIA Manual	Promotion of Access to information Act 2 of 2000	Yes	Yes

7. RECORDS OF THE PRIVATE BODY

This clause serves as a reference to the records that the **Private Body** holds in order to facilitate a request in terms of **The Act**.

The information is classified and grouped according to records relating to the following subject and categories: It is recorded that the accessibility of the documents listed herein below, may be subject to the grounds of refusal set out hereinafter.

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Subjects on which the body holds records	Categories of records
Companies Act Records	Registration certificate
	Memorandum of incorporation
	Minutes of Director meetings
	Records relating to the appointment of directors
	Share Register and other statutory registers
Financial Records	Annual Financial Statements and management accounts
	Tax returns
	Accounting records
	Bank statements
	Electronic banking records
	Asset register
	Rental agreements
	Invoices and credit notes
	Stock history
	Exchange control approvals and remittances
	Import documentation
Insurance policies, claims and payouts	
Income Tax Records	PAYE records
	Documents issued to employees for Income Tax purposes
	Records of payments made to SARS on behalf of employees
	VAT number and returns
	Skills development levies
	UIF
Human Resources Records	Workmens Compensation
	Employment contracts
	Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Certificate
	Employment Equity Plan
	Disciplinary records
	Salary records
SETA records	

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	Disciplinary code
	Organisational chart
	Leave records
	Training records and manuals
	Policies and procedures
	Health and Safety Records
Public Relations Records	Media releases and schedules
	Product Technical Details
	Corporate Social Responsibility Records
	Affiliated partners and agents
	Website terms and conditions
Marketing Records	Marketing information and schedules
	Customer information and product brochures
	Product sales records
	Marketing strategies
	Customer Database
	Field Records (Market Surveys)
	Performance records
Production / Warehouse	Product data, Supplier and distribution records
Legal Records	General Contract Documentation
Quality Records	Quality Records

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8. RECORDS REQUIRED IN TERMS OF LEGISLATION

Records are kept in accordance with legislation applicable to Averge Technologies PtyLtd, which includes but is not limited to, the following –

Category of Records	Applicable Legislation
Employment Equity Plan	Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998
BBBEE Certificate	Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act 53 of 2003
Compensation payments, assessments and letter of goods standing	Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Disease Act 130 of 1993
Registration and declaration of employees	Unemployment Insurance Act 63 of 2001
VAT clearance certificate	Value Added Tax Act 89 of 1991
Income clearance certificate	Income Tax Act 58 of 1962
Work place skills plan and annual training report (ATR)	Skills Development Act 9 of 1999
Registration Certificate	Trade Marks Act 194 of 1993
Terms and Conditions of Use of website, privacy policy	Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 25 of 2002
PAIA Manual	Promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000

Reference to the above-mentioned legislation shall include subsequent amendments and secondary legislation to such legislation.

9. PROCESSING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

9.1 Purpose of Processing Personal Information

- to pursue our business objectives and strategies;
- to communicate with data subject and attending to enquiries and request;
- to promote safety, integrity and security;
- to select and personalise advertisements, offers and other sponsored content;

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- to develop, test and improve our Products/Services and/or our Site, including by conducting surveys and research;
- testing and troubleshooting new products and services and features;
- verifying information provided to Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd;
- receiving and tracking complaints;
- historical record keeping, research and recording statistics necessary for fulfilling Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd business objectives;
- for the purpose of preventing fraud and abuse of our processes, systems, procedures and operations, including conducting internal and external investigations and disciplinary enquiries and hearings;
- to carry out actions for the conclusion and performance of a contract;
- to obtain, by law or to protect the respective party's legitimate interests, personal information from a credit bureau or credit provider or credit association information about a data subject's credit record, including personal information about any judgement or default history;
- for the purposes of performing internal operations, including management of employees, employee wellness programmes, the performance of all required HR functions, call centres, customer care lines and enquiries, attending to all financial matters including budgeting, planning, invoicing, facilitating and making payments, making deliveries, sending receipts, and generally providing commercial support, where needed, requested or required;
- for any other purposes legally authorised to do and as is allowed by law.

9.2 Description of the categories of Data Subjects and of the information or categories of information relating thereto

The Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd holds information and records on the following category of data subjects:

- Employees / personnel of Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd;
- Clients of Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd;
- Any third party with whom Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd conducts its business services;

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- Contractors of Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd;
- Suppliers of Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd;
- Service providers of Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd.

This list of categories of data subjects is non-exhaustive.

9.3 The recipients or categories of recipients to whom the personal information may be supplied

- regulatory, statutory and government bodies;
- suppliers, service providers, vendors, agents and representatives of Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd;
- employees of Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd;
- shareholders and other stakeholders;
- third party verification agencies and credit bureau;
- collection agencies;
- banks and other financial institutions.

9.4 Planned transborder flows of personal information

If a data subject visits Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd website, the various communications may result in the transfer of information across international boundaries.

Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd may need to transfer a data subject's information to service providers in countries outside South Africa, in which case it will fully comply with applicable data protection legislation.

These countries may not have data-protection laws which are similar to those of South Africa.

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9.5 General description of Information Security Measures to be implemented by the responsible party to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the information

Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd takes extensive information security measures to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of personal information in our possession.

Averge Technologies (Pty) Ltd takes appropriate technical and organisational measures designed to ensure that personal data remains confidential and secure against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage.

10. REQUEST PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION

Access to records held by the PRIVATE BODY

Records held by the **Private Body** may be accessed by request only once the prerequisites for access have been met.

The requester must fulfil the prerequisites for access in terms of **The Act**, including the payment of a requested access fee.

The requester must comply with all the procedural requirements contained in **The Act** relating to the request for access to a record.

The requester must complete the prescribed Form and submit same as well as payment of a request fee and a deposit, if applicable, to the Information Officer at the postal or physical address, fax number or electronic mail address as stated herein.

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The prescribed form must be filled in with enough particulars to at least enable the Information Officer to identify –

- The record or records requested;
- The identity of the requester,
- Which form of access is required, if the request is granted;
- The postal address or fax number or email address of the requester.

The requester must state that he/she requires the information in order to exercise or protect a right, and clearly state what the nature of the right to be exercised or protected is. In addition, the requester must clearly specify why the record is necessary to exercise or protect such a right.

The **Private Body** will process the request within 30 days, unless the requester has stated a special reason that would satisfy the Information Officer that circumstances dictate that the above time periods are not complied with.

The requester shall be informed whether access has been granted or denied. If, in addition, the requester requires the reason for the decision in any other manner, he /she must state the manner and the particulars so required.

If a request is made on behalf of another person, then the requester must submit proof of the capacity in which the requesters making the request, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Information Officer.

If an individual is unable to complete the prescribed form because of illiteracy or disability, such a person may make the request orally.

The requester must pay the prescribed fee before any further processing can take place.

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11. FEES

When the Information Officer receives the request, such Officer shall by notice require the requester to pay the prescribed request fee (if any), before any further processing of the request.

If the search for the record has been made in the preparation of the record for disclosure, including arrangements to make it available in the requested form, and it requires more than the hours prescribed in the regulation for this purpose, the Information Officer shall notify the requester to pay as a deposit the prescribed portion of the access fee which would be payable if the request is granted.

The Information Officer shall withhold a record until the requester has paid the Fees as indicated.

A requester, whose request for access to a record has been granted, must pay an access fee for reproduction and for search and preparation, and for any time reasonably required in excess of the prescribed hours to search for and prepare the record for disclosure, including making arrangements to make it available in the requested form.

If a deposit has been paid in respect of a request for access, which is refused, then the Information Officer concerned must repay the deposit to the requester.

12. GROUNDS FOR REFUSAL OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The main grounds for the **Private Body** to refuse a request for information relate to the:

Mandatory protection of the privacy of a third party that is a natural person that would involve the unreasonable disclosure of personal information of that natural person;

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Mandatory protection of the commercial information of a third party, if the record contains:

- Trade secrets of that third party;
- Financial, commercial, scientific or technical information, disclosure of which could likely cause harm to the financial or commercial interests of that third party;

- Information disclosed in confidence by a third party to the Private Body, if the disclosure could put that third party at a disadvantage in negotiations or commercial competition

Mandatory protection of confidential information of third parties if it is protected in terms of any agreement;

Mandatory protection of confidential information of the protection of property;

Mandatory protection of records that would be regarded as privileged in legal proceedings;

The commercial activities of the **Private Body**, which may include:

- d.** Trade secrets of the **Private Body**;
- e.** Financial, commercial, scientific or technical information, disclosure which could likely cause harm to the financial or commercial interest of the **Private Body**;
- f.** Information which, if disclosed could put the **Private Body** at a disadvantage in negotiations or commercial competition;
- g.** A computer program, owned by the **Private Body**, and protected by copyright.

The research information of the **Private Body** or a third party, if its disclosure would reveal the identity or the **Private Body**, the researcher or the subject matter of the research and would place the research at a serious disadvantage;

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Requests for information that are clearly frivolous or vexatious, or which would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources shall be refused.

13. DECISION

The **Private Body** will within 30 days of receipt of the request, decide whether to grant or decline the request and give notice with reasons (if required) to that effect.

The 30 day period within which the **Private Body** has to decide whether to grant or refuse the request, may be extended for further period of not more than thirty days if the request is for a large amount of information, or the request requires a search for information held at another office of the **Private Body** and the information cannot reasonably be obtained within the original 30 day period. The **Private Body** will notify the requester in writing should an extension be sought.

AVAILABILITY OF THE MANUAL

The manual of the **Private Body** is available at the premises of the Private body as well as on the website of the **Private Body**.

Signed by: _____



Date: 2021/12/21

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