

OFM MD resigns to join AME

Lyndon Johnstone, OFM's MD, will be leaving the radio station to work with African Media Entertainment from March 2008, the station announced yesterday, Monday, 3 December 2007. AME, a JSE-listed company, is the majority shareholder of OFM.

Inus Prinsloo, current chairman of the OFM board and Caxton's representative on the AME board, says he is delighted to have someone of Johnstone's calibre joining AME's team. "Lyndon is a radio man through and through, and his experience will prove invaluable as AME further builds its reputation as one of Africa's leading radio company's."

Johnstone says the time has come for him to hand the reins over to the next generation of leaders to take OFM on its path of growth and expansion. "The goals I have set for myself and the station in 2003 have been achieved, and I can leave knowing that OFM is in a healthy state and in good hands."

He is excited at the prospect of working within the broader radio industry, and says that the position's key deliverables will be working to further improve AME's ability to take advantage of emerging opportunities within the current radio environment. A further goal will be to improve the current communication and interaction between all players in the industry to further the medium's overall growth.

Johnstone's track record is admirable since joining OFM in 1999 as deputy MD. Since taking over the reins in 2003, OFM's audience has increased by over 55%, while gross revenue is up 80% over that period. Several innovative initiatives were also launched in that period, including Mahareng Publishing and Redstar Talent as well as WOMF in central South Africa.

OFM is expected to announce a successor before his departure.