

# Xpanse buys 12% stake in Khauleza

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Privately-owned Xpanse Investments has bought a 12% stake in technology firm Khauleza IT Solutions, it said on Friday (23 November). The companies did not disclose the value of the stake. Khauleza is partly owned by JSE-listed Mustek (MST)

Xpanse will assist Khauleza to grow its national network of small, micro and medium enterprises (SMMEs) which will manage equipment warranties on behalf of customers in addition to rendering on-site maintenance services for most leading computer, printer and peripheral brands.

It also procures goods and services on behalf of customers, saving them the effort of having to contractually partner with numerous vendors and specialist service providers.

"We've long been a believer in the unique linkages between information communication technology (ICT) and logistics. Partnering upstream with service and maintenance companies in ICT is even more important today in the dynamic marketplace in which we compete," said Xpanse chief executive Innocentia Motau.

Khauleza also runs a technology facility that manages end-to-end deployment and ongoing management of customers' data centres.

Raymond Risk, the managing director of Khauleza, said: "The transaction underscores the great value we and our partners created in establishing Khauleza IT Solutions and sets our company on a path for even greater achievements in the future."

Since its inception in 2003, Xpanse has mainly participated in mining, advertising, maritime transport and logistics.

Motau said the acquisition was a tremendous opportunity to enhance Xpanse's industry-leading portfolio of investments in maritime transport and logistics, while also strategically entering the ICT market.