Sentech loses high court battle

By Duncan McLeod: @mcleodd

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South African state-owned broadcast signal distribution company Sentech has lost a high court battle with e.tv sister company eBotswana over the piracy of television signals in Botswana.

This follows an application by eBotswana to the high court in Johannesburg against Sentech over the latter's alleged failure to secure the encryption on its Vivid digital satellite platform.

eBotswana alleged that Sentech was not encrypting SABC channels broadcast to SA's northern neighbour, leading to pirate viewing of the public broadcaster's channels and damaging that country's broadcasting sector. It alleged Sentech had done nothing to rectify Vivid's security problems.

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Award-wining Duncan McLeod is the founder and editor of TechCentral (www.TechCentral.co.za, @TechCentral]]), South Africa's latest technology news site offering breaking news, in-depth analysis and opinion that launched in September 2009. Before that, he was associate editor at the *Financial Mail*/*FM*. Contact Duncan on email duncan at techcentral dot co dot za and follow him on Twitter at @mcleodd.

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