# TO BEE OR NOT TO BEE

How to maintain compliance when transitioning from a Qualifying Small Enterprise (QSE) to a **Generic Entity** 



Welcome to the sixth and final newsletter aimed at helping you better understand the Amended B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice and the Amended B-BBEE Financial Services Codes.



This issue focuses on maintaining compliance as you transition from a Qualifying Small Enterprise to a Generic entity.

This move can represent economic and sustainable growth for an entity. However, it can be daunting when it comes to complying with the Amended B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice.

# What is a Generic entity?

A Generic entity is a company with an annual turnover of **above R50m**. They are required to comply with the full **generic scorecard** or their **sector-specific** scorecard. While QSEs with more than 51% black ownership are exempted from being rated on the full scorecard, Generic entities do not have such a benefit.

All companies with a turnover above the threshold are required to comply with the generic scorecard, regardless of their black ownership.





## What is a Generic Scorecard?

B-BBEE compliance is measured against five elements and points that are combined into a scorecard. A number of **points** and targets are allocated to each of these elements and scores are based on the implementation of each element. The recognition level attained is based on the total score.

# THE SUMMARISED GENERIC SCORECARD

#### ELEMENT

#### **OWNERSHIP**

Measures the effective ownership of enterprises by black people. Measured as at date of verification.

### POINTS

#### **PRIORITY ELEMENT**

# Yes

+5 bonus points



25



Measures the effective control of enterprises by black people. Measured as at the current payroll.









points for Ownership.

the total weighting points (excluding bonus points), for Skills Development.

Development is **40% of the total** weighting points (excluding) bonus points) of each of the three broad categories within the Enterprise and Supplier Development element, namely:

- **Preferential Procurement Enterprise Development** and
- **Supplier Development**

Priority elements are the **fundamental elements** of the scorecard that were identified to address the key objectives of the B-BBEE Act.



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### What is the process to compliance?

The compliance process can be a **lengthy and daunting** task so assessment of each B-BBEE Scorecard element needs a **structured solution** unique to each entity. As a generic entity try to develop a **realistic B-BBEE plan** that is sustainable.

To maintain compliance after transition, Business Partners are encouraged to follow the below steps

Understand the generic scorecard detailed above and what each element means. This will help with the basic understanding of your gaps within your scorecard and drive the strategy to achieve a higher score.

How well do you understand the B-BEE Generic Scorecard? If you have limited knowledge or its your first year of being verified, consider appointing a **qualified B-BBEE consultant or advisory** firm. Santam Group can refer you to a reputable company that can help you develop tailored strategies and solutions to optimise your **B-BBEE score**.

If you can work through the B-BBEE Scorecard and targets on your own, ensure your **B-BBEE** targets are set. Put a plan in place to meet the requirements and monitor it quarterly.

Understand what constitutes revenue for your entity and check that all pass-through revenue has been disclosed on your financials, so the rating agency is able to **exclude the amounts** from your overall revenue recognition. A business partner's revenue may have **exceeded the threshold** through pass-through revenue which is not recognised as its own, hence it's important that this aspect is cleared with your accountants. If the business partner has included and recognised pass-through revenue as its own, then the revenue will be taken as stated and third-party

procurement exclusion will not be allowed.

Have your forecasted **detailed income statement** available for planning. The BEE Verification for the Skills Development, Enterprise & Supplier Development and Socio-Economic Development elements are based on the financial year period and an entity cannot claim B-BBEE spend outside of that. The final forecast must be completed **no later than quarter one** of your financial year, to allow for B-BBEE planning and implementation.

On understanding of strategy, complete a **competitor analysis** to understand whether aiming for a **higher score** would be realistic against the budget. If your overall strategy is to be at a **higher** score than competitors, you will have a higher chance of being awarded contracts/work versus your competitors.

Understand the **supporting documents** that are required during the BEE Verification process and ensure these are **sufficient and acceptable** for each element.

Appoint a ratings agency that will verify your company and issue you with a SANAS accredited **BEE** certification.

We also encourage **B-BBEE training** to further enhance knowledge so you can **manage the process internally** if budget does not allow for an outsourced B-BBEE consultant/advisor.



If your entity belongs to any sector code, thresholds applicable to the generic entities differ and may affect compliance.

Having worked through the basics of transitioning from QSE to a generic, business partners are encouraged to:



**Review** forecasts with their accountants and determine if revenue shall exceed R50m.



Follow the stipulated steps to maintaining compliance.





Should you have further questions or require assistance, please email our Transformation Team at SantamTransformation@santam.co.za.

Thank you for reading! We hope you found this series informative and useful.

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