

# Increase in Cup ATM's essential

## **KATLEGO KALAMANE**

THE need for safe and cost effective cash dispensing points is on the rise, says an independent Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) supplier.

Marc Sternberg, managing director of Spark ATM Systems said this week that with a massive influx of visitors expected in the country during 2010, an accessible and secure place to withdraw cash will undoubtedly be a high priority.

He added that independent ATMs were bound to be appreciated by both customers and merchants.

"Traveller's cheque usage has dropped off in recent years and those visiting South African cities during the World Cup will require plenty of hard cash to spend at hotels, restaurants, bars and other areas of entertainment.

"As the host country, we need to ensure that we can offer this as the majority of visitors will be from countries where it is the norm to find independent ATMs readily available," Sternberg said.

"There is a shortage of ATMs in the hubs in and around 2010 stadiums and we are already seeing demand which we expect to increase in the months leading up to kick-off."

Advocate Clive Pillay, ombudsman for Banking Services urged customers to be especially vigilant when drawing money as there is always "heightened criminal activity" around big events such as the World Cup.

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