

TAX ALERT

Sharing of Tax Reference Numbers (TRN) with Third-Parties

1 November 2018

In terms of section 68 of the Tax Administration Act No.28 of 2011, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) can share Tax Reference Numbers (TRN) to third party reporting entities. SARS has agreed to provide income TRNs of individuals to all third-party reporting entities, such as employers, banks, life companies, medical aids, pension funds, etc.

A third-party will be able to create a bulk file (size limited to 1 Gig) with the demographical details of the employees or clients. The Business Requirement Specification (BRS) format has been finalised but SARS is busy with testing and the BRS will be published on the SARS website once the testing has been completed.

This function will go live on 8 December 2018 and third-parties will be able to request data from that date. The name of an employee or client can appear on more than one bulk file and the TRN will be provided each time. The number will only be provided if the demographical data provided by the third-party matches the demographical data of SARS. In the event where it does not validate a no-validation reason will be provided.

It is the intention of SARS to make this available for TRN for value added tax, pay as you earn and income tax in 2019. A real-time option will be rolled out in the future.

Once the link is published we will incorporate it into Integritax Weekly.

