Request for Sanitary Waste Collection and Disposal Services for Saldanha Terminal

Scope

The purpose of this Scope of Work is to outline the requirement for appointing an accredited sanitary waste management service provider to collect, transport, and dispose of sanitary waste generated at our facility. Currently, sanitary waste is being disposed of together with general municipal waste, which is non-compliant with environmental and waste management legislation.

Background and Motivation

Sanitary waste also referred to as hygiene waste or healthcare risk waste includes used sanitary pads, tampons, and other hygiene products. This waste stream carries potential health and environmental risks and cannot be disposed of in general waste bins.

Disposing of sanitary waste with municipal waste exposes the facility to:

- Environmental non-compliance
- Health and hygiene risks
- Legal implications under waste legislation
- Negative audit findings and reputational damage

To ensure compliance and the safe management of sanitary waste, the facility requires a specialized service provider to supply a large sanitary waste bin. Our cleaner will collect the waste from the four smaller sanitary bins and transfer it into the larger bin, ensuring that all waste is consolidated at a single collection point. The service provider will then collect the waste on a scheduled basis and dispose of it through approved and licensed disposal methods.

Legal Requirements

National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008)

- Classifies sanitary waste as healthcare risk waste.
- Prohibits mixing hazardous/healthcare waste with general waste.
- Requires waste to be collected and disposed of by licensed service providers.

Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993)

- Requires maintenance of sanitary and hygienic workplace conditions.

- Improper disposal of sanitary waste exposes employees to biological hazards.

Municipal By-Laws

- Municipal waste systems are not licensed to accept sanitary/healthcare waste mixed with general waste.
- Non-compliance may result in penalties or enforcement actions.

ISO 14001:2015 Requirements

- Requires proper classification, handling, storage, and disposal of waste.
- Mixing sanitary waste with general waste constitutes a non-conformance.

Risks Associated with Current Practice

If sanitary waste continues to be mixed with municipal waste, the facility faces:

- Non-compliance with environmental and OHS legislation
- Increased health risks to employees and cleaning personnel
- Potential contamination and unpleasant odours
- Audit findings during ISO 14001, SABS, or internal audits
- Legal consequences, fines, or enforcement actions
- Reputational damage

Scope of Work for Service Provider

The appointed service provider will be responsible for:

- Supply two bulk sanitary bins.
- Supply of sanitary bin liner bags
- Supply of toilet wet wipes
- Collection of sanitary waste at scheduled basis.
- Safe transportation of waste using licensed vehicle.
- Disposal at an authorised waste facility.
- Provide disposal certificates for compliance.
- Cleaning/sanitizing of two bulk sanitary bins.
- Ensuring full compliance with NEM: Waste Act, OHS Act, and municipal by-laws.

Conclusion

Appointing a professional sanitary waste disposal company is essential for ensuring legal compliance, protecting employee health, maintaining hygiene standards, and preventing audit findings.