

**Product Segment  
Process Architecture  
and Design**

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*South African Revenue Service*

Lehae la SARS  
299 Bronkhorst Street,  
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Dear Valued Trader

**UPDATE ON THE MODERNISATION OF THE DIESEL REFUNDS SYSTEM**

SARS is committed to modernising Excise systems to provide traders with a digitally enhanced, streamlined experience that optimises service delivery and compliance. As part of this commitment, we are developing the Diesel Refunds system to create a dedicated platform for qualifying users and sellers to register and claim diesel refunds under Schedule 6 of the Customs and Excise Act.

The modernised Diesel Refunds system introduces several key advancements which include:

- Diesel refunds will be processed independently as a standalone refund from VAT.
- Enhanced traceability through the mandatory registration of sellers, improving oversight and compliance across the supply chain.
- Provision of online status updates, allowing users to track the progress of their claims in real time.
- Automated validations built into the system, designed to minimise errors and reduce processing delays.

**Phases of the Diesel Refund Update**

- **January 2026:** closed-group pilot with specified traders to test the system's efficiency before full roll-out.
- **April 2026:** complete registration opens to all traders, with the current VAT-based process continuing in parallel for a period to deliver a smooth transition.



*South African Revenue Service*

During an information session held on 27 November 2025, SARS outlined the transition process from a manual diesel refunds system to a streamlined, data-driven platform aligned with our broader digital transformation. The presentation document reviewed in this session will be available on the SARS website under the Diesel Refunds page.

SARS will host similar sessions leading up to the re-registration period in April 2026 to keep traders well-informed and to provide detailed guidance for each phase. Additionally, we will communicate future dates and agendas for upcoming information sessions in advance.

Guides, FAQs and other relevant material will also be published on the SARS website ahead of each phase of the rollout.

As we modernise the Diesel Refund System for the benefit of all stakeholders, we thank you for your collaboration. We value your partnership and look forward to welcoming you to an improved system.

For more information, please visit the Diesel Refunds page on the SARS website. Queries can be directed via email to [rlaregistrations@sars.gov.za](mailto:rlaregistrations@sars.gov.za).

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Anand Khelawon', written over a horizontal line.

**Anand Khelawon**

**Product Owner: Excise**

**THE SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE**