



Complaints Policy and Procedure

VH Fibre Optics (Pty) Ltd

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Purpose	3
2.	Definition	3
3.	How complaint can be made	3
4.	Information required	4
5.	Recording of complaints	5
6.	Feedback	5
7.	Process	6
8.	Complaints about employees	7
9.	Complaints about Compliance/POPIA	8

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This document contains 8 pages

1. Purpose

VH Fibre Optics seeks to maintain and enhance our reputation of providing you with high quality products and services. We value complaints as they assist us to improve our products, services and customer service.

This policy has been designed to provide guidance to both our customers and staff on the manner in which VH Fibre Optics receives and manages your complaint. We are committed to being consistent, fair and impartial when handling your complaint.

The objective of this policy is to ensure:

- You are aware of our complaint lodgment and handling processes.
- Both you and our staff understand our complaints handling process.
- Your complaint is investigated impartially with a balanced view of all information or evidence.
- We take reasonable steps to actively protect your personal information.
- Your complaint is considered on its merits considering individual circumstances and needs.

2. Definition of a complaint

In this policy a complaint means an expression of dissatisfaction by a customer relating to the service provided by us.

3. How a complaint can be made

VH Fibre Optics is committed to being responsive to the needs and concerns of our customers or potential customers and to resolving your complaint as quickly as possible.

To improve our customer service and keep on Delivering the Exceptional, VH Fibre Optics has introduced dedicated mailboxes for complaints.

If you have a complaint about compliance/POPIA, or if you are dissatisfied with the service provided by us, you should in the first instance consider speaking directly with the staff member/s you have been dealing with.

If you are uncomfortable with this or consider the relevant staff member is unable to address your concerns you can lodge a complaint with us in one of the following ways:

- *By telephoning us on 011 791 4177*
- *If you have any complaints regarding orders, stock, customer service or any other VH Fibre Optics related issues, please feel free to email them through to info@vhfibre.co.za*
- *If you have any compliance/POPIA related issues, feel free to email compliance@vhfibre.co.za*

If we receive your complaint verbally and we consider it appropriate, we may ask you to put your complaint in writing.

4. Information needed

When we are investigating your complaint, we will be relying on information provided by you and information we may already be holding. We may need to contact you to clarify details or request additional information where necessary. To help us investigate your complaint quickly and efficiently we will ask you for the following information:

- Your name and contact details,

- The name of the person you have been dealing with about your service.
- The nature of the complaint,
- Details of any steps you have already taken to resolve the complaint,
- Details of conversations you may have had with us that may be relevant to your complaint,
- Copies of any documentation which supports your complaint.

5. Recording complaints

When taking a complaint, we may be required to record your name and contact details. We may also record all details of your complaint including the facts and the cause/s of your complaint, the outcome and any actions taken following the investigation of your complaint. We may also record all dates and times relating to actions taken to resolve the complaint and communications between us.

As part of our on-going improvement plan, complaints will be monitored for any identifying trends by management and rectification/remedial action taken to mitigate any identified issues.

If you lodge a complaint, we will record your personal information solely for the purposes of addressing your complaint. Your personal details will actively be protected from disclosure, unless you expressly consent to its disclosure.

6. Feedback

VH Fibre Optics is committed to resolving your issues at the first point of contact, however, this will not be possible in all circumstances, in which case a more formal complaints process will be followed.

We will acknowledge receipt of your complaint within three (3) business days. Once your complaint has been received, we will undertake an initial review of your complaint.

There may be circumstances during the initial review or investigation of your complaint where we may need to clarify certain aspects of your complaint or request additional documentation from you.

The purpose of seeking clarification or additional documentation and provide you with feedback on the status of your complaint at that time. We are committed to resolving your complaint within 10 business days of you lodging your complaint, however, this may not always be possible on every occasion. Where we have been unable to resolve your complaint within 10 business days, we will inform you of the reason for the delay and specify a date when we will be in a position to finalize your complaint.

During the initial review or investigation stage we may need to seek further clarification or documentation from you to assist us in resolving your complaint.

If we have sought clarification or additional documentation from you and we are waiting on you to provide this information, we may not be able to meet our 10-business day finalisation commitment. In such circumstances upon receipt of your clarification or additional documentation we will indicate to you when we expect to be able to finalise your complaint.

Once we have finalised your complaint, we will advise you of our findings and any action we have taken. We will do this in writing, unless it has been mutually agreed that we can provide it to you verbally. You have the right to make enquiries about the current status of your complaint at any time by contacting us.

7. Process

- **We acknowledge:** Within three business days of receiving your complaint we will acknowledge receipt of your complaint.

- **We review:** We undertake an initial review of your complaint and determine what if any additional information or documentation may be required to complete an investigation. We may need to contact you to clarify details or request additional information where necessary.
- **We investigate:** Within 10 business days of receiving your complaint we will investigate your complaint objectively and impartially, by considering the information you have provided us, our actions in relation to your dealings with us and any other information which may be available, that could assist us in investigating your complaint.
- **We respond:** Following our investigation, we will notify you of our findings and any actions we may have taken in regard to your complaint.
- **We take action:** Where appropriate we amend our business practices or policies.
- **We record:** We will record your complaint for continuous improvement process and monitoring through regular review, your personal information will be recorded in accordance with relevant privacy legislation.

8. Complaints about employees

If you complain about a member of our staff, we will treat your complaint confidentially, impartially, and equally (giving equal treatment to all people). We will investigate your complaint thoroughly by finding out the relevant facts, speaking with the relevant people and verifying explanations where possible.

We will also treat our staff member objectively by:

- informing them of any complaint about their performance.
- Providing them with an opportunity to explain the circumstances.
- Providing them with appropriate support
- Updating them on the complaint investigation and the result.

9. Complaints about Compliance/POPIA

If an Information Supplier, Responsible Party or Data Subject feels that the company has acted outside of the requirements of POPI or in terms of the conditions by which the Company has processed a Data Subject's Personal Information, we would like to invite such a person to address their complaint to us in writing.

The POPI Act deals with complaints in some length under Chapter 10 (Enforcement). In terms of section 74, any person may submit a complaint to the Information Regulator in the prescribed manner and form alleging interference with the protection of personal information of a Data Subject. A complaint to the Regulator must be made in writing.