Schalk Heunis, Managing Executive Big Data, AI & RPA (Vodacom) schalk.heunis@vodacom.co.za - December 1, 2022

Reference Letter for Jacques Booysen applying for a Senior Data Scientist Position:

To Whom It May Concern:

I met Jacques at Enerweb where we worked together on various research projects for Eskom research for 2 years 2010-2012. I worked closely with him again in 2016-2017 on the Climate Resilient Optimal Energy Planning and Market Analysis Botswana-South Africa (BOSA) Interconnector where he was my understudy. These projects focused on coal based and renewable energy and leveraged data, statistics, algorithm development and machine learning to support resource allocation and investment decisions.

Jacques is an independent thinker that is able to deliver quality robust research based both on existing literature and also synthesizing novel approaches which was published and presented at local energy conferences. He implemented many of these research outputs into software systems and applications and are still used today to inform strategic and tactical investment decisions.

My qualification is PhD (Stell) on Probabilistic Methods Applied to Power Systems and based on my extensive experience over 20 years can attest that the work we did with Jacques was on/above Masters levels. For example:

- Regional electricity load profile subclasses for distribution network planning
- Domestic building density estimates for network planning
- Climate Resilient Optimal Energy Planning and Market Analysis Botswana-South Africa
- National Load Research Program

I can assure that his practical experience is much higher than his current qualifications. Please let me know if I can provide any more information to strengthen Jacques's adequacy for a specific data scientist job position.

He is very passionate about solving problems, and I trust he will go far in making our world a better place.

Sincerely,

Schalk Heunis

PhD (Stell)