



Paratus Board of Directors

Bartholomeus Roelof Jacobus (Barney) Harmse (54)

(Executive Director)

Appointed: 25 September 2019

Nationality: Namibian

Function: Group Executive Chairman - Paratus Group

Background: Barney Harmse is a Namibian who matriculated from Academia High School in Windhoek in 1988. Directly after high-school Barney took up employment in the Government as a computer programmer at the old Personnel Institution, which forms part of the Office of the Prime Minister today. After Government he joined BCS Computers in 1991 as a Programmer, that provided Insurance Systems to the Insurance industry for Brokers and Insurance companies on a Bureau basis. It is during this time at BCS Computers that Barney fell in love with his new passion, WAN Networking. Barney has an impressive 30-year career in the networking and telecommunications service industry in Africa and has reached multiple milestones during this period. Barney was instrumental in establishing commercial Internet in Namibia. He co-founded the original UUNET Internet Africa in Namibia which is MTN today. Since 1996, he was the MD of UUNET Namibia for 7 years until 2002. After UUNET, during the last 21 years, he has co-founded various companies in Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Botswana, Mozambique as well as South Africa.

Today these companies all form part of the Paratus Group, and deliver product and service to more than 35 African countries. In August of 2022, Barney took up the position of Executive Chairman of the Group. The Paratus Group has over 600 dedicated employees in Africa. These employees represent more than 5000 family members, to whom Paratus provides for daily.