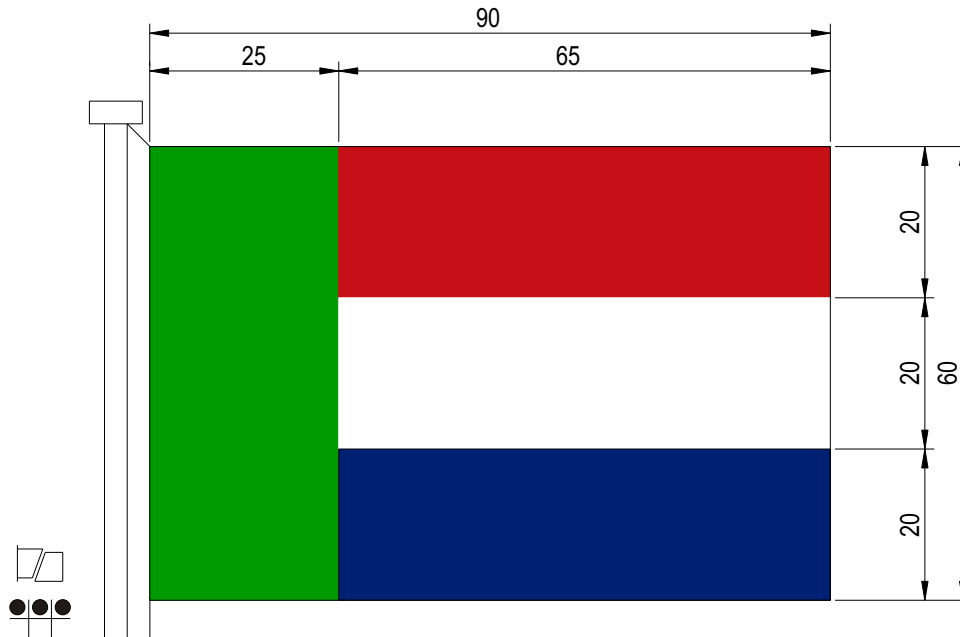


SOUTHERN AFRICAN VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
FLAG SPECIFICATION SHEET
Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR)
National flag 1858 - 1902

SV - ZA - ZAR - 01.1 - 1



DATA		COLOUR RECOMMENDATIONS					
		Colour	Pantone	C	M	Y	K
Usage:	National flag	Red	210c	0	91	76	6
Ratio:	2 : 3	Green	24c	60	0	40	40
Adopted:	18 Feb 1858	Blue	218c	60	0	80	20
Abolished:	31 May 1902						
Designer:	Rev. Dirk van der Hoff						

HISTORY AND SYMBOLISM

The Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek, or ZAR (South African Republic) often informally known as the Transvaal Republic, was an independent Boer - ruled country within South Africa during the second half of the 19th century. It occupied the area later known as the South African province of Transvaal. The ZAR was established in 1852, and was independent from 1856 to 1877, then again from 1881 to 1900 after the First Boer War, in which the Boers regained their independence from the British Empire.

When the Voortrekkers settled in the Transvaal, they formed 4 independent-minded entities; These were: Zoutpansberg, Potchefstroom, Lydenburg and Utrecht. In 1855 the Transvalers formed a committee comprising representatives from all four compartments which met in Potchefstroom to make proposals for a constitution and a national flag. An advisor to the committee was the Reverend Dirk van der Hoff who is widely acclaimed as the Vierkleur's architect. His brother, Martinus, who was a land surveyor and Jacobus Stuart, would complete the trio of the designers that would lay down the flag of a united republic and the most famous of all the Boer flags in history. It has been suggested by the late Vexillological historian, AP Burgers that because the designers were all born Dutchmen, the resulting flag included the Dutch tricolour.

When the ZAR was officially recognised by Britain in January 1852, it had neither arms or a flag of its own. The flag which had been flown by the Voortrekkers was the so-called "Voortrekker Flag" which was a red saltire on a blue field. By resolution of the *Volksraad* approved on 18 February 1858, the flag of the ZAR was described as: "Red, white and blue horizontal (bars) of equal width placed one above the other, and a green perpendicular bar adjoining the staff. On this the words *Eendracht maakt mag* (Unity makes strength) - the original motto of the seven provinces of the Netherlands when they revolted against Spain.