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MEDIA RELEASE

New technology to save recruiters time and money on police checks

Australian recruiters feeling the pinch of a national hiring freeze will now have the chance to slash their time and costs spent on processing candidate police checks, after a step forward in online employment technology was announced today.

Online training and induction provider, WorkPro, has joined forces with policecheck.com.au, to provide the industry with a cheaper and faster alternative to screening candidates' identities and criminal histories, with the system returning online clearances in less than 60 seconds - significantly reducing the time to hire.

WorkPro Business Manager, Tania Evans, said the new facility is a significant step forward for recruiters and it has come at a crucial time as the industry is increasingly looking to technology to help contain financial pressures and increase productivity.

"Waiting for days or even weeks for the results of criminal history checks is now a thing of the past for the recruitment industry. Time is money for those feeling the effects of the global financial crisis and recruiters will need to look for new ways of cutting their operating costs. More importantly, recruiters who can quickly respond to client needs with candidates who are 'work-ready' are advantaged in this market," Ms Evans said.

"In working with leading Australian recruiters we've noticed a significant change in people's attitudes to using technology to streamline their processes and there has been a greater push towards outsourced services as a means of cost-cutting.

"WorkPro has intuitively responded to the industry's needs by providing recruiters with one point of entry for a host of online training, induction and now screening technologies. By submitting a police check application through WorkPro, it means recruiters are able to spend more time placing candidates and less time processing them," she said.

Stephen Frost, Founder of policecheck.com.au, says that as well as the need to cut costs, pressure is mounting for the industry to confirm an individual's identity and conduct adequate criminal record checks on candidates prior to employment, as authorities have become more stringent against negligent hiring in all sectors.

"Where it was once just the industries legally bound to perform police checks that felt pressured to meet these obligations (such as aged care, financial services and child care), this expectation has spread to other industries over the past couple of years. For instance, the transport industry has seen a much greater movement towards conducting adequate police checks on its drivers and federal transport safety rules have toughened up on recruiters recently," Mr Frost said.



WorkPro has identified four simple steps for recruiters to safeguard themselves against reputation damage and other consequences of negligent hiring:

1. Always know who you're dealing with – never assume
2. Confirm and validate every candidate's identity with a 100 point identity check
3. Always perform a background check on new candidates to test for relevant prior convictions and wait for results *before* placing them in the role
4. Seek advice where necessary

WorkPro, through policecheck.com.au, is licensed with direct access to the Federal Government Criminal History database. All candidates are subject to a 100 point identity check before being entered through the system.

For further information or to apply visit www.workpro.com.au or contact Tania Evans on 03 9864 6017 or email tevens@workpro.com.au.

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About WorkPro:

WorkPro is an online e-learning and information management solution, specialising in the delivery of Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) induction training and criminal history record screening.

The system represents best practice in the mitigation of workplace risk and assists employers in delivering mandatory workplace training information to employees and contractors (as well as on-hire employees or 'temps'). The system was designed to help employers verify candidates' personal, employment and induction information through one single portal, while centrally storing results for future-proofing.

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