



# WORLD-CHECK

## Safeguarding the future

In just four years, World-Check has gone from being a pioneer to being globally recognised as the industry standard for KYC and PEP intelligence.

World-Check today serves 1,200 companies, including 17 of the world's 20 largest financial institutions and more than 200 government, regulatory and enforcement agencies, with its global database of heightened risk individuals and companies.

"The original concept, in late 2000," explains David Leppan, World-Check's founder, "was to provide 20 or 30 Swiss institutions with a PEP database, the purpose of which was to offer an early-warning system at account opening. The financial industry changed dramatically post-September 11th, 2001, as bankers worldwide came to terms with, firstly, the fact they had no idea of who their customers truly were and, secondly, with the dramatic increase of compliance requirements. World-Check, because of its uniqueness, was chosen to assist hundreds of institutions in dramatically and immediately reducing their KYC and PEP risk."

Never before had a company successfully taken hundreds of thousands of unstructured, open-source documents and converted them into a highly structured KYC database. Weaving the web of relationships across more than 220 countries and territories has resulted in a unique database of highly structured profiles. Mr Leppan says: "One starts out researching a handful of names, gathering as much risk-relevant data as possible and then as the pieces of the puzzle slowly fall into place, data becomes intelligence."

There is no doubt of the value of World-Check's early warning intelligence. On a regular basis, World-Check has profiled entities up to two years ahead of them being added to the Bank of England sanction list or the US OFAC list. The company prides itself on being ahead on the sanction listing curve.

An example of this is Hambali – otherwise known as Nurjaman Riduan Isamuddin. World-Check profiled this heightened risk person on 31 May, 2002. Four months later on October 12, 2002, a bomb exploded in a night club in Bali, Indonesia, killing 202 people. Mr Hambali, the mastermind behind the attack, was dubbed by the US Central Intelligence Agency the 'Osama Bin Laden' of South East Asia.

TERRORISTS FRAUDSTERS MONEY LAUNDERERS CORRUPTION PEP SARMS DEVIANTS ORGANISED CRIME W/ FINANCIAL CRIMETERMINAL OFFICIALS BLACK MONEY OFAC PEP SFATFCOMPLIANCE REGULATIONS SAN EMBARGO LISTSSANCTIONS INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE HIGH RISK POLITICAL EXPOSED BLACK MONEY PEP FAT FRE AVOID REPUTATION FINANCIAL CONNECTIONS INFLUENCE PEP PATRIOT ACT REGULATIONS COMPLIANCE RISK SANCTIONS FINES LEGAL PROTECTION INFORMATION INSIGHTS ANSWERS RESULTS RISK COMPLIANCE LEGAL PEP ENTITIES PEP



Another incredible example is that of Viktor Bout, a former KGB officer and, reportedly, the largest private weapons transporter, added to OFAC in 2004. He was profiled by World-Check back in September, 2002. Sergei Bout, his brother, was added to OFAC in April 2005, as was Richard Chichakli, his accountant. Mr Chichakli first appeared in World-Check in mid-2001, and Sergei Bout was profiled in late 2002.

World-Check's coverage includes PEPs, money launderers, fraudsters, terrorists and sanctioned entities plus individuals and businesses from over a dozen other high-risk categories.

Mr Leppan says: "World-Check's uniqueness, the drive to lead this new industry and a global team of highly motivated professionals has led to the success we have experienced. On a regular basis we receive feedback from bankers, lawyers and government agents about how valuable this risk reduction service is. The most frequent compliment we receive is that 'World-Check just keeps getting better' and, as such, the financial industry, with the help of World-Check, is able to take on its social responsibility in stopping the proceeds of crime and terrorist financing from passing through our banking system."

Please visit [www.world-check.com](http://www.world-check.com) for more information.