

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **World-Check Launches Forum For World's Top Financial Institutions**

*Former Spanish President Aznar Speaks on Terrorism at First Annual Gathering*

LONDON, June 28, 2005 – World-Check, the leading provider of structured intelligence on known high-risk individuals and businesses, convened on June 16<sup>th</sup> a special annual meeting of top financial executives from around the world to examine critical compliance and AML issues concerning the world's leading banking institutions.

The first annual World-Check Forum brought together 35 representatives of the world's largest banks and financial institutions at Stapleford Park estate in Leicestershire. During the special 24-hour session, forum delegates were given the opportunity to present the top concerns of their institutions and discuss common issues and potential solutions.

David Leppan, World-Check CEO and Founder, opened the event. Featured speaker and guest of honour Jose-Maria Aznar, who served as president of Spain from 1996 to 2004 and whose administration was undermined by the brutal terrorist attack on March 11, 2004, spoke to attendees about the world campaign against terrorism and the important role to be played by financial institutions in the battle against terrorist financing.

“There is a growing need for streamlined cooperation among members of the world's financial community, especially in regard to identifying and monitoring the activities of potential terrorist and criminal enterprises,” said Leppan. “The World-Check Forum helps encourage such cooperation by providing top banking institutions with a collegial and informal environment in which colleagues can share their concerns and seek possible solutions.”

World-Check provides financial institutions, regulators and government agencies with information on high-risk individuals and businesses. The firm currently provides that intelligence to 17 of the world's top 20 banks, as well as to hundreds of government entities.

### **About World-Check**

World-Check assists institutions in mitigating reputational, financial and compliance risk by monitoring and correlating information on high-risk entities. World-Check provides risk-reduction technology to more than 1,200 institutions and government agencies in over 120

countries. World-Check technology allows financial institutions to very efficiently screen their new and existing customers for risk on a routine basis. Recognized as an industry pioneer, World-Check has revolutionized and “standardized” global Know Your Customer (KYC) and Politically Exposed Person (PEP) screening. Today, 17 of the world’s top 20 banks, and more than 180 regulatory and government agencies use World-Check’s global list of heightened-risk individuals and organizations. For more information, please visit <https://www.world-check.com>.