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World-Check Reaches 1,500 Clients with Risk-Reduction Intelligence

Industry leader's clients grow by 50% in 2005

LONDON, November 09, 2005 – World-Check, the leading provider of structured intelligence on known heightened-risk individuals and businesses, today announced that it has reached a milestone of 1,500 client institutions, an increase of 50% in just this year. World-Check clients include government and regulatory agencies in more than 120 countries.

In the wake of high-profile financial scandals and international terrorist acts, banks and financial institutions worldwide face increased scrutiny of their transactions, as well as ever-expanding reporting requirements on transactions and activities. World-Check risk-reduction intelligence, which provides comprehensive profiles of high-risk and potential high risk persons and entities and those associated with them, today serves as the *de facto* industry standard for ensuring regulatory compliance and reducing risk.

World-Check, which released Version 1.0 in January 2001, has since grown to become the leader in providing the world's financial institutions with Know your Customer (KYC) and Politically Exposed Person (PEP) intelligence.

World-Check proactively identifies & researches known high-risk entities from around the world for its database, which is updated twice daily. World-Check's database, compiled from public information sources around the world, consists of detailed profiles of listed individuals, with key information on more than a dozen fields, including aliases, alternative name spellings, case synopses, locations, dates of birth, and known associate links.

World-Check allows customers to:

- Screen every new customer for risk;
- Regularly audit every existing customer for risks related to new developments;
- Demonstrate ongoing customer screens as proof of due diligence for regulators and examiners.

“When we set out five years ago to gather and disseminate risk reduction intelligence, we had no idea of what we would uncover amid the intricate, global puzzle of open source intelligence,” said World-Check Founder and CEO David Leppan. “We’re quite proud of our growth and success over the past five years and believe that they clearly demonstrate the value of the publicly available information that we compile, structure, and share with our clients on a daily basis.”

“The fact that so many government and enforcement agencies have chosen to use World-Check – and that 97% of our clients renew with us each year – are testaments to the quality and value of our KYC and PEP information. Our recent growth and ongoing successes continually spur us on, and we remain passionate and dedicated to what we set out to do 5 years ago.”

Currently, 18 of the world’s top 20 banks use World-Check intelligence on high-risk individuals and businesses. In Europe, 18 of the top 20 banks are World-Check clients.

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 1,500 institutions in more than 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, 18 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>.