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## **World-Check Marks Fifth Anniversary**

*Company, Clients Gather to Celebrate Success of  
Market-Leading Risk-Reduction Intelligence*

LONDON, January 30, 2005 – World-Check, the leading provider of structured intelligence on known heightened-risk individuals and businesses, today announced plans to celebrate the company's fifth anniversary. 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 has invited more than 75 guests to gather at The Lanesborough in London in early February to celebrate the milestone, including representatives from enforcement and regulatory agencies and more than 70 client institutions.

World-Check has experienced exponential growth since its first product release in January 2001. In a record-breaking 2005, the company attracted more than 500 new clients, which brought World-Check's client base to more than 1,600<sup>1</sup> – including government and regulatory agencies in more than 120 countries. On an annual basis 8.4 million names are queried within World-Check Online<sup>2</sup>. Many millions more are screened against the World-Check Data-file. Currently, 43 of the world's top 50 banks use World-Check intelligence on high-risk individuals and businesses. In Europe, 18 of the top 20 banks are World-Check clients.

“The past five years have been a whirlwind effort to create a unique risk reduction intelligence service that truly insulates institutions from risk,” said World-Check Founder and CEO David Leppan. “Our growth since that time, and the tremendous loyalty that our customers show to us each year, are testaments to the value of the open-source intelligence we compile, structure, and share with our clients. We’re very proud of our growth and success, and we look forward to the next five years.”

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<sup>1</sup> This number reflects actual institutions and not their branch or subsidiary networks.

<sup>2</sup> World-Check, as certified by KPMG, is unaware of the actual names (search terms) clients search for within World-Check.

## **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 1,600 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, 43 of the world’s top 50 banks, and hundreds of 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>.

*World-Check, reducing risk through intelligence.*