

## Press Release

5 May 2009

### **The Security Watchdog launches 'The Aspire 100'**

The Security Watchdog has launched 'The Aspire 100', a new initiative designed to offer representation to national, regional and local contract manned guarding companies, who are currently not ranked in the Infologue Top 20 Guarding Companies (annual turnovers range from £23M - £380M).

With the Top 20 guarding companies controlling in excess of 88% of the total revenues generated in the UK Security Guarding Industry, leaving the remaining 590 ACS members (and those operating outside the scheme) with only 12% of the UK contract manned guarding market. 'The Aspire 100' alliance offers companies who qualify for membership an industry voice as well as a number of other unique benefits.

Terry O'Neil, Chairman of The Security Watchdog, states: "The objective in establishing 'The Aspire 100' alliance is to provide a nurturing platform for calibre organisations outside the Top 20 to collaborate with and support each other in offering the UK Client base an alternative quality service option. We also see a role for members to work in harmony with the Top 20 in supporting regional workforces, where required"

Companies qualifying for entry into 'The Aspire 100' must be ACS members and meet at least one of the following criteria;

- The member must be in the upper quartile (top 25% - currently a Pass exceeded by at least 39 points) of the ACS Benchmarking and Achievement levels
- OR
- have obtained the Gold Standard of the National Security Inspectorate (NSI)
- OR
- have committed to a minimum of 36 annual independent on-site audits through the Silver Fox Scheme run by The Security Watchdog

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Members will significantly benefit from an ongoing publicity campaign carried out by The Security Watchdog within the Industry Trade press, as well as participating in a number of shared user forums where they can voice any concerns they have about the industry and provide the collective action needed to effect change. As an alliance, these concerns can be raised directly with the SIA so that the voice of the members of The Aspire 100 cannot in the future be ignored.

For further information on The Aspire 100 please contact Ewan Tweedie on 01428 728735 or email him at [ewant@securitywatchdog.org.uk](mailto:ewant@securitywatchdog.org.uk)

**Background**

Established in 1998, The Security Watchdog an international risk management firm with specialization in recruitment, pre-employment screening, consultancy and audit services. Currently its Silver Fox Award programme, a product of the Audit Division, is sponsored by the SIA and Sutton Specialist Risk and is only available to ACS accredited members.

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