



THE INKERMAN GROUP

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PRESS RELEASE



MONDAY 9 JULY 2007, THE INKERMAN GROUP has announced today that it has successfully achieved the coveted Approved Contractor Status with the Security Industry Authority (SIA) for Close Protection.

The Inkerman Group, a leading provider of Close Protection to business leaders, high profile individuals and large corporations throughout the world, is one of the first companies to receive this award for Close Protection and, as such, it is independently acknowledged as one of the best Close Protection providers in the private security industry in the United Kingdom.

Established in 2001 by the UK Government, the SIA exists to manage the licensing, raise standards of professionalism and skill and to promote best practice within the industry. "The process of achieving Approved Contractor Status is a rigorous process which considers all aspects of the company's business as well as its ability to deliver professional close protection services" explains CEO, Gerald Moor, "and we are delighted and very proud to be one of the first to get there – being an Approved Contractor stands for quality, attaining the highest industry standards and the ability to deliver the best services for customers."

Based on the premise that each customer has varying needs, the SIA are looking for companies within the private security industry to deliver high quality services, which are tailored to customer needs. This is a particularly important point for The Inkerman Group which prides itself as offering bespoke services to a wide range of clients. Barry Strevens, previously head of the close protection and security team for Prime Minister Thatcher and now Head of Corporate Threat at The Inkerman Group, explains. "The Inkerman Group has its own in-house close protection team which currently works all over the world; we offer our clients customised services rather than those which you can just buy off the shelf. Protecting people is what we do, and we are one of the best in the

industry – the achievement of the SIA Approved Contractor Status absolutely recognises this and is very good news for us.”

- ENDS -

NOTES TO EDITORS

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Photographs are available on request

THE INKERMAN GROUP

The Inkerman Group is a specialist business risk, intelligence management and investigation company. It provides a wide range of services and works with clients to counter or mitigate threats to their businesses and organisations.

International risk assessment	Fraud investigation
Intelligence on activist threats	Corporate intelligence
Personal protection services	Crisis management training
Kidnap for ransom, insurance, prevention, response	Product contamination and extortion
Business continuity strategies	Due diligence - personnel screening & vetting
	Asset tracing
Due diligence on companies during M&A	Digital forensics and electronic data recovery
Electronic Security Sweeps	Security integration & surveys
Technical surveillance & counter measures	Counterfeiting and intellectual property
In-country risk reporting	
Money laundering prevention advice	

Based in Ashford Kent and Knightsbridge London, and formed in 1996, The Inkerman Group consists of professional and highly experienced staff with a wide range of skills and expertise from military, government service, police and business backgrounds.

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THE SECURITY INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (SIA)

The Security Industry Authority (SIA) is an independent organisation established by Government under the terms of the Private Security Industry Act 2001. Its intention is to help protect society by working in collaboration to develop and attain high standards of professionalism and service throughout the private security industry. As part of this process, the SIA has introduced compulsory licensing for people working in certain sectors of the private security industry in England and Wales. This is expected to be extended to include Scotland from November 2007. The new licensing requirements carry the force of law and will help reassure the public that those providing security services are fit and proper persons who have been adequately trained for the role they perform. In consultation, buyers of private security services have made their needs clear. They want higher standards of service, access to security personnel that are appropriately trained, and to work with suppliers that have performance management and quality systems in place. The Approved Contractor Scheme has been introduced by the SIA to make it easier for buyers to achieve this