



THE INKERMAN GROUP

PRESS RELEASE

THE INKERMAN GROUP PRESENTS CEREMONIAL ROBES TO PRESTIGIOUS LIVERY COMPANY

MARCH 2011. The Inkerman Group has announced that, as part of its continuing charitable contribution to the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals, it has presented new ceremonial robes to the prestigious 108th Livery Company.

Established in 1996, local Ashford Company, The Inkerman Group is one of the leading companies in its field and places professional integrity as a business very high on its agenda. Its close links with the Company of Security Professionals is an important part of this, as this Livery Company contributes a great deal of charitable monies and assistance as part of its Royal Charter

The Worshipful Company of the Security Professionals is the 108th Livery Company. Although sometimes seen as old fashioned and very traditional, the Livery Companies of London have, in fact, been instrumental in regulating working standards and managing the professions right back to the Middle Ages. Since the Industrial Revolution, as many trades and professions changed, the Livery Companies have continued to thrive – they have proud histories, traditions and determination that the work of promoting skills, development and professional expertise should continue. Today its main raison-d'être is to raise funds for charitable use, and it is this aspect which drives companies like The Inkerman Group to get involved – it is the industry's way of contributing something back to society through its charitable work and contributions.

At this years' annual service which was held at The **Chapel Royal of St Peter Ad Vincula at HM Tower of London** to commemorate the date on which the Company became a Worshipful Company in 2008, The Inkerman Group presented the ceremonial gowns to the Livery Company. The robes will be used for official engagements and functions and they carry the Livery Company's coat of arms.

The photograph attached shows the gowns being presented by The Inkerman Group's CEO, Gerald Moor, who is currently Middle Warden of the Livery Company and will (if elected) be The Master from June 2012 during the year of the Olympics, Simon Imbert, Director (and The Master from 2008 to 2009), and the Lord Imbert of New Romney, The Inkerman Group's Strategic Adviser together with Andy Bignall the Worshipful Company's Beadle.

PHOTOGRAPH ATTACHED
CAPTION FOR PHOTOGRAPH

(Left to right) The Lord Imbert of New Romney, Simon Imbert, Andy Bignall and Gerald Moor
Taken outside the Chapel Royal of St Peter ad Vincula inside the Tower of London.

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Note on Livery Companies :

The Livery Companies of the City of London can trace unbroken descent from medieval Trade Guilds. The term 'Guild' is said to derive from Saxon word 'Gild' a payment, since members paid towards the cost of fellowship.

The term 'livery' covers the distinctive clothing and badges, the symbols of membership. The guilds over the centuries became known as livery companies, and it is still the custom to wear ceremonial dress on official occasions.

Guilds were crafts or trade societies. They protected consumers and employers against incompetence or fraud by training sufficient apprentices to provide an adequate supply of skilled craftsmen selling goods of true quality and weight. They helped workers by preventing unlimited competition and ensuring decent wages and conditions. They searched out inferior work and punished the offenders. They settled trade and domestic disputes by arbitration, while their halls served as centres for meeting and recreation. Members paid contributions as to a benefit society, then received relief when ill, infirm or old, and had their burial expenses paid.

There was a strong religious element in the Guilds, each adopting a patron Saint and being attached to a local monastery or church. The wearing of livery arose from a practice of wearing a distinctive form of dress on solemn or festive occasions and spread from that. Eventually only the wealthier members could afford the "Livery" and became a distinct group.

The Livery companies have a proud history dating from the Middle Ages, when they controlled services, manufacture and the sale of goods in the City of London. Despite the changes in industry and commerce since, the Livery has flourished. Their work is timeless: fostering their trade in the widest sense, serving the community, and staying alive to modern skills. Welfare of members, spiritual and material, has always been a big concern of the Guilds.

Trades unique to the modern technological age have joined. A new livery is not like the forming of a club, that may falter through lack of interest. The Court of Aldermen expects to be satisfied that people of good repute have come together, and have held together for long enough to show they have support. A guilds meetings must be held in the City, and its efforts to foster the profession must be beneficial.

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.

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Based in Ashford Kent, London, and Cologne, Germany, 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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