

Immediate Release

## **World-Check Forum identifies emerging challenges to global compliance frameworks**

**LONDON, October 1, 2007:** World-Check's annual Compliance Leadership Forum, now in its third year, has once again brought together the world's leading professionals from the financial, legal, enforcement and regulatory sectors to identify common compliance concerns and emerging challenges. The two-day event is by invitation only and is organised to encourage cross-border cooperation within industry and between industry and enforcement.

Almost 50 attendees enjoyed the round-table event on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of September at Stapelford Park, United Kingdom. The highly respected guest speakers, who each delivered thought-provoking speeches from their diverse backgrounds, added further dimension to the event. The speakers included the **Honourable Thomas J. Ridge**, former United States Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security; **Lord Davidson**, the Advocate General of Scotland; **Mr. Richard Berry**, of New Scotland Yard's National Terrorist Financial Investigation Unit (FTFIU); **Mr. Javier Zarzalejos**, Head of Constitutional Affairs and Institutions at the FAES Foundation and former Secretary General to the Presidency of Spain (1996-2004); **Mr. Rafael Bardaji**, Director of Political Studies of the FAES Foundation and former National Security Advisor, Spain; **Mr. Kenneth Rijock**, Financial Crime Consultant for World-Check; and **Mr. Ridzwan Aminuddin**, Manager of Country-Check .

The Honourable Thomas J. Ridge spoke on the terrorist threat facing society and the financial community's role in combating terrorism. Lord Davidson spoke on ways in which society defends itself against terrorism within a Human Rights culture. Mr. Berry elaborated on the general understanding of Islamism, and challenged the Western concept of geographical boundaries. He also gave a detailed description of current Al-Qaeda operations in the UK. Mr. Zarzalejos spoke in depth on the activities of ETA, the Basque separatist group, and Mr. Bardaji spoke on Islamic terrorism in Spain and gave attendees a glimpse of the future of terrorism in Spain.

On closing the two-day event, Mr. David Leppan, CEO and founder of World-Check, commented that "improved global cooperation between institutions and government is key to the success of fighting international crime and terrorism. A clear message needs to be sent to such individuals and entities within our societies that a concerted effort by the financial, gaming and legal communities is being undertaken to fight them".

### **ABOUT WORLD-CHECK**

World-Check provides its global database of heightened-risk individuals and businesses to more than 2000 institutions, including 46 of the world's 50 largest financial institutions and hundreds of government agencies. The database is updated daily in real-time by World-Check's international research team, and is derived from hundreds of thousands of public sources. Coverage includes Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs), money launderers, fraudsters, terrorists and sanctioned entities - plus individuals and businesses from over a dozen other high-risk categories. World-Check's database and tools find direct application in financial compliance, anti-money laundering (AML), Know-Your-Customer (KYC), PEP screening, enhanced due

diligence (EDD), fraud prevention, government intelligence and other identity authentication, background screening and risk-prevention practices.

World-Check offers a downloadable database for the automated screening of an entire customer base, as well as a simple online service for quick customer screening.

**For more information, please visit [www.world-check.com](http://www.world-check.com)**

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