

# Dockland's Company Defies the Crunch

By Hassan Butt

Powerchex Limited, the leader in pre-employment screening solutions for financial firms, has proved that it is not all doom and gloom, despite the challenging conditions in today's business world.



**Managing Director:  
Alexandra Kelly**

Regardless of servicing one of the main industries affected by the credit crunch, Powerchex had a successful 2008 which included moving to a newly refurbished office, adding some of the biggest financial institutions in the world to their client base, and doubling their workforce, revenue and profit. This success was topped off by an award given to Powerchex for 'Business of the Year 2008' at Thames Gateway

Business Awards.

The company of less than 40 people works with financial institutions to help them avoid hiring employees who could pose a risk to the company. The Financial Services Authority recommends that firms have a comprehensive pre-employment screening policy in place in order to manage the risk inherent in the recruitment process. Powerchex helps to fulfil this need by carrying out stringent background checks for their clients on their potential employees prior to them commencing work. Alexandra Kelly, Managing Director at



Powerchex said:-

"Powerchex mitigate against potentially harmful employees who falsify history on CVs or have in the past exhibited behaviour in both their private and personal life which may put a firm at risk. It doesn't matter if you are a firm of 10 or 100, if you provide a service to your clients in a timescale and manner that adds serious value to their company you will be able to compete"

Powerchex is currently working with academics at the University of East London (UEL) to develop a unique and innovative product that will go beyond traditional screening systems. The project has successfully won approval from the Technology Strategy Board, a government body, sponsored by the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) and should truly enhance Powerchex's service with the latest technology.

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