

Powerchex Announces New Collaboration with the Design Council

Pre-employment screening firm creates new user-centric online application form for the financial services sector.

London, 23rd December 2009. Powerchex, the premier pre-employment screening firm for the financial services, has collaborated with the Design Council and the University of East London to design and develop an innovative online pre-employment screening application, incorporating features never seen before in the industry.

With the knowledge and guidance of the Design Council consultants, the new form has been built around the principles of user-centric design. This ensures superb usability, as well as operational advantages unique to the industry and in this type of application. With a clear and intuitive layout, the form is designed to guide the user effortlessly through the different sections while retaining its financial services focus.

Powerchex has also been involved in a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) at the University of East London to gain access to up-to-the-minute expertise relating to the security of the online form. This partnership means that the new form has a state-of-the-art security profile, with all transmitted information encrypted to the highest commercially available standards.

Powerchex MD Alexandra Kelly is delighted with what the Design Council collaboration has achieved: "They have done an incredible job in helping us add such a unique and innovative aspect to our pre-screening process. Not only have we retained our focus on the financial services sector, but we have enhanced this by offering a superior service which puts the process and security requirements of the financial sector at the heart of what we do. We look forward to rolling this out in the very near future."

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

About Powerchex

Powerchex is the UK's premier pre-employment screening firm for financial institutions. Based in the city of London, Powerchex checks the background, employment history, criminal records and professional qualifications of applicants on behalf of financial institutions. It sets the industry benchmark of 5 days for a background check.

www.powerchex.co.uk

About the Design Council

The Design Council is the national strategic body for design. Funded by the UK government, it promotes the use of design throughout the UK's businesses and public services and seeks to demonstrate that design can play a vital role in strengthening the UK economy and improving society.

<http://www.designcouncil.org.uk/Design-Council/1/What-we-do/>

About Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) is a UK-wide programme enabling businesses to improve their competitiveness, productivity and performance. A KTP achieves this through the forming of a partnership between the business and an academic institution, enabling access to relevant skills and expertise to aid business development.

<http://www.ktponline.org.uk/business/business.aspx>