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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Global Study Shows Innovation in Learning Drives Workforce Productivity

Organisations are expecting more productivity from their workforce even though training budgets will largely be maintained, according to the ESI Learning Trends survey

London – 7 Sept. 2011 – ESI International, the world's leading project management learning company, today announced the findings of a new global learning study conducted to assess the direction of training and performance improvement programmes for 2011 and beyond. The survey was conducted among industry professionals from the commercial and government sectors, worldwide.

The findings confirm that three years of global economic stress have pushed organisations to maximise employee productivity, and to make strategic decisions on cutting spending in a way that does not compromise future growth as budgets tighten.

As a result, organisations are turning to targeted and innovative learning programmes through technology to help support the achievement of organisational priorities, maximize resources and enhance workforce effectiveness.

The ESI Learning Trends survey results validate that innovation and flexibility in learning content and delivery, when combined with a results-oriented approach, are critical to learning success in 2011-2012. Training programmes must evolve and adapt accordingly in order to stay targeted, relevant, measurable, and engage the learner in non-traditional ways. At the same time, they must instill learners with a set of critical thinking and leadership skills necessary to move the entire organisation forward.

“With stagnant learning and development budgets, organisations are compelled to work their learning programmes harder, by making them more results-oriented, as well as more flexible and relevant by providing the right information as and when needed to enable employees to perform effectively,” said Laurie Keyser Brunner, Senior Vice President of Global Client Services, ESI. “Nurturing leadership skill is also a vital component and a growing priority for organisations in empowering their workforce to identify organisational priorities and design appropriate responses within a business context.”

To download the full 2011 ESI Learning Trends Report, please visit: www.esi-intl.co.uk/resource_centre/white_papers/orgimprov/Innovation%20in%20Learning%20Drives%20Workforce%20Productivity.pdf.

Survey Methodology

ESI conducted the online survey in early 2011, inviting learning and development professionals from around the world to participate. The response rate was approximately 11 per cent. Not all respondents answered every question. Respondents represented a wide range of industries including financial services, energy, aerospace, healthcare, construction IT, telecom and government. The survey was anonymous unless respondents wanted to receive the results, in which case they were asked to provide their details.

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About ESI International

ESI, a subsidiary of Informa plc (LSE:INF), helps people around the world improve the way they manage projects, contracts, requirements and vendors through innovative learning. In addition to ESI's more than 100 courses delivered in more than a dozen languages at hundreds of locations worldwide, ESI offers several certificate programs through our educational partner, The George Washington University in Washington. Founded in 1981, ESI has regional headquarters in London, Singapore and Washington. To date, ESI's programs have benefited more than 1.35 million professionals worldwide. For more information visit www.esi-intl.co.uk.

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