



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

9th August 2002

AHL is pleased to announce the formation of a new IT Partnering arrangement with Sydney-based portal solutions provider EmployeeConnect Pty Ltd for the distribution of its DataKiosk service.

Making the announcement, AHL's Managing Director Mr. Eric Liaw said "In response to increasing industry demand for new ways to reduce administration costs, we have been looking for a cost effective and user friendly Employee Self-Service (ESS) system that would seamlessly integrate with AHL's HR and Payroll systems. We undertook an extensive review of the products available, and following comprehensive testing, we found DataKiosk offered by far the best solution to the needs of hotel and hospitality operators".

Using the Internet, DataKiosk allows employees to view and update their:

- Personal details
- Emergency contacts
- Position details & history
- Banking details
- Payslips
- Leave history & balance
- Requests for leave

It also has the capability to replace paper-based forms and HR processes with electronic forms and an integrated workflow engine executed via the secure Intranet. These include:

- Time sheet
- Leave request
- Salary review
- Overtime claim
- Expense claims

Because DataKiosk is a wholly outsourced solution that integrates with the user's own computer network, none of the resources of the customer organization are taken up in the maintenance of DataKiosk. By implementing DataKiosk, an organization is able to fully preserve the value of its existing IT investment.

There are three core elements to the delivery of DataKiosk:

- (a) The customer's Company Network where all users log on to DataKiosk;
- (b) The Internet which encrypts and conveys information between the customer organization's network and the data centre; and,
- (c) The Secure Data Centre which hosts the DataKiosk server, software and database.

"DataKiosk is a powerful employee self-service solution that addresses all the concerns organizations typically have when they consider the implementation of such a system", said Ron Schroeder, Managing Director of EmployeeConnect." Referring to the new partnership, he added "We recognized AHL's specialized expertise in the hospitality industry and are delighted to be working with them to provide operators with a one stop Payroll and HR processing solution."

In an age of shrinking margins and smaller company workforces, technology that succeeds in boosting productivity while lowering operating costs is eagerly seized upon. DataKiosk is an innovative solution that delivers on all fronts, resulting in such benefits as:

- Elimination of inefficient, resource-consuming paper-based processes
- Reduction in workload for HR personnel and other managers
- Providing managers with appropriate tools and information to effectively manage their employees
- No up-front hardware or software costs
- Fast and simple implementation
- Low risk, low cost.

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