

News Release

HELPING THE NEXT GENERATION

Mondial UK supports placement scheme for college students

As part of the Deloitte Touche e-learning scheme, Croydon based customer relationship expert, Mondial UK, took on two college placements in its IT department in July 2004. Following great success, placement Richard Edwards has now been employed full-time as a Junior Support Analyst. This proves the benefits of placement schemes for businesses and college leavers and supports Mondial's belief in harnessing new talent to drive the business forward.

Geoff English, IT Director of Mondial, comments: "This was the first time we had taken on placements as part of the scheme and it was a very interesting experiment. Traditionally it has always been very difficult recruiting first line IT support staff that would stay in the position for at least two years. This programme helps to rectify that resource issue, providing us with quality staff."

As part of the e-skills programme, students take a six-month college course before their work placement. Then when they join a company they work full time, with one day every two weeks spent at college. Mondial mentored the placements and conducted a review, whilst working closely with the college to ensure everyone benefited. At the end of the placement the students gain an NVQ achievement and valuable experience.

English concludes, "We worked with Crawley College and will definitely be taking part again. The placement scheme is a great way for college students to gain a step up and get full training with the chance to secure a job. Mondial believes in taking on well-trained staff and the placement initiative has proved to be an excellent way of selecting fresh talent."

ENDS

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Note to Editors

The Mondial Assistance Group, part of the world's largest insurance company Allianz of Germany, provides customer care contact to over 200 million individuals world-wide. Many of the world's leading blue-chip organisations benefit from Mondial Group services each year, ranging from Motor Assistance, Customer Information and Care Contact, Marketing Programmes, Fulfilment, Breakdown and Accident Management, Warranty Services, Travel Insurance and Assistance, Property Assistance and Advice Lines.

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