



2nd Floor, Monument House, 215 Marsh Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 5NE, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)20 8868 9200 Fax: +44 (0)20 8868 5215 e-mail: info@privacylaws.com www.privacylaws.com

Media information

Thursday 10 July 2008

Employers urged to embrace social networking sites

Delegates at an international privacy conference were urged to embrace social networking sites.

Addressing the annual Privacy Laws & Business conference, Andrew Woolfson, from accountancy firm BDO Stoy Hayward, said: "There was a debate at BDO over people using social networking sites at work but it is all about trusting people and putting sensible policies in place – it's a balance.

"We are a relationship-based business and we need to reflect our values so we have actively embraced social networking and now have many groups making use of networks. Its a useful way to help the firm and its people connect with each other and out to the wider community. I believe it should be "the firm and people not the firm versus people."

Mr Woolfson added that respect, trust and common sense were key ingredients in developing sensible polices around social networking sites at work.

Ends

Notes to editors

1. Privacy Laws & Business 21st Annual International Conference: Value Privacy, Secure Your Reputation, Reduce Risk, 7-9th July, 2008, St. John's College, Cambridge. To see the full programme with speakers from 10 countries please visit <http://www.privacylaws.com/annualconference>

2. Privacy Laws & Business provides an independent international privacy laws information service. Clients include many of the world's largest companies and specialist lawyers in almost 50 countries.
In the United Kingdom, the company provides services to help its private and public sector clients comply with both the Data Protection Act and the Freedom of Information Act. The company's website is www.privacylaws.com