

WELCOME TO THE NIKARO AUTUMN / WINTER 2006 NEWSLETTER !

**SKYGUARD – The complete
Personal Safety Service**



Skyguard offers a unique and comprehensive service to enhance the safety and security of anyone who works, lives or travels alone – wherever they are – enabling them to summon help to their precise location at any time.

The Personal Safety Device is easy to use and light to carry. When activated, the professional Controllers in The Legion Emergency Response Centre will immediately know the exact location and can enable two way conversation to evaluate the problem and where necessary summon the appropriate emergency service, or where general assistance is required, the closest Service Provider in the Nikaro Limited network of security companies.

All Service Providers are reminded to ensure the ‘Skyguard Operations Instructions’ are clearly identified in their Control Rooms in order that we can best assist in any instance, when requested by the Emergency Response Centre.

Should any reader require more details on the product or service, you are invited to contact:

Mr Patrick Dealtry, Sales Director:
Tel No: 01252 703331
Email: info@skyguardgroup.com

**SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME - SCOTLAND**

Plans for this programme have already been distributed to network members in Scotland, many of whom have been planning for the introduction of licensing and regulation for some time. The following dates are significant:

September 2006 – Training Qualifications available

February 2007 - License Applications accepted

June 2007 - Applications for ‘Approved Contractor’ status accepted

November 2007 - License Enforcement commences.

If Nikaro Limited can be of any assistance to our members in Scotland or Northern Ireland throughout this process, please do not hesitate to contact our Quality Manager, Alistair O’Brien.

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Nikaro committed to a network of SIA Approved Contractors

As you will be aware, Nikaro Limited was awarded SIA Approved Contractor status in the very first list issued. Nikaro is committed to have a 'network' that consists entirely of Security Industry Authority (SIA) 'Approved Contractors' and is well on the way to fulfilling this commitment.

At the time of going to press, 51% of our network in England and Wales are SIA Approved Contractors, with many more currently working towards SIA-ACS approval, including our network members in Scotland, where the SIA Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS) is due to be launched in June 2007.

We fully appreciate our network members commitment to embrace and surpass the minimum requirements of regulation, as detailed within the Private Security Industry Act 2001.

Our customers are aware that in partnership with Nikaro, they've chosen to work with a Company where our network members are some of the very best security providers in the industry.

Network members who are yet to embark on the SIA ACS journey are advised that Nikaro has a Supplier Development Programme in place for companies that would welcome assistance, support or guidance.

For further information of how the Nikaro Supplier Development Programme can help your company become an SIA Approved Contractor please contact Nikaro's Quality Manager, Alistair O'Brien. Tel: 01536 209204.

As a matter of record as of October 2006 62% of all SIA Approved Contractors who offer Keyholding and Alarm Response services are members of the Nikaro Network.

SECURITY INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

APPROVED CONTRACTOR SCHEME

Bob Shearsmith, our Managing Director has been a member of the SIA ACS User Group during the launch period. A recent meeting reviewed how the process had gone and Bob has distilled below some information which our readers may find of interest.

The 20th March this year signified the start of change within the security industry, with the introduction of Licensing of Security Personnel, and Companies seeking to become appointed 'Approved Contractors' under the SIA scheme. The up to date position as far as the Nikaro network is concerned is certainly encouraging, as we have reported, but what about the industry as a whole?

ACS Statistics (up to end October)

816 companies have registered (ie: requested an application pack)
400 applications have been received
280 Companies have been granted ACS status.
246 of these used the 'Fast Track' Option
34 chose the 'Standard Inspection' route.
82,000 licensable staff are employed by Approved Contractors.

Assessment Overview

Over the next few months, those companies who registered early under the 'Fast Track' option will be assessed by their chosen auditing body to verify their compliance with the scheme. To date, 28 companies have been assessed, of which 22 met the requirements first time. The others were issued with 'Improvement Need' notices, in areas including:

Vetting / Appraisal / Licensing

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SIA UPDATE – Cont’d

Key Activities Planned / In Process

Consultation Launch in Northern Ireland
ACS Launch in Scotland – June 2007
Awareness Workshops
Regional ACS Approved Contractor Forums (If you are not aware of the venue or date of the forum in your area, contact the SIA for details).
Annual Review of Scheme –Report to Secretary of State by Feb/Mar 2007
Timetable for implementation of any changes by end-March 2007

The industry should be congratulated on the commitment they have shown to date, but also recognise that this is only the beginning of many years of change still to come.

WELCOME !

New Network Members !

Since the last newsletter in Spring 2006 we have welcomed a further 17 number of Service Providers to the network. This ensures that the service we provide on a national basis can be supported and that ad-hoc requests for guarding, patrols and associated services can be fulfilled because we have complementary cover.

UPDATE OF BRITISH STANDARD

BS 7858:2006 Security Screening of Personnel Employed in a Security Environment

During August 2006 an updated version of BS 7858 was published following a review of the 2004 version. A mandate was issued from BSI Committee GW/3 (Manned Guarding) to update the standard in line with PSIA 2001 Licensing and the Approved Contractors Scheme. Find below, the main changes from the 2004 version:

Main Changes Compared With BS 7858: 2004

(Note: All clauses below are taken from and refer to the clauses in BS 7858:2006).

- 1) A reduction of the minimum screening period to 5 years.
- 2) Counter measures to combat Identity Theft.
- 3) Removal of ‘Qualified Sign off’ replaced with Statutory Declaration for any periods of career history that is incomplete (4.5 e).
- 4) Introduction of ‘Executive acceptance of risk’ for use where there is a concern about the individual’s financial history (4.7 h).
- 5) A Consumer Information Check (Financial Probity)
Note this is not to be confused with credit ratings.

Copies of the new standard are available from usual outlets, BSI, NSI etc.

For further information of how to obtain Consumer Information Check for new applicant can contact:

Equifax plc - Tel: 01274 762595 or www.equifax.co.uk

or

Experian Ltd - Tel: 0800 656 9000 or
www.cvverifier.com

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Most of our customers and service providers will have had contact with Angie Nicolls, our Accounts Supervisor.

She is in the middle of a study course for her AAT accountancy qualification.

We congratulate Angie on passing the intermediate level this summer.

FEHNERT INSURANCE BROKERS

Nikaro Limited use a local firm of insurance brokers, Fehnert Plc to manage all of its insurances. We have found that very keen quotations can be obtained as the insurance market is currently very competitive. In our own case, premiums were reduced considerably this year.

We asked Fehner's to write a short note about themselves as a way of introducing them to you, our network of Service Providers.

If you would like to contact them for a competitive quotation, without obligation, please feel free to speak to Mr Sedja Hunt, whose details are given below.



commercial insurance brokers
independent financial advisers

Telephone: [44] 01858 434422

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority

Fehnert Plc was established in 1984 by Stephen Fehnert who remains as the managing director. We are one of the very few totally independent brokers operating in the UK. Being situated in a geographically central location it gives us easy access to our clients nationwide.

Fehnert Plc are predominantly commercial insurance brokers but we also get involved in all aspects of insurance and run alongside a financial services company, Fehnert Financial Services Ltd which deals with pensions, mortgages, life insurance, investments etc.

We have a specialist in the Security industry, Sedja Hunt, with in excess of 20 years experience of dealing with security companies, both large and small. The security insurance industry is extremely specialist with limited access to markets and specialist advice is essential. Sedja has developed

excellent contacts with all major providers of insurance to the security industry and very competitive quotations can be produced as indeed was the case with Nikaro Ltd this year.

Please contact Sedja Hunt or Fehnert Plc for a professional, dedicated and enthusiastic service.

Tel: 01858 434422 Fax:01858 411911

Email: Sedja@fehnertplc.com

Ellis Fox – Operations Supervisor



We extend a warm welcome to Ellis Fox who has joined the expanding Operations team at Nikaro as Operations Supervisor. We wish him a long & happy stay at Nikaro.

Ellis served for 20 years in the Army and left with the rank of staff sergeant.

His spare time interests include youth work, hill walking and kayaking.

Fiona Braybrooke – who works as an Operations Supervisor in the Nikaro team, will be taking maternity leave from early December. We wish Fiona & Nick well and look forward to Fiona re-joining the team later in 2007.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE