

## Press release



### **No claim received by United Services Group from tax authorities**

*Almere, 26 November 2004.* United Services Group N.V. (USG) looks forward with confidence to the results of the industry-wide investigation on compliance with the Compulsory Identification Act, conducted by the Dutch tax authorities. This investigation, which was completed in the course of 2004, has in any event shown that USG acted in good faith. An article in today's edition of the Dutch daily newspaper, *De Telegraaf* mentions alleged fraud in the temporary employment industry, however there is no question of this at USG.

Neither the temp employment industry as a whole nor USG can be criticised for not identifying forged passports. Indeed the tax authorities have recently taken the decision not to make the cleaning sector liable for any such mistakes. Similarly, the non-liability of employers in this area has been confirmed on a number of occasions by the judiciary. Self-evidently, neither is any other mistake, such as the absence of a signature on the wage tax form, an example of fraud.

Furthermore, USG and the ABU (Dutch temporary employment industry association) are of the opinion that the inspection methods used by the tax authorities are at the very least open to question, whereby they have raised this matter with the tax authorities. To date USG has not received any claim from the tax authorities.

Given the absence of information regarding the definite results it is not feasible to make any realistic estimate on possible obligations; hence, no provision has been formed for this.

All in all we look forward to the results with confidence.

### **Profile United Services Group**

United Services Group is a European service provider of flexible employment, training and customer care services in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Spain and Portugal. The shares of United Services Group are listed on the Amsterdam stock exchange (Effectenbeurs Euronext Amsterdam). A range of services are provided via independent operating companies including Unique, Start, Secretary Plus and Technicum (temping and secondment), United Restart (career intervention, reintegration and job coaching), United Capacity, United Technical Solutions (recruitment and selection, secondment and project type activities for technical specialists), Luzac College and InterCollege (education/training) and Telecom Direct and Call-IT (customer contact-centers).

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Reuters                                UINT.AS  
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