

PRESS RELEASE

HRnetGroup announces strategic investment of 25.02% in Staffline Group plc

SINGAPORE, 2 August 2019 – HRnetGroup Limited (“和乐集团有限公司”) announced today that it currently owns 25.02% of the total voting rights of Staffline, making Staffline an associate company of HRnetGroup. Staffline is a leading workforce recruitment and training organisation providing services mainly in the UK and Eire, to both Government and commercial customers.

Established in 1986, and admitted to the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) of the London Stock Market in 2004, Staffline has two business divisions: Recruitment and PeoplePlus. Recruitment specialises in providing complete and flexible labour solutions in the agriculture, food processing, manufacturing, e-retail, driving and logistics sectors. Staffline Recruitment finds work for in excess of 60,000 people every day. They support clients across a wide range of industries, including major supermarkets, as well as big fashion and high street names. PeoplePlus is a leading adult skills and training provider in the UK, delivering apprenticeships, adult education, prison education and skills-based employability programmes across the country, with an objective to build competencies and create a skilled workforce. Staffline has also surged ahead with its rapid adoption of new technologies, including its AI chatbot FLIN delivering ‘always on’ communication, the Universe platform – a bespoke game-changing candidate engagement platform – and its industry-leading customer experience management programme ‘Have your Say’, delivering the highest standards of fulfilment, retention and worker engagement.

HRnetGroup is a leading recruitment agency in the Asia, with a well-diversified business portfolio comprising professional recruitment and flexible staffing operations. To further strengthen the Group’s network and to tap into potentially synergistic opportunities in the global market, we have been actively expanding our flexible staffing business as well as sourcing for opportunities to expand our foothold beyond Asia.

Ms Adeline Sim (沈伟玲), Executive Director of HRnetGroup, said,

“We are very pleased to be taking this stake in Staffline, a market leader in the UK for both blue-collar flexible staffing, and workforce training and education. We particularly identify with the management’s vision of being the leading creator of opportunities, jobs, and new ideas in the employability, skills and justice sectors.

As we continue to explore expanding into new geographies and verticals, we look forward to building rapport and working with companies who are market leaders in their own fields, to learn and leverage from their strengths and competencies, to accelerate our Group’s growth.”

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About HRnetGroup Limited

HRnetGroup is a leading talent acquisition and flexible staffing firm in Asia, with operations in 13 growth cities, namely, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Taipei, Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Suzhou, Tokyo and Seoul. Since its inception in 1992, HRnetGroup, a Singapore home-grown brand, has expanded organically within the professional recruitment and flexible staffing industry. Post its listing on the Singapore Exchange in June 2017, HRnetGroup, through a series of strategic acquisitions, has further reinforced its presence across the region.

With its two complimentary operating segments, namely professional recruitment and flexible staffing, HRnetGroup serves clients from over 30 diversified sectors, covering a wide spectrum of industries, including financial institutions, retail and consumer, information technology and telecommunications, manufacturing, healthcare life science, insurance and logistics, and functions such as human resources, finance and accounting, and legal and compliance. The Group offers professional recruitment services via 5 key operating brands, namely HRnetOne, PeopleSearch, SearchAsia, HRnetRimbang and REForce, the latter two being newly acquired brands in 2018. The key brands for flexible staffing include RecruitExpress, RecruitFirst, and Career Personnel – the latest addition in 2018 via acquisition. HRnetGroup also offers other services such as payroll processing and HR consulting.

HRnetGroup's growth has been driven by its solid infrastructure of systems and processes as well as its organisational culture that cultivates diligence, breakthrough performance, and integrity. In 2018, HRnetGroup won "The Enterprise Award" at the Singapore Business Awards, organized by The Business Times and DHL, in recognition of its profound influence on the recruitment scene in Singapore and the region.

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