HotSkills, Inc. Announces that Merrill Corporation's DataSite Receives ISO 27001 Certification

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Press Release Author: **HotSkills, Inc.**

Industry: Financial

Press Release Summary: HMerrill DataSite™, a virtual data room solution, has received international certification to ISO 27001, led by Minneapolis-based HotSkills, Inc.

Press Release Body: **HotSkills, Inc.**, a Minneapolis-based company specializing in **Information Security Management Systems (ISMS)**, today announced that **Merrill Corporation**, a leading provider of technology-enabled services for the financial, real estate, legal and other corporate markets, has received international certification to **ISO 27001** for its premier virtual data room solution, **Merrill   DataSite™**.

HotSkills worked with **Merrill Corporation** to develop and implement an **ISMS** and prepare the operations for ISO 27001 certification.

Merrill DataSite is a virtual data room (VDR) solution that is used for the organization and exchange of sensitive information between buyers and sellers during transactions such as mergers and acquisitions, IPOs, secondary offerings, credit facilities and bankruptcies. Clients benefit from shortened deal times, reduced expense, greater access to qualified bidders and the confidence that

Merrill DataSite meets the industry's most stringent standards for security.

*"We are very ideally suited to work with companies like **Merrill** that offer a service or product that require secure transactions and data privacy,"* says **Kim Sassaman, HotSkills' managing director.** "*An **ISMS framework** gives a company a competitive advantage and demonstrates to its customers that they have taken steps to ensure best practices in security management.*"

*"As a global company and leading provider of virtual data rooms for the financial industry, **Merrill Corporation** continually applies the best practices and technologies available to protect our clients' data,"* says **Rolando Galvez, Merrill's vice president of security and compliance.** *"We couldn't be more pleased with **HotSkills** and the end result. At this point, we believe **Merrill DataSite** to be the first and only VDR solution to earn **ISO 27001 certification**, the industry's highest standard for information security."*

Sassaman adds, *"Developing an **ISMS** demonstrates an organization's commitment to protecting their future with IT risk management. Our experienced consultants, unique methodology for implementation and frameworks specific to **ISMS** and quality management help clients to prepare for and achieve this distinction."*

In addition to helping **Merrill** achieve ISO certification, the **ISMS framework** that **HotSkills** developed for **Merrill DataSite** provides a security foundation throughout the entire enterprise. **HotSkills** worked closely with the individuals at **Merrill** to develop a solution specific to the organization's needs and to facilitate successful implementation.

Armed with a staff possessing proven **ISMS** industry experience, **HotSkills** provided the **Merrill DataSite** team with specific experts for each stage of the process - assessment, implementation and pre-certification.

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Editor's note: In September 2007, **HotSkills** created a new division, named **Orange Parachute**, to lead the firm's management consulting, training and audit services for **Information Security Management Systems (ISMS)**. **HotSkills** continues to operate as a technical security consulting services firm, providing subject matter

experts in a variety of security capacities.

HotSkills' Orange Parachute provides clients with proven solutions and innovative approaches to information security management, compliance management, risk assessment, audit and training. **Orange Parachute** specializes in compliance and security management systems, ISO 27001 certification, program evaluation, design, implementation and training. For more information, please call 800-841-9329 or visit www.orangeparachute.com.

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