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## **MOST COMPANIES NOW HAVE POLICIES ON INTERNET USE**

-- Companies Trying to Balance Benefits of Internet with Potential Abuses

(Cleveland, OH) - As access to the Internet has become increasingly common in the American workplace, many companies have established formal policies about the use of the Internet during office hours, a new survey by the world's leading recruiter supports.

Of more than 4,000 executives surveyed, over 80% said that management-level employees at their company who have PCs on their desks now also have access to the Internet, and 66% said that their company has an Internet usage policy in place, according to the survey conducted by Management Recruiters International, Inc. (MRI), the world's largest search and recruitment organization and a subsidiary of staffing and outsourcing leader CDI Corp. (NYSE: CDI). In addition, 31% said that their company has filtering software in place to block employees from visiting certain sites, especially adult web sites, but also including e-commerce and personal finance sites.

Corporate Internet policies range from restrictions on the amount of time an employee can surf the Internet for personal use to guidelines on the kind of sites that are inappropriate for employees to visit at the office. Some companies go so far as to prohibit employees from using the Internet for personal use at all during office hours.

"Clearly, access to the Internet has had major benefits in the workplace today. It gives employees easy access to an unlimited world of information that can greatly enhance job performance," observed Neil Fox, Chief Information Officer at MRI. "No one really objects to the occasional personal use of the Internet by employees. Yet access to the Internet can be overused or abused. Spending hours surfing the Net checking stock quotes, planning a vacation or downloading recipes during office hours is obviously not a productive use of employee time. So companies are increasingly taking steps to establish strict guidelines on Internet usage.

"On the other hand, we've also observed that some companies are actually encouraging employees to spend personal time on the Internet at work to help them get comfortable with the Internet as a work tool and to hone their Internet search skills," added Fox.

Management Recruiters International, Inc. ([www.brilliantpeople.com](http://www.brilliantpeople.com)), is the world's largest search and recruitment organization with more than 900 offices worldwide. Based in Cleveland, MRI has system-wide billings of nearly \$475 million and places 34,000 people in jobs annually. MRI is a subsidiary of Philadelphia-based CDI Corp., one of the world's largest staffing and outsourcing service providers. CDI increases the productivity and competitiveness of its Fortune 1000 customer base through customized technical, information technology, professional and administrative staffing and outsourcing solutions. CDI employs 31,000 people and generated \$1.54 billion in revenue in 1998. For more information about CDI services and employment opportunities, visit the CDI Corp. web site at [www.cdicorp.com](http://www.cdicorp.com).

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