

September 23, 1999

TELECOMMUTING ON FAST TRACK IN CORPORATE AMERICA

(Cleveland, Ohio) - Telecommuting has become as common in the corporate world as casual Fridays, according to the latest hiring 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).

Of the more than 1,500 executives surveyed, 41% acknowledged that some of their employees telecommute and 37.5% expected the percentage that telecommute to grow in the future. Only 5.4% of those polled said the number of employees who telecommute would shrink. Responses by executives in sales and marketing were even stronger. 56.1% said some of their employees telecommute and 43% expect that number to row.

"As a result of technology advances, millions of American workers can now conduct their business outside of the office, primarily from their homes. All it generally takes is a computer, e-mail, fax and phone. In fact, telecommuting has forever changed the nature of the American workplace," observed MRI President and CEO Allen Salikof.

"The results of our study confirm that telecommuting is here to stay," Salikof said. "Telecommuting gives employers another method of addressing the continuing shortage of qualified workers, while at the same time, provides employees with another option for balancing work and family life. It is also obvious that telecommuting is a very viable option for sales and marketing professionals."

Hiring levels for executive, managerial and professional people have been at historically high levels since the last half of 1997, and projections for the first half of 1999 show almost no signs of weakening, according to the MRI hiring survey. Of the more than 3,800 executives surveyed, 52.8% indicated plans to increase their mid-to-upper management and profession staffs in the first half of 1999. Another 38.7% plan to maintain their current staff sizes, up by 1.1 points, and 8.5% plan decreases, up by 1.3 points.

Management Recruiters International, Inc., (brilliantpeople.com) is the world's largest search and recruitment organization with nearly 800 offices worldwide. Based in Cleveland, MRI has systemwide billings of nearly \$475 million and places 34,000 people in jobs annually. MRI is a subsidiary of Philadelphia-based CDI Corp. (www.cdicorp.com). 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 revenues totaled \$1.54 billion in 1998.

#