



## **JOBPARTNERS, SHL AND PORTMAN BUILDING SOCIETY PARTNER TO CREATE UNIQUE AND HIGHLY EFFECTIVE RECRUITMENT SOLUTION**

### ***Jobpartners and SHL work with Portman Building Society to transform its recruitment process***

**London, 7 November 2006** – Jobpartners, the European leader of software solutions dedicated to the people relationship management (PRM) market, and SHL, world-leading provider of psychometric assessment solutions, today announced that they have partnered with Portman Building Society to develop a ground-breaking recruitment process. Jobpartners' e-recruitment solution, ActiveRecruiter, has been tightly integrated with SHL's candidate assessment technology to provide Portman Building Society with a complete solution for streamlining its recruitment process and ensure objective selection based on psychometric tests.

"In order to ensure that our customers receive an excellent service and that we attract and retain the best candidates, we recognised that we needed to implement an online recruitment process," commented Paula Jordan, Associate HR Director at Portman Building Society. "Online recruitment is no longer a 'nice-to-have', it is now essential and its absence is a barrier to a successful business. We chose to partner with Jobpartners and SHL as they are both leaders in their fields and could commit to achieving our objectives within our challenging timescale. Together we have created a highly innovative solution, which we believe is an industry first, and which gives us great competitive advantage."

Portman Building Society has implemented ActiveRecruiter to recruit for roles, which vary from head office positions to customer advisors for its branch network, and as a result it is improving awareness of its career opportunities. [Careers@portman](mailto:Careers@portman), the name given to the website, enables the Society to attract the right kind of candidates by ensuring it contains strong messaging on organisation culture and provides a process for testing candidates' fit with the advertised role. SHL has pinpointed the skill-sets Portman Building Society requires and has developed tests to ensure the company can identify candidates with the desired competencies.

The ActiveRecruiter and SHL systems have been seamlessly integrated to support easy online assessment of candidates as part of the standard recruitment process within the Society. ActiveRecruiter emails SHL test invitations directly to pre-selected candidates to complete online assessments. Completed tests are automatically available to recruiters and line managers within ActiveRecruiter for swift review and better informed recruitment decisions.

"The partnership between the Society, Jobpartners and SHL is helping to increase the efficiency and consistency of our recruitment process ensuring faster response times, a better candidate experience and greater retention," commented Paula Jordan. "Having the right people, in the right place, with the right level of skills, passion and enthusiasm is key to employee performance, and

this solution is instrumental in helping us to achieve this.”

Following the success at Portman Building Society, Jobpartners and SHL will continue to work together to offer its integrated recruitment solution to other organisations such as Boots.

“The work we have done with Portman Building Society is very exciting as we have developed a solution which has totally transformed the company’s recruitment process,” commented Patrice Barbedette, founder of Jobpartners. “We look forward to working with other organisations to help them also achieve highly successful talent management. In the future we hope to build on this partnership by integrating SHL’s assessment capabilities into our employee appraisal and career development solutions.”

“The solution we have developed with Portman is highly effective and accurate and it helps to cut hiring costs,” commented Kevin Kerrigan, UK Managing Director at SHL. “Other organisations can now benefit from higher attraction rates due to a seamless experience for the candidate as they move through the recruitment stages, and high retention rates owed to a sophisticated objective selection process to help HR and recruiting teams make the right recruitment choices.”

#### **About Jobpartners**

Founded in 2000 and headquartered in London, Jobpartners provides software solutions for qualitative human resources management and People Relationship Management (PRM). The leader in the European market, the company’s innovative and straightforward approach provides companies with strategic value by enabling them to establish privileged relationships with new job applicants and current employees. The company’s solutions address recruitment issues as well as internal mobility, performance management, executives and key people management, succession planning and career management. With four subsidiaries in Europe, Jobpartners has clients in 45 countries and across all industry sectors. Jobpartners has been ranked the tenth fastest growing private company by Real Business in its Hot 100 list of 2006 and the Sunday Times ranked Jobpartners in 44<sup>th</sup> place in its Tech Track 100 list of 2006. For more information, please visit [www.jobpartners.com](http://www.jobpartners.com).

#### **About SHL Group PLC**

SHL is the world-leading provider of psychometric assessment and development solutions. The company supports organisations in the selection, recruitment, promotion, succession planning and development of talented people at all levels and across all sectors. Operating in 40 countries and more than 30 languages, the SHL Group devises innovative approaches to help organisations increase productivity and gain competitive advantage through the more effective use of their human capital. SHL has over 5,500 organisations as clients, including many of the Global and Times Top 1000, and is recognised as the foremost provider of objective assessment products in the world. For more information please visit [www.shl.com](http://www.shl.com).

#### **About Portman Building Society**

Portman Building Society is the third largest UK building society and 13th largest UK mortgage lender. In the five years since 2000, Portman has more than doubled in size. During this period Portman was the fastest growing top ten building society in terms of total assets. The Group has total assets of £17.8 billion and employs over 2,300 staff, serving 1.8 million members. For more information please visit [www.portman.co.uk](http://www.portman.co.uk). The Society has a network of 143 branches. Its Head Office is in Bournemouth, Dorset and it has an administration centre based in the West Midlands.