

Saba and JRS Group partner to offer Managed Learning Service

SMEs expected to gain from evolving business training and learning landscape

Saba, the leading provider of human capital development and management (HCDM) solutions, and Australian-owned multinational human capital management consultancy, JRS Global, today announced the two companies have signed a channel agreement to offer Australian businesses an integrated, self-service managed learning service (MLS). The partnership will enable JRS Global to offer small and medium businesses a hosted learning solution, based on Saba Enterprise Learning, through its training company, Dot Educate (.educate).

The JRS Groups service, built on Saba Enterprise Learning, is an improvement on existing available services because it gives businesses self-service access to career planning, competency profiling and advanced learning management capabilities that extend well beyond the traditional offerings that have been available in the market.

"The training and learning landscape in Australia is changing dramatically," said Richard Boggon, Vice President, Saba Asia Pacific. Businesses are recognising the strategic importance of giving their staff appropriate education at the right time - and of managing that learning process to meet business objectives - rather than training people in an ad hoc manner.

Our new channel arrangement with JRS Global gives small and medium businesses access to the same advanced functionality of the Saba system as our corporate customers, but without the need to outlay significant capital, Boggon said. With JRS, Saba is delivering a one-stop-shop for training that will give Australian SMEs the competitive edge of a workforce aligned with business objectives.

Jacques de Villiers, CEO, Dot Educate, agrees that the joint offering with Saba will take the guesswork out of who has done what training or certification in SMEs.

In our experience, tracking training to make sure that the right people are trained to meet the demands of particular projects makes a huge difference to business outcomes, no matter what the scale of the enterprise, de Villiers said. By offering the Saba-based MLS through Dot Educate, we will eliminate the training for trainings sake attitude that is the norm in Australian small business.

The Saba Enterprise Learning solutions web-based architecture enables businesses to better manage and develop the training and career paths of their employees, as well as ensure that the right person is in the right job at the right time. Saba Enterprise Learning helps customers maintain a skilled and motivated workforce that can adapt quickly to respond to market changes, improve employee performance and retention, and dramatically reduce the cost of deploying human capital assets.

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About JRS Global:

JRS Global is a management consultancy specialising in developing the value of human capital for enterprises around the world. Based in Sydney, Australia, JRS Global encompasses four learning- and human resources-focused organisations: .educate, which provides managed learning services and specialised training; Mind Resources, delivering pre-packaged multimedia training programs to corporate, industrial, government and educational customers; Powerhouse, human resources and organisational development specialists; and Prime, which provides permanent and temporary recruitment services for executive, support, hospitality and industrial staff. For more information, visit www.jrsglobal.com

About Saba:

Saba (NASDAQ: SABA) is the leading provider of human capital development and management (HCDM) solutions, which increase organisational performance through the implementation of a management system for aligning, developing and managing people. Among the Global 2000, Saba customers include Alcatel, Cisco Systems, DaimlerChrysler, EMC Corp., Kaiser Permanente, Medtronic, Procter & Gamble and VERITAS Software. In Australia, customers include Flight Centre, Insurance Australia Group (IAG), Promina, Queensland Rail, Caterpillar, Deloitte Consulting, Perpetual Trustees and Cisco Systems. Saba has received industry recognition for its solutions, and was recently named again to the leader quadrant position in the Gartner 2004 e-Learning Suite and Learning Management Systems (LMS) 'Magic Quadrants'. Saba was ranked in March by IT industry analyst META Group as a market leader in learning management technology for the third consecutive year.

Saba is headquartered in Redwood Shores, California, with offices worldwide. In 1999, the company opened Asia Pacific headquarters in Sydney, Australia. For more information, please visit www.saba.com