

3 February 2009



## **Media Release**

### **Unauthorised emails from jobs.nsw.gov.au in circulation**

The NSW Department of Commerce has concluded an investigation into the recent attempts to access and extract information from the jobs.nsw website.

Registered users of the website raised concerns with the Department following receipt of unsolicited spam email purporting to be from the jobs.nsw website. The email contained details of a hoax job vacancy and requested applicants reply to receive further information.

In response the Department immediately shut down the jobs.nsw website and instigated a formal investigation. Ernst & Young was engaged to undertake a comprehensive specialist forensic examination of the site to determine if and how a security breach occurred and if personal information had been accessed.

Based on the results of the forensic investigation, email addresses of registered users were obtained by unauthorised persons, however the Department understands that no registered user's personal information such as full name, address, telephone number or resume were obtained.

The Department regrets any inconvenience that this incident has caused to registered users of the jobs.nsw site. The Department is taking steps to ensure that registered users are made aware of the incident. Registered users of jobs.nsw should continue to be wary of receiving unsolicited emails purporting to be from the site and are advised not to reply to any such email. The relevant authorities have been notified.

Steps are underway to restore the jobs.nsw site. Interim arrangements for advertising and applying for NSW Government job vacancies are in place and information on this can be obtained via an information page on the jobs.nsw.gov.au website.

The NSW Department of Commerce takes the security of personal and commercial information very seriously and has network security measures in place to protect such information.

If registered users have any questions or concerns they should contact the NSW Government information line on 133 679.

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**END**