

# TI News

Around the world with The Textile Institute



## Council Matters

### Annual General Meeting

The 2007 Annual General Meeting of The Textile Institute will be held on Thursday, 10 May 2007 at 11.00am in the 2nd Floor Board Room, St James's Buildings, Oxford St., Manchester, M1 6FQ, UK.

Copies of the Calling Notice and Agenda for this meeting are being circulated to all members with this issue of textiles. They may also be downloaded from the Members-only section of the Institute's website.

A meeting of Council will take place in the afternoon of 10 May 2007.

## Update on the Journal of The Textile Institute

From Vol 97 (2006) onwards, papers published in the Journal of The Textile Institute will be abstracted in the Science Citation Index Expanded, Web of Science, and Materials Science Citation Index. All three are published by Thomson Scientific, the world's most influential abstracting and indexing service. In addition, starting in 2008, a Citation Index, a measure of the impact of the Journal, will also be published. Only five other textile-related journals are abstracted and indexed by Thomson Scientific, only one of which is a full-coverage international journal.

This association with Thomson Scientific will add to an already large list of abstracting and indexing services covering the Journal, including, Chemical Abstracts Service, Coloration Technology Abstracts, Elsevier Scopus, INSPEC, Polymer Library, Textile Technology Index, TOGA, and World Textile Abstracts.

The Editor-in-Chief, David Buchanan, and the Editorial Board of the Journal anticipate that this Thomson Scientific coverage will increase the visibility of the Journal and help to attract even more high quality manuscripts, thereby increasing the relevance of the Journal to the world-wide textile community.

## Letter to Members

Dear Members,

Welcome to textiles 2007.

2006 was a positive and productive year, with improved communication with members both individual and corporate, Special Interest Group development and much Section activity. The New Year is time for reflection but also new resolutions.

The Textile Institute is continuously looking at ways in which it can improve services for members. A full range of new services are planned for 2007 including further developments to the TI website [www.textileinstitute.org](http://www.textileinstitute.org) in regards to information access and more events both locally and internationally through the many Sections, Special Interest Groups, Corporate members and TI partners.

It is paramount that the Institute is aware of how members perceive the membership package and the Institute itself. Please do let me know if you have any suggestions for membership services or improvements to them. The Institute will report on the findings and update the package available to members, where possible, to meet demand.

The Royal Charter is proof of our dedication to professionalism and continuous improvement and being a member of a chartered institute gives

you professional recognition for your experience and achievement. It is important for all members to fly the flag of The Textile Institute. I am requesting all members to inform their colleagues and friends of the benefits of being a member of this great worldwide Institute.

Simply contact me at the email address below and I will supply a full list of both Individual and Corporate member benefits for circulation.

Wishing all TI members a happy and productive 2007.

Kind Regards

Stephanie Dick  
Membership Manager  
[sdick@textileinst.org](mailto:sdick@textileinst.org)

## Historic First – Testimony of a Foresight

November 2006 saw the 50th celebration of the conception of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is now a university with approximately 100,000 students on an impressive campus in Shah Alam, Malaysia and is about to increase to double this size within a few years. The Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Ibrahim Shah officiated on most occasions and was clearly a very popular VC with both staff and students. His charismatic leadership had clearly moved the University forward.

The Textile Institute recently accredited two of the university's textile courses and was pleased to be invited to present a testimonial at the celebration banquet which 1,600 people attended



Mr. John Smith attending the Conference of Vice Chancellors, Malaysia

*continued opposite*



Mr John Smith meeting the Minister of Higher Education

including the King and Queen of Malaysia, the Prime Minister and numerous state and foreign dignitaries, as well as an impressive list of Alumni who were now key members of industry in Malaysia. Mr John T. Smith, Chairman of International Events at The Textile Institute was honoured to be the TI representative and to make the presentation on behalf of The Textile Institute.



Reception Dinner at UiTM Hotel

A week long programme of events started with UiTM's International Conference of University Vice Chancellors, progressed through sessions of convocation where three eminent Pro-Chancellors shared the officiating, a necessity when there are so many hands to shake. The week's events culminated with an outdoor concert on stage, in the football arena, of leading Malaysian artists several of whom were past students of the University. Even the torrential rain did not dampen the spirits! The celebrations were brought to a close with a firework display worthy of international new year celebrations.



Mr John Smith and Vice Chancellor

## TI World President Elect

As previously reported, Prof Xiaoming Tao CText FTI, will be succeeding Mr Gerry Mauretti as World President at the AGM.

Prof Tao is Chair Professor of Textile Technology and Head of the Institute of Textiles and Clothing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She graduated with a BEng and first class prize for undergraduates in Textile Engineering from the former China Textile University in 1982 and received her PhD in Textile Physics from the University of New South Wales, Australia in 1987.

She is also an elected Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineering, the Royal Society of Arts and the Hong Kong Institute of Textiles and Apparel. Currently, she is the Editor-in-Chief of Textile Progress and also serves on the editorial boards of nine international journals.

Prof Tao is dedicated to the promotion of the advancement of science for textiles. She has conducted

numerous research projects, with a focus on advanced fibrous materials and textile technology. She is known internationally for her work on photonic fibres and fabrics, electric fabric devices, novel yarn spinning technology and textile composites. With more than 480 scientific publications, including more than 150 refereed journal papers, 5 research monographs and 12 granted patents, Prof Tao's research work has won her numerous scholarships and prizes.

By closely working with the industry, Prof. Tao led a team at the Institute of Textiles and Clothing to bid successfully to host the Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel Ltd., securing funding to ensure its long-term development as a Centre of Excellence internationally.

Commenting on her appointment, Prof Tao said that she is most honoured to be the first female Asian academic to be elected as the TI World President.

### CORPORATE PROFILE

Marks & Spencer joined The Textile Institute in 1978. Both organisations have enjoyed a strong professional relationship through the decades. Marks & Spencer was awarded The Textile Institute Jubilee Award in 1984. Established in 1960 to commemorate the Institute's Golden Jubilee, the award is presented for successful research and invention by teams or groups of research workers, working within any appropriate organisation.

With a history stretching back over 100 years, and with over 500 stores in the UK and 220 stores across the world, Marks & Spencer has a lot of experience when it comes to developing and delivering textile goods to the consumer. Furthermore, as the biggest clothing retailer in the UK Marks and Spencer remains committed to the core values of Quality, Innovation, Service, Innovation and Trust as these have a clear resonance with the modern consumer who are making careful choices about where they shop and what they buy.

Within the textiles arena Marks &

Spencer, alongside its suppliers, has developed some of the most exciting innovations and products to hit the UK high street. These include the Machine Washable suit\*, the ultimate non-iron shirt, underwear and clothing that improves your shape and socks that keep your feet fresh and odour free. All of which are developments that M&S has created whilst retaining core values.

In addition to product development, Marks & Spencer has always worked hard to ensure its products are ethically sourced and has played a key role within the retail and textile industries to help set standards for ethical trade. But they haven't stopped there. They recently announced their commitment to combat wider social and environmental issues, including climate change and waste, through 'Plan A' - their five-year, 100-point plan to tackle some of the biggest challenges facing their business and the world. M&S will be working with customers and suppliers to become carbon neutral, reduce waste, safeguard natural resources, trade ethically and build a healthier environment. (see complete article on page17 in this issue)

**MARKS & SPENCER**

*Winner of the Queen's Award for Innovation*

For further details about M&S please visit:  
[www2.marksandspencer.com/thecompany/whowear](http://www2.marksandspencer.com/thecompany/whowear)

## Visit to Savile Row



“An Englishman” said Philip Parker, MD of Henry Poole and Co, quoting the late Hardy Amies, “chooses his clothes with care, puts them on with care, and then forgets about them.” Philip continued, “What you are buying in Savile Row are classic garments crafted to the highest standard, made to last for many years and with built in room for growth.”



Ms Janet Best, Mr Philip Parker and Mr Bill Bohm

We, members of the London Section of The Textile Institute, were sitting in the workrooms of Henry Poole and Co on dainty silver chairs borrowed from the Hardy Amies showroom next door, while Philip talked about Savile Row tailoring surrounded by all the tools and materials of his craft; the cutting tables, shears, chalk, and lengths of Super 120's.

The reason that we were in the workrooms, which from our point of view was a bonus, was due to the ongoing refurbishment of the showroom



Joshua Byrne - Cutter

upstairs where we should have been. And the reason for that dates back to the change of law in 1987 which removed the definition of light industrial, introduced in 1963, from the use of premises in Savile Row. By re-zoning and therefore removing the protected rents not only in Savile Row but indeed many other areas of specialist trades in London as well, such as Hatton Garden or Jermyn

Street, other businesses have been able to move into these areas and afford the much higher rents.

Philip began his talk by telling his own story. At the age of 17 he and his father entered the offices of the Federation of Merchant Tailors in Savile Row where after a chat they were sent off to Sullivan and Woolley at No18 Conduit Street a short distance away. “Here I was to meet Mr Desmond

Patterson and Mr. Jack Woolley owners of the company, both of whom would become mentors and friends. So, Christmas 1963 starting at the princely sum of £2.10 shillings a week my apprenticeship in bespoke tailoring began.”

Philip went on to tell us about the history of Savile Row itself, “which dates back to the eighteenth century when it was the vegetable garden of Burlington House, now the Royal Academy of Art. A private residence was built there which became No. 1 Savile Row (home today of Gieves and Hawkes)



The buttonhole

and where guests included Beau Brummel. From this grew a street now known as Savile Row, but which in the beginning was in fact Savile Street named after the Earl of Burlington, using his wife's family name. The first tailor on the Row was Henry Poole and Co. The Poole history begins with James Poole, a tailor who moved to London from Shropshire in 1806 and started



The basted state

working with his wife in the front room of their house in Bloomsbury. In 1846 James died and his son Henry took control of the business. The stable block at the rear of the building in Old

Burlington Street was now converted into a large showroom and workshops with a main entrance made into the Row.”

Henry had no children and so the company passed to his cousin Samuel Cundey, and then down the generations



Monty's breeches

to Angus Cundey, the current Chairman. While Savile Row is renowned for the quality of its tailoring and the high profile of its clients none of this would be possible without the

nurturing of apprentices. The cutters that I talked to and Philip himself all spoke very fondly of the Master Tailors that had trained them, befriended them and then with complete trust introduced them to their first client.

Let me quote Philip again. “Savile Row has an iconic status and plays a significant role in London's economy and many companies have provided a high quality service for over a century or two. The sector employs approximately 450 people making 10,000 garments per annum generating an income of some £21 million. This includes a very large



Replica of Nelson's uniform

amount of exports, home trade being only some 20% of the total. However a serious decline in vocational training means companies currently have an ageing workforce. Training has always been an important part of my professional

life. Apart from myself and one other, let's say mature, cutter, we have four young fully trained operating cutters all under 35 years of age with a great diversity of skills and growing

*experience. We must let them grow! ”*

*Philip Parker - “ When a new customer walks into Savile Row he or she enters a world that has changed little since the 1800’s in the way it approaches its day to day work. Each garment that is made is as individual as the person it is being made for. The client selects the cloth, lining and buttons, then the measures and figuration are taken and the style of the proposed garments discussed. Once the order is processed by the showroom, the cutter who has taken the measurements and whose responsibility it is to look after this particular client takes over. A paper pattern is created, cloth ordered and cut out. Next the cut garment goes to the trimmings room where the linings, buttons, pocketings and canvases etc, in fact everything that goes into the making up of that garment are added. From here the job will go to the workshop and the coat maker,*



The wardrobe

*waistcoat maker or trouser maker will take over. When it is seen again by the cutter it will be in what we*

*call the ‘basted’ state. The customer is then advised for a fitting or the job taken on one of our trips abroad to be*



Angus Cundy and Bill Bohm

*fitting. Once this is done the jacket and if there is one, the waistcoat will be ripped down smoothed out and re-marked up with the alterations decided by the cutter at the fitting. We call these alterations ‘improvements.’ Then the job goes back to the tailors to be prepared for the next fitting, a process which can be repeated 2 or 3 times before we have the finished item.”*

It is not difficult to see that the showrooms, cutting room and workshops need to be together in order for the close working relationship of those involved to be efficient. Sending work away to another location costs time and money as well as the possibility of a mishap in transit.

You may think that Savile Row is just for the elite, the wealthy who can afford the luxury of the bespoke item, and so why should we take any interest in the relatively small number of tailors

who work in this field? As with all craft, the excellence of the skilled provides a benchmark and their standards provide an aspiration as well as an inspiration for others. Henry Poole suits are worn all over the world and have been for 200 years,

Back here in London, Savile Row has teamed up with Newham College in East London ([www.newham.ac.uk](http://www.newham.ac.uk)) to offer the Bespoke Tailoring Apprenticeship Programme. This four-year course will ensure

that all of the basic skills are mastered before a student goes on to complete their advanced apprenticeship with a master tailor. I must add that this initiative called Savile Row Bespoke (SRB) is a partnership between several Savile Row tailors and Newham College.

Craftsmanship can only be passed on person to person, by example and guidance and once that chain is broken it is difficult, if not impossible to mend. The history of Henry Poole and Co exemplifies very clearly that the working life of the tailors must overlap in order for the huge body of knowledge and skill to be passed on. Not only in London but internationally, 200 years after James Poole began his tailoring career, craftsmanship in Savile Row is alive and well.

***A full version of this article is available on the section page of the web-site.***

## Swiss Section AGM

The 28th Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Section of The Textile Institute took place on January 24 2007 at the offices of Munzinger AG in Olten. The Chairman, Andreas Weber, welcomed 20 participants in spite of the snow and started with a review of the events of the previous year.

Andreas Weber Chairman proposed that again this year both a summer and a winter meeting would be held on the following dates:

- **60th meeting:**  
6 June 2007,  
when a visit to an undertaking of the knitting industry will be organised.
- **29th AGM and 61st meeting:**  
23 January 2008,  
the place and object of the visit remains currently open.

A full report of all Swiss Section meetings can be found on the Swiss Section Archive page <http://www.textileinstitute.org/SwissSection.asp>



**London & South East Section - Programme 2007**

Wednesday March 7th 2007 - 6.00pm for 6.30pm

**'Holding Fashion Together'** – Specialist Sewing Threads, Sewing Threads for Apparel Today.

Speaker: **Jens Zeuke-Güttermann**

Venue: Rootstein Hopkins Centre Space, 20 John Prince's Street, London College of Fashion, London W1

Nearest Tube: Oxford Circus

**TI & SDC members free, students free with student card, non-members £5 on the door.**

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Friday April 20th 2007 - 9.00am to 2.00pm

**'Marketing – 'Delivering the Vision'** – Joint TI & SDC Event)

Chair: **Malcolm Campbell** – The Wool Company - Commercial Director

Speakers: **Gloria Goldstein** – Pentland - Marketing Director

**Neil Lewis** – M&S Marketing Manager - Christmas & Special Events Marketing.

**Peter Robinson** – Harvey Nichols – Marketing Manager

**Alan Westcot** – Visual Red - Director - Brand identity & store display

**Ian Price** – (CIBA) Huntsman Group – Marketing Director

**High IQ** – "a branding programme for intelligent effects?"

**David Shaw** – London College of Fashion - Mastering Fashion Marketing - marketing theory into practice in the context of fashion and the issues involved

**Mischon de Reya Solicitors** – Protecting Intellectual Property

Venue: Rootstein Hopkins Centre Space, 20 John Prince's Street, London College of Fashion, London W1

Nearest Tube: Oxford Circus

**TI & SDC members £5, non-members £20 on the door or free if enrolled as TI members on or before the day.**

**Refreshments will be provided. Reservations to Bill Bohm: TI London Office, 5 Portland Place, London, W1B 1PW Tel: 020 7580 8289 Fax: 0207580 9535 Email: bill@bohm.fsnet.co.uk**

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Wednesday, May 23rd 2007 - 6.30pm for 7.00pm

**"Glamorous Curves and Wasp Waists"** - Cutting Edge Lingerie

Speaker **Lindsay Fidler** – Angelic Weapons – Design Director

Venue: Davies Street Lecture Theatre (DS28), 65 Davies Street London W1K 5DA

Nearest Tube: Bond Street

**TI & SDC members free, students free with student card, non-members £5 on the door.**

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Wednesday, June 13th 2007 - 6.30pm for 7.00pm

**AGM & Lecture 'Fast Fashion'**

Speaker: **Ken Watson** – The Industry Forum

Host: **Simon Colbeck** – Technical Manager Menswear

Venue: Marks & Spencer Head Office, Waterside House, North Wharf Road, Paddington London W2 1NW

Nearest Tube: Paddington

*Dinner at a local restaurant to be confirmed afterwards.*

**TI & SDC members free, students free with student card. For security reasons please notify your attendance to Bill Bohm TI London Office 5 Portland Place, London, W1B 1PW Tel: 020 7580 8289 Fax: 0207580 9535**

**Email: bill@bohm.fsnet.co.uk**

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Wednesday, July 11th 2007 - 2.00pm to 6.00pm

**TI Graduate Designers Exhibition**

Venue: HM Treasury, Horse Guards Parade, London W1

Nearest Tube: Westminster

**Organised by the TI Design Special Interest Group - Admission by invitation only for security reasons, requests to Bill Bohm - contact details as for AGM & Lecture above.**

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## London & South East Section - Christmas Party

The TI London & SE Section Christmas party went well this year and was well attended by a cross section of committee, members and non-members. Held at 5 Portland Place, London the early start early finish strategy seemed to work well for everyone at this very busy time of year.

A buffet selection of food was on offer along with some fine wines. The

welcoming glass of festive bubbles was very refreshing and got everyone off to a good start. As well as a selection of traditional Christmas music, some rocking tunes were played which led nicely in to the fun quiz and pass the parcel with some very nice trinkets to take home.

Committee member Margaret Stott was our lucky raffle first prize winner of

£50 vouchers to spend at J P Boden & Co Ltd; other prizes included a book on Colour Psychology and gift-wrapped wine. A special thanks to Laurence Rubin for doing such a fantastic job with the catering.

Janet Best  
Chair

## New Zealand Section Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of The Textile Institute New Zealand Section was held on the 23 November 2006 at the Quality Inn Manukau, Auckland. The Chairman, Dr Surinder Tandon, welcomed members and outlined the past year in his report. A highlight of the year was the Second Joint Mini Symposium, held at the Lakeland Resort Hotel, Taupo in March 2006. This event, which was organised in conjunction with the Society of Dyers & Colorists New Zealand, provided a good opportunity for participants to hear a series of quality presentations, and renew contacts with colleagues in the industry.

At the AGM, Dr Surinder Tandon was returned as Chairman of the Section and Dr Errol Wood continues as Secretary/Treasurer. The deaths of two former stalwarts of the Section, Bob King and Ron Edson were noted with regret while Surinder Tandon and Al Ross were congratulated on being awarded FTI.

The guest speaker at the AGM was Mr Peter Heslop, Manager of the Textile & Design Laboratory at Auckland University of Technology. He outlined the establishment and

objectives of the new knitting and printing facilities in his recently-established laboratory. The laboratory aims to be a self-sustaining experimental and teaching centre providing services for students and the industry.

Prior to the AGM, TINZ members visited the Papatoetoe plant of Cavalier Bremworth Carpets Ltd. This enabled the group to see modern carpet tufting and finishing technologies in action, and to inspect the diverse range of carpet styles made possible by these technologies. We are grateful to Mr Alan Whittaker and Mr David Phillippe for making the visit such an interesting one.



Above:  
David Phillippe (left) displays the Cavalier Bremworth range of carpets to Surinder Tandon, Tony Booth and Jeremy Wear

Left:  
Peter Heslop (right) discusses textile design with Errol Wood, Jeremy Wear, Clive Smith and Neil Tucker

*For further information on the New Zealand Section please check the section page of the web-site.*



## North Indian Section

The 3rd International Conference of NISTI (North Indian Section of The Textile Institute) was held 8-9 December 2006 in New Delhi with the theme Natural Fibres: Vision 2020.

The conference was held in collaboration with the Institute of Natural Fibres, Poland.

The conference offered a platform to discuss all aspects related to natural fibres, providing an understanding of the current state of development and to secure the future in the competitive environment in the years to come.

Natural Fibres: Vision 2020 was a well attended conference with over 180 delegates and invitees. There were delegations from Poland (representing the Institute of Natural Fibres), South Africa and from Bangladesh with a large-scale participation from industry.

## Obituaries

### Mr A A Vazacopoulos

Mr A A Vazacopoulos CText FTI CCOL FSDC joined The Textile Institute in 1948, was awarded his CText FTI in 1974 and became a Life Member of the Institute in 2001. During his membership of the TI Mr Vazacopoulos was supportive of all at TIHQ and with others helped to establish the Greek Section.

### Mr J H Leach

The Textile Institute would like to express its condolences on the passing of Mr J H Leach CText FTI Comp TI. Mr Leach joined The Textile Institute on 1st March 1985, and his interest in its work over the years has been greatly appreciated by all that knew him. He achieved his CText FTI in 1985 and in 1989 was awarded Companionship of The Textile Institute by Council in recognition of his substantial contribution to the advancement of the general interests of the textile industry.

## Manchester and Cheshire Section

### Celebrity Lecture: *China – Opportunity or Threat?*

Having heard Trevor Robson giving keynote speeches at several international conferences over the years, I was confident that members of the Manchester and Cheshire Section of The Textile Institute would find his lecture *China - Opportunity or Threat?* interesting. Accordingly, this was organised on Wednesday, 17 January 2007 at the Friends Meeting House, Manchester.

After the brief welcome by the Section Chairman, Dr Kim Gandhi, Trevor started his presentation with a view of recent international and Chinese national headlines about the Chinese textile industry that left little doubt that the industry in China is expanding at an incredible pace and would literally change the world. He then moved into a pragmatic and comprehensive SWOT

(Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis of the industry that covered the full spectrum from low but increasing labour costs to branding, management, sourcing, legal structures and market entry options for Western companies.

Trevor discussed what the UK industry had to do both to protect itself and to seek opportunities by trading with China. Many industrialists and academics thought this extremely interesting as it was pure and professional strategic management material that no company should ignore!

Following this, he went into detail about a range of strategies that included products that China needed such as a whole range of technical textiles, branded products, and academia/R&D collaboration. Then followed a detailed explanation of what “Balanced Sourcing” entailed with

some good examples of UK companies that had taken this strategy, tips on developing off-shore manufacturing and other possible ventures in China and he concluded with a pragmatic but encouraging view of future international trade that included the UK’s textile industry.

It is seldom that a speaker keeps an audience focussed on a subject for an hour but the fast delivery style, content and industry knowledge of Trevor was very much welcomed and appreciated.

The presentation concluded with interesting questions and answers from the members present and finally with the vote of thanks by Helen Rowe, Vice Chair of the Section.

*Dr Kim Gandhi (Chair)*



## Welcome to The Textile Institute Recruitment Service!

*The textile industry is a global market, but how do international companies find the right candidate?*

The Textile Institute Business Information Service department has addressed this problem by incorporating a recruitment service, which has a database of active members currently seeking suitable positions.

This service has become one of the busiest activities within Business Information and allows members to advertise themselves in the form of a brief statement. Other information on the web page includes qualifications, minimum salary acceptable, availability to relocate within native country, willingness to move abroad and the type of position they require. All of this information is posted on the TI website [www.textileinstitute.org](http://www.textileinstitute.org) and each candidate is given a unique number to protect anonymity.

The TI website attracts over 35000 visits per month and all areas of textiles are covered from designers to technologists. All levels of personnel advertise themselves and include everybody from new graduates to experienced managers.

An alternative aspect to The Textile Institute Recruitment Service is an employer seeking a potential employee. They can request information about candidates listed on the website by contacting the Business Information Service. We can then arrange appointments to meet with candidates and set up interviews. The successful appointment of a candidate is subject to a recruitment fee but for Corporate members there is a substantial discount.

The service operates like a traditional recruitment agency, but with highly specialised and qualified personnel on our database we can assure the right candidates for any post in the textile industry. Further to this due to our international membership we can place candidates in any location.

For more information please email: [runsworth@textileinst.org.uk](mailto:runsworth@textileinst.org.uk) <http://www.textileinstitute.org/RecruitmentReg.asp>