

**Inbox/Outbox 2009 and Mesmo Consultancy Announce Results of  
“Web 2.0 in Business” Survey**

*Survey reveals the main business drivers and barriers for adoption of web 2.0 technologies in corporations*

Inbox/Outbox, the UK's leading forum for corporate messaging, e-marketing and collaborative communications, in partnership with Mesmo Consultancy, a leading email training and consultancy company, have announced the results of a new survey investigating the adoption in business of social networking and collaborative tools generally referred to as Web 2.0 technologies. Founder of Mesmo Consultancy, Dr Monica Seeley, chose Inbox/outbox 2009 to reveal the outcome of the survey that confirmed that 41% of respondents believe there will be an increase in the use of Web 2.0 and over 70% are already using it as an alternative to email in the business environment.

The survey targeted IT, marketing and business professionals to look at how, if at all, Web 2.0 is generating profitable business for them. Both generation X and Y were represented with interestingly 62% in the 36 to 55 age bracket. With leading computer manufacturer Dell recently reporting \$3M of sales generated from Twitter, it is indisputable that social networking outlets such as Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn are now being used as an integral part of business communication.

According to the results of Dr Seeley's survey, the main driver for the increase in Web 2.0 adoption seems to be the need to reduce the time spent sending emails and the volume of emails being sent. Mesmo Consultancy found that organisations are wasting up to twenty one days per person per year (45 minutes per day) through inappropriate use of email. It is this fact that has caused 71% of respondents to cite the need for an alternative to email, for communications and information sharing.

Despite the increase in interest towards social networking websites, blogs and wikis, there is still a great deal of concern and scepticism. The three key reasons for not using Web 2.0 technologies, as cited by respondents were security, the lack of evidence supporting its effectiveness as a relevant business communications tool and the time it takes to use such media.

Dr Monica Seeley commented on the results, "Over 51% of the business professionals who took part in the survey highlighted security as a potential barrier to the evolution of Web 2.0 in the work place. Judging by the number of emails I receive on a daily basis from IT professionals who are struggling to make conventional email systems bullet-proof, it is clear this will play a key factor. However, time and information overload are real problems for most of us. We are time poor and data rich and for many businesses, there is no other option than to develop current communication tools and look at new ones."

"Web 2.0 is exciting and it does offer the opportunity for businesses, large and small, to be more efficient and productive. For this to work, there needs to be more reassuring, proven cases of success before it is more commonly used in business to improve productivity and increase sales," adds Managing Director of Revolution Events, Rich Tribe. "Already 45% of Internet users spend most of their time on user generated websites but sound policies and clear practice guidance need to be in place to reassure IT professionals and office managers that business intelligence and data security is not at risk."

The current lack of clear guidelines and training was also highlighted in the survey with 36% citing a lack of suitable training and education. Whilst only 29% said their current Computer Acceptable Policy explicitly covered the use of social networking. The recent publication of the Government's Digital Britain again highlights the need for far more focus on improving the level of IT competence and confidence amongst UK plc.

Inbox/Outbox 2009 took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> June at the New Connaught Rooms in Covent Garden, London. The key areas of focus for the event were email management and security, data protection issues and Enterprise 2.0 and collaborative applications. Further information regarding the conference, including a full programme, can be found at: [www.inbox-outbox.com](http://www.inbox-outbox.com). For more information about the Mesmo Consultancy, please visit: [www.mesmo.co.uk](http://www.mesmo.co.uk)

Inbox/Outbox 2009 is owned and organised by Revolution Events Ltd and was sponsored by AcumenMobile, Azaleos Corporation, BakBone Software, EMC Documentum, Lightspeed Systems Europe, Opsera, Research In Motion and Sophos.

### **About Inbox/Outbox**

Inbox/Outbox, now in its fifth year, is the UK's leading forum for corporate messaging, e-marketing and collaborative communications, presenting independent advice from industry experts in this important area.

Inbox/Outbox is the only event to directly address the key developments that are shaping the future of corporate email and messaging systems, demystifying the important issues and showcasing new innovations in business.

To find out more about Inbox/Outbox 2009 please visit: [www.inbox-outbox.com](http://www.inbox-outbox.com)

### **About Revolution Events**

Revolution Events is one of the UK's leading providers of innovative business forums, with an enviable track record in delivering high quality educational events for domestic and international markets. Since 1999, having organised more than 200 business events within a diverse range of markets, with particular strengths in emerging technologies, procurement & supply chain issues and new developments in the public sector.

Over the years, Revolution Events has worked with major partners such as the Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS), The European Association for e-Identity and Security (eema), the Improvement & Development Agency (IDeA), PricewaterhouseCoopers, Lloyds TSB, the Office of Deputy Prime Minister (now CLG), the European Networking & Information Security Agency (ENISA), the National e-Procurement Project (NePP), Microsoft and Sage Software.

To find out more about Revolution Events please visit: [www.revolution-events.com](http://www.revolution-events.com)

### **About Dr Monica Seeley, Mesmo Consultancy**

Dr Monica Seeley, founder of Mesmo Consultancy, is an international leading expert on email best practice. She specialises in enabling executives and their organisations to manage their electronic communications (especially email), more effectively to improve business performance. Mesmo Consultancy provide consultancy and training focused at both the individual and strategic perspective.

Monica is a Senior Visiting Fellow at Sir John Cass Business School, City University. Her research studies include the use of social networking tools to gain sustainable business benefits.

Her clients include APACS, Accenture, BT, Balfour Beatty, Department for Education and Skills, Gucci Group, HM Treasury, Islington Council, KPMG (Channel Islands), Lafarge, Levi Strauss, Lloyds Bank, New Forest District Council, Rolls-Royce, St Andrews University, St Helens Council, Shepherd Construction and Young's Brewery.

Monica is a respected commentator on the effective strategic use of electronic communications. Until 2008 she was author of The Times Crème Section column 'PC stress Busters' and is co-author of '*Managing in the Email Office*'. Monica can be contacted at 01202 43 43 40 or [monica@mesmo.co.uk](mailto:monica@mesmo.co.uk) or [www.mesmo.co.uk](http://www.mesmo.co.uk).

### **Editorial contacts**

Further information is available from Joanna Cannon / Alex Kenchington at MCC International.

Email: [ibobpr@mccint.com](mailto:ibobpr@mccint.com)

Tel: 01962 888 100

URL: [www.mccint.com](http://www.mccint.com)