Research International Strengthens Management Team

Contributed by Research International
Sunday, 01 April 2007

By Graham Miller - 02 Apr 2007
Contact Information

Research International Australia (RI) today announced the strengthening of its Australian and New Zealand management team with a series of strategic appointments across the business.

Louise McCann will move from her role as CEO RI, Australia and New Zealand, to take a dual role as inaugural Chairman RI, Australia and New Zealand and Director of Offer across the Asia Pacific region.

As Chairman, Ms McCann will focus exclusively on RIâ€™s overall business strategy; her regional role will involve providing strategic direction to continually enhance and refine RIâ€™s client service offer.

RIâ€™s General Manager of Client Services, Rahif Kayal, will take on Ms McCannâ€™s role as CEO Australia. Mr Kayalâ€™s credentials within the market are both well established and highly regarded. He brings 15 years experience within the market research industry to his new role. For the past seven years, Mr Kayal has made significant contributions to growing and developing RIâ€™s Australian business, continually driving and improving client development and sales.

â€œThis is an exciting time for RI Australia as we see the business evolving to its next stage. I have every confidence that the new management team is well placed to take it forward,â€• said Ms McCann.

RI is also strengthening its client facing team with two internal appointments of Gail Mackenzie and Andrew Johnson as Senior Directors of Client Services.

Ms Mackenzie will move from her current role as Senior Qualitative Director, Australia, to become Senior Director of Client Service, Sydney. Ms Mackenzie brings international expertise to the role and since relocating to Australia in 2002, has been charged with growing RIâ€™s qualitative business.

Mr Johnson will move from his Research Director to become Senior Director of Client Service, Melbourne. The appointment follows Mr Johnsonâ€™s successful work in establishing RI as the agency of choice for quality and thought provoking research.

Both Directors will be responsible for maintaining and enhancing RIâ€™s valuable client relationships and will take on the general management roles for each office.

The expansion of RIâ€™s management team will be consolidated by the senior appointment of Robin Elliott as Human Resource Director for Australia and New Zealand. Ms Elliott will be tasked with ensuring the company attracts, retains and provides development opportunities for all employees and will be reinforcing the employment procedures and performance management tools that have been put in place both locally and regionally over the past 3 years.

The appointments are part of RIâ€™s strategy to provide clients with the highest standard of service. They also reflect the local growth RI has been enjoying and recognise the businessâ€™ need to continue investing in the career progression and development of their staff. The enhanced team will ensure RI continues to deliver the highest quality work to its client base.

The changes will be effective from 1 April 2007.