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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jobseekers: Keep Your Employment References Up-To-Date

(Hold for Release: April 30, 2007) -- Everyone knows that the toughest part of getting a job is securing the interview. In fact, most jobseekers focus their concentration on crafting the perfect résumé and cover letter, but tend to overlook the importance of employment references. Since people typically move around in their jobs, combined with mergers, downsizing, and a turbulent economy, it's easy to lose track of former supervisors, co-workers, and customers who can offer a glowing recommendation. That's why the members of Career Directors International are reminding everyone to take time out during the first full week of May to re-evaluate and touch base with their references; update their contact information; ask permission to continue to list them, thank them, and offer to serve as a reference as well.

Who makes the best reference? "There's a common misperception among job seekers that all references need to be former supervisors," says Susan Geary, Director of Public Relations for the CDI. "If you were a manager yourself, it's in your best interest to seek professional references from co-workers and subordinates as well." Geary also adds, "Don't forget former clients and vendors who dealt with you on a regular basis--that will give the hiring manager a holistic view at how you dealt with different levels of personnel." CDI's President, Laura DeCarlo, recommends sending a copy of your résumé to all of your references so they can be on the same page when the call comes in.

Jobseekers can find additional free advice concerning employment references at www.updateyourresume.com.

May 7th-14th has been officially proclaimed *Update Your References Week* by Career Directors International (CDI), a professional association committed to delivering industry innovation and unlimited potential for career professionals.

CDI places top priority on introducing new member opportunities in education, connection and empowerment. Their global membership spans all career disciplines and includes resume writers, career coaches and counselors, job developers, recruiters, outplacement specialists, HR practitioners and other specialists from private practice, civil service, academia and military.

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