



## **G4S AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND is now a White Ribbon Accredited Workplace**

25<sup>th</sup> November 2016

G4S Australia & New Zealand is proud to announce that it is now a White Ribbon Accredited Workplace. Over the past 18 months, G4S Australia & New Zealand has taken active steps, and driven best practice, to help prevent and respond to violence against women.

“White Ribbon Australia and G4S are aligned in their vision of an Australia where women can live in safety free from violence and abuse. As the first security firm to achieve accreditation as a White Ribbon Workplace, G4S are talking the talk and acknowledging that the health and wellbeing of employees at home affects their health and wellbeing at work. Their commitment to driving positive social change is exemplary.” said Libby Davies, CEO of White Ribbon Australia.

The White Ribbon accreditation programme is in its third year and the current cohort sees G4S Australia & New Zealand joining 14 other prominent Australian businesses to be granted the title.

“Almost two years ago we came to understand that domestic violence is not just a personal issue, it is a workplace issue as well” said G4S Australia, New Zealand Managing Director, Dennis Roach. “We felt that as an organisation with a diverse workforce, it was our responsibility to lead the way and therefore we joined with White Ribbon in the belief that we need to make violence against women a men’s issue too.”

G4S Australia & New Zealand creates safer communities and advocates a safe workplace that promotes respectful relationships. Training is a key example of one of the ways to achieve this and G4S have delivered training to all senior managers with all-staff training to follow.

Additionally G4S have introduced a Domestic and Family Violence policy which offers practical support and paid leave for employees who are victims of domestic violence. An Employee Assistance Provider has also been engaged to provide additional support services to staff and immediate family members.

“We are committed to the health and wellbeing of all our employees. We cannot ignore the statistics and we want to make sure that G4S as an organisation can be trusted to support the brave steps taken by our people as needed” said Mr Roach. “Over the next three years, our aim is to continue to create a safer and more respectful workplace, supporting employees across all spheres as well as contributing to a national cultural change in the hope to prevent and respond to violence against women.”

As part of the world’s leading integrated security company, G4S Australia & New Zealand works in partnership with governments, businesses and other organisations to provide security solutions across all Care & Justice sectors including: Custodial Management, Court Security, Prisoner Transport and Electronic Monitoring.

For more information about the White Ribbon Australia Workplace Accreditation Program or White Ribbon Australia’s campaign to prevent men’s violence against women, visit [www.whiteribbon.org.au/workplaces](http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/workplaces)

**END.**

## EDITOR'S NOTES:

### White Ribbon Australia

- White Ribbon Australia seeks an Australian society in which all women can live in safety, free from violence and abuse.
- White Ribbon Australia works through a primary prevention approach to stop violence against women before it happens. We see men as central to this, and support them to work alongside women to demand social change.
- Through education, awareness-raising and creative campaigns, prevention programs and partnerships, we highlight the positive role men play in this social movement and support them to stand up, speak out and act to stop men's violence against women.

### Violence against women and the workplace

- One in three women experience physical and/or sexual violence perpetrated by someone known to them.<sup>1</sup>
- One in five women experience harassment within the workplace.<sup>2</sup>
- 94% of employees agree employers should take a leadership role in educating their workplace about respectful relationships between men and women.<sup>3</sup>
- In a recent survey, 48% of respondents who had experienced domestic violence disclosed it to a manager or supervisor, and only 10% found their response helpful.<sup>4</sup>
- Most workplaces will employ current, former or potential perpetrators and victims of domestic violence, using workplace practices to educate, deter and support in a structured social setting is critical.

### G4S Australia & New Zealand

- G4S Australia and New Zealand is part of the world's leading integrated security company specialising in the provision of security products, services and solutions.
- G4S Australia & New Zealand employs more than 1800 people and has over 20 years' experience in the Australian & New Zealand market
- Working in partnership with governments, businesses and other organisations G4S Australia & New Zealand provides security solutions across the Care & Justice, Secure Solutions.
- G4S Care & Justice provide state-of-the-art security and safety solutions through custodial services, prison management, court security, prisoner transport, forensic security and youth justice services.
- G4S is the largest provider of electronic monitoring services across Australia. Electronic Monitoring and Domestic Violence Victim Protection services include the use of Global Positioning System (GPS) tagging, alcohol monitoring and the latest biometric technology.
- A 24 hour Electronic Monitoring Centre based in Melbourne provides specialist expertise across monitoring services and the latest monitoring and response software.

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<sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2013). *Personal Safety, Australia, 2012*

<sup>2</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission (2008). *Sexual Harassment Guide*.

<sup>3</sup> Pennay, D & Powell, A. (2012). *The role of bystander knowledge, attitudes and behaviours in preventing violence against women: A full technical report*. The Social Research Centre. Melbourne.

<sup>4</sup> McFerran, L. (2011). *Safe at Home, Safe at Work? National Domestic violence and the workplace survey*. Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse. Retrieved from:  
[https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/National\\_Domestic\\_Violence\\_and\\_the\\_Workplace\\_Survey\\_2011\\_Full\\_Report.pdf](https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/National_Domestic_Violence_and_the_Workplace_Survey_2011_Full_Report.pdf) p. 13.