



**AVERTIS**  
RISK SOLUTIONS

## Corporate Quick Facts: Avertis Risk Solutions

- Company:** Founded in 1999, Avertis Ltd. is one of the UK's leading risk solutions and asset recovery specialists. The company's highly professional and innovative approach has earned it the privilege of protecting some of the largest UK and global organisations in both the public and private sectors.
- Funding & Pedigree:** Privately held and funded, Avertis Ltd. is part of the Avertis Group, an independent group of companies founded and owned by two recognised industry experts - Mark Wilcox and Mark Smith - who collectively bring over 40 years of expertise in fraud management, criminal investigation, corporate finance and financial services.
- Locations:** Headquartered in Leeds, UK with global partnerships, Avertis is growing in excess of 100 percent per annum. Avertis employs 120 people, including a fully vetted dedicated field force of 100 people recruited from the markets in which the company operates.
- Business Focus:** Avertis offers an extensive range of solutions designed to reduce risk and recover assets for public bodies, private businesses and individuals.
- Unlike other risk solutions providers, Avertis is the only company on the market to combine the disciplines of field investigation with a highly sophisticated approach to integrated data. This provides Avertis with the ability to interrogate a wide number of databases in order to provide clear and accurate information and apply these findings to its field investigations. As an information rich, knowledge management group, Avertis has delivered more than £126 million in combined savings and asset recovery for its customers to date.
- The company's critical analysis, tactical response and rapid results have earned it the reputation as one of the most trusted and professional risk solutions specialists in the market. Combining integrity, expertise and efficiency, Avertis has leading edge capabilities in a wide range of fraud and risk management areas.
- Market Drivers:** **Ugly and Ever Present Market Conditions**  
A fraudulent card transaction takes place every 20 seconds. During 2005, fraud cost the card industry £439.4m. The success of Chip and PIN technology is driving fraudsters towards other crimes such as Cardholder Not Present transactions (£183.2m - 21% higher in 2005 compared to 2004).
- ID theft has become a major threat, costing the UK economy £1.7bn a year. The Department for Work & Pensions reports £20m-£50m of benefit fraud arises as a result of identity fraud (i.e. claiming benefit under false identities). ID fraud costs the British insurance industry in excess of £20m a year. 135,000 people in the UK were victims of ID theft during 2005.

Terrorist attacks in recent years have brought new focus to detecting money laundering operations and wider understanding that money laundering masks serious and brutal crimes.

### **Criminal Needles in Corporate Haystacks**

The annual cost of employee-related fraud in the UK is £13bn. Employees are not the masterminds in major fraud and organised crime. Criminals operate as professional businesses and target recruitment of employees with specific knowledge and/or access to specific information.

Employers must guard against employees determined to perpetrate theft, fraud and money laundering by having in place robust risk management policies and processes.

### **Intelligent Criminals vs. Criminal Intelligence**

The economic and social cost of organised crime in the UK is estimated at £20 -£40bn. The Home Office reports that there are around 400 major crime bosses in the UK with amassed criminal wealth in excess of £440m. Their success and longevity depends on their ability to perpetrate organised crime and legitimise 'dirty' money.

Naturally, offenders try to avoid arrest. In 2004, the anonymity and global reach of organised cyber crime resulted in 77% of medium to large businesses reporting virus attacks costing £27.8m, while 17% suffered fraud losses totalling £121m.

Criminal 'businesses' succeed by proactively gathering intelligence on their victims. It is crucial that organisations review their own defences. There is also a need to work with industry peers, law enforcement and risk management organisations to achieve best practice in intelligence sharing and crime prevention. The response to organised crime must match the sophistication of offenders

### **Service Range:**

Avertis provides a comprehensive range of services designed to deliver optimum risk solutions. These include:

- **Fraud and Asset Protection** – Business crime and commercial fraud reduction, designed to prevent, reduce and recover from business crime and fraud.
- **Insurance Protection** – Proactively reducing insurance risk.
- **Personal Protection** – Protecting people's individual identity and assets.
- **Product Recovery** – Recovering misused customer assets as well as plastic card recovery.
- **Evidence Management** – Gathering, securing and presenting evidence.
- **Identifier** – Individual identification and verification to ensure you know who your customers are.
- **International Identifier** – Identifying and verifying international partners.
- **Employment Services** – Ensuring reduced employee risk.
- **Business Intelligence** – Business critical intelligence to ensure your business is in control.
- **Forensic Data Recovery** – Preventing the misuse of computers and IT equipment.
- **Interact** – Maintaining resilient computer systems.
- **IP Protection** – Protecting your intellectual property.
- **Risk Consultation** – Corporate risk consulting.

- **Strategic Risk Solutions** – Review of an organisations strategic risks, including employee training and Corporate Risk consultancy, directed at aiding CEOs with corporate governance and risk identification.

**Customers  
& Markets:**

Avertis customers include major banking and insurance organisations, utilities, telecommunications companies, government bodies, high profile law firms, as well as global travel operators. The company can tailor its services and products to organisations of all types across industry sectors.

**Leadership:**

Mark Wilcox, Managing Director, Mark Smith, Chairman, Peter Simpson, Commercial Director, Neil Guilder, Finance Director.

**Website:**

[www.avertis-group.com](http://www.avertis-group.com) / [enquiries@avertis-group.com](mailto:enquiries@avertis-group.com)

**For further information, please contact:**

Peter Simpson

Avertis Ltd

Tel: +44 (0)7890 516077

Email: [peter.simpson@avertis-group.com](mailto:peter.simpson@avertis-group.com)

Vanessa Land

Devonshire Marketing Consultants Ltd

Tel: +44 (0) 870 242 7469

Email: [vanessa@devonshiremarketing.com](mailto:vanessa@devonshiremarketing.com)