



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For further information contact:

Paul Barnard / Rachael Kilburn  
t: 0117 929 2311 m: 07753 829098  
e: paul.barnard@trimediahc.com

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### **BRING ANDREW HOME FOR CHRISTMAS**

A national poster campaign has been launched to help police find a missing 14-year-old boy and reunite him with his family in time for Christmas. Posters of Andrew Gosden, from Doncaster, are appearing across the country as part of the *Taking KidSafety to the Street™* campaign led by facilities management company, EMCOR Group (UK), the Police National Missing Persons Bureau (PNMPB) and children's charity PACT.

Andrew left his home for school as usual on the morning of Friday 14 September. However, instead of making the journey straight to school he walked to a nearby park, waited until 8.30am when his parents left for work, and returned home. He changed out of his school uniform, withdrew £200 from his savings account and bought a single ticket to London Kings Cross. The last confirmed sighting of him was at approximately 11.30am the same day at London Kings Cross station.

DC Ian Honeybone, investigating the case, said:

“Andrew's disappearance is completely out of character. Both his parents and teachers describe him as a bright and happy boy and he gave no reason why he should want to run away from home.

“Since the day Andrew went missing there have been numerous reported sightings of him in London and also in Wales, however none of these are confirmed. We have no information as to where he is so we urge members of the public to keep a lookout for Andrew this Christmas time.”

Glenys Gosden, Andrew's mother, said

“Andrew is a very quiet, gentle boy. He's intellectually gifted and quite a private person. Before his disappearance there was no sign that Andrew was not happy at home or school. We would desperately love for Andrew to come home for Christmas and ask members of the public to look out for the posters and help us find him.”

EMCOR's *Taking KidSafety to the Street™* campaign was launched in the UK in October 2006 following the success of EMCOR Group Inc.'s work with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) in the US which has helped to recover 72 children so far. The programme is designed to help the police find up to 100,000 children who go missing in the UK each year - approximately, one child every five minutes.

Members of the public are urged to look out for the posters displayed on EMCOR's fleet of vans across the country as part of the *Taking KidSafety to the Street™* programme and visit the Missing Kids website [www.missingkids.co.uk](http://www.missingkids.co.uk). Any relevant information about Andrew, or any other missing child, can be reported to the police on the free-phone number **0808 100 8777**.

Missing Kids car stickers are available via EMCOR free of charge, please call 0845 600 2300 or email [ukinfo@emcoruk.com](mailto:ukinfo@emcoruk.com).

## Ends

### Editors Notes

#### **MissingKids.co.uk**

The UK Missing Kids website is a unique, state-of-the art tool designed to help the police recover missing and abducted children. It is a partnership between the police, charities, and the private sector.

The Missing Kids website was originally created in the USA by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). It was introduced to England, Wales and Northern Ireland in June 2000, and to Scotland in June 2004. The site is managed by the Police National Missing Persons Bureau (PNMPB), and by a number of police forces.

The UK Missing Kids Website is the only site of this kind which is approved by the Home Office, ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) and ACPO(S) (Association of Chief Police Officers Scotland). Only the police can enter information on the UK site. The Missing Kids Website has been introduced to 16 countries and more are joining every year. The latest country to join was the Republic of Ireland.

#### **EMCOR Taking KidSafety to the Street**

The 'Taking KidSafety to the Street™' initiative began in the United States by EMCOR Group, Inc., the parent company of EMCOR Group, (UK). It launched the initiative in September 2005 to help raise

awareness of missing children and to assist in helping to find them. To date, 72 children have been found since the US programme's inception.

In the UK, EMCOR will use its fleet of more than 450 vehicles in service across the country as moving billboards to display posters of missing children. 4,000 car stickers will also be distributed to staff, encouraging the public to visit the Missing Kids website. The posters are designed in conjunction with the PNMPB for maximum visibility and includes photos of the missing children, the PNMPB website address [www.missingkids.co.uk](http://www.missingkids.co.uk), and its hotline number 0808 100 8777 which can be called to report any information about the missing child.

### **PACT**

PACT is an international, non-profit organisation, registered in the USA and the UK. It was founded in 2000 by Lady Meyer, wife of the then British Ambassador to the United States. Its patrons are Cherie Blair, wife of the British Prime Minister, and Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States.

PACT's initial mission was to fight parental child abduction across frontiers by raising awareness of a growing, but little-known, problem and by advocating solutions.

### **Police National Missing Persons Bureau**

The Police National Missing Persons Bureau is a specialist police unit which acts as a centre for the exchange of information connected with the search for missing persons both nationally and internationally. It is based at New Scotland Yard and serves UK Forces and overseas agencies. It focuses on cross-matching missing persons with unidentified bodies/persons.

The PNMPB is located at New Scotland Yard and functions as the central clearing house for information on missing persons. The PNMPB serves UK Forces and overseas agencies.

The PNMPB offers advice in relation to information available from government and non-government agencies, which may be of assistance in missing person or unidentified body/persons enquiries. It is not responsible for conducting any missing persons enquiries.

The Bureau has contacts with most government departments and also the primary non-governmental organisations and charities that deal with missing persons.

The PNMPB has a quality control and liaison function in respect of all cases placed on the website. It is also the central point of contact for all cases featured on posters.