

## **CORRUPTION PREVENTION NETWORK – 2006 ANNUAL FORUM**

The Corruption Prevention Network's Annual Forum in 2006 focuses on practical measures to discourage, identify, and successfully investigate corruption. The Forum theme, "Digging Deep – Tools to Unearth Corruption", encapsulates a program of seasoned practitioners sharing their experience and expertise in a range of effective anti-corruption techniques. The all-day Forum will be held at the Water's Edge Restaurant, Pier One, Hickson Road, Walsh Bay on Thursday 14 September.

The Forum is particularly fortunate to open with John Agius SC, Senior Counsel Assisting Commissioner Cole's Oil-for-Food Inquiry in conversation with author and lawyer David Marr of the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Mr Agius' forensic experience with the Wood Royal Commission into NSW Police (among other Inquiries) helped ground his formidable successes in unearthing reluctantly produced documents and other evidence for the Cole Commission. While the Commission will not conclude until after the Forum, Mr Agius will be able to discuss some of its methods in keeping with the Forum's theme.

Long-time insurance investigator Chris Hudson has since 1988 pioneered use of the Scientific Content Analysis (SCAN) technique in the Asia Pacific Region. He will outline the use of SCAN in pursuing every investigator's holy grail – determining whether or not a witness is lying. In a post-modern age of spin, deceit and many 'truths', this is not a session to be missed.

Alicia Peters (Australian Tax Office) and Len Stafford (NSW Dept of Education and Training) will discuss the use and their experience of data mining to identify corrupt and other inappropriate behaviour. This tool holds considerable promise especially where substantial databases are available for interrogation. It has the capacity to provide some early warning signals about conduct that is potentially disastrous for an organisation.

Stephen Horne, CEO of the Internal Audit Bureau and former NSW Assistant Auditor General will outline how the Audit Office's "Fraud Control Improvement Kit - Meeting Your Fraud Control Obligations" can be implemented in your organisation. This new tool was only released on 20 July 2006. It provides a benchmark for NSW public sector agencies from now on and will also be applicable in the private sector.

Rob Tunnicliff, National Coordinator of the Australian Federal Police's Identity Crime Task Force, will discuss the latest tools and techniques to combat identity crime. Currently one of the fastest growing crime forms, identity fraud should not only concern organisations large and small, but require increased vigilance from every individual – since we are all at risk.

To round off on a lighter but still very practical note, Linda Karuso, educational psychologist, will host a forensic skills workshop to assist participants solve a mystery – "Who killed Nathan Bloom?". This session is complete with surprises designed to keep the neurones pumping right up until the Forum close and the commencement of networking drinks.

At the time of writing, the Forum was already fully booked and had a waiting list.