

# “Listening to the Whistlers”

Corruption Prevention Network Conference

Bob Falconer, Chairman – STOPline  
Protecting your Assets, People and Reputation



# Corporate Governance

## Media Focus on:

- Board Structure
- Executive Remuneration
- Independence of Audit providers

What about the facilitation of  
whistleblowers?



# What's a whistleblower?

"...a person who alerts the public to some scandalous practice or evidence of corruption on the part of someone else."

Macquarie Dictionary



# What's happening Overseas?

- USA experience and action
- In the United Kingdom
- Other international concerns



# What's happening here?

- Legislation versus self regulation
- The public sector
- Vic inquiry into fraud and electronic commerce
- Legislation must be Commonwealth

# Current Drivers



- CLERP 9
- ASX Corporate Governance Recommendations and Guidelines
- Standards Australia's Corporate Governance Standards
- ASIC
- APRA



# Not happy Jan!



# Anonymity



Shield  
or  
Mask?



# “Myths & Misunderstandings”

- “Malice and Mischief”
- “Issues will be Petty”
- “Australians don’t Dob”
- “But I have an ‘Open Door’ Policy”
- “This is more of a look good, feel good thing”
- McKinsey Research
- Standard & Poor’s Research



# The Challenges

- Understanding & acceptance by Boards and senior managers
- Winning the middle managers
- High level reporting
- External system is more effective because “they don’t love you”

# Conclusions

- Whistleblowing must be addressed by the private sector
  - Australian USA listed coy's – July 2005
- Effective whistleblowing management is just good business
- The accounting profession is under increasing scrutiny
- “Whistleblower facilitation” is about “employee empowerment”
- Manage issues internally or “read” about them in the daily news.



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