



London, 19 September 2007

## GROUP ESTABLISHES WELSH OPERATION

### NEW WORLD-CLASS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE SUPPORTED BY WELSH ASSEMBLY

London, September 19th – The international IT product and services company, SWORD Group, today announced that in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government they plan to open a new information technology centre in Cwmbran, Wales. Opening this new technology centre in the UK, bucks the trend of moving jobs offshore and will complement the existing SWORD Group global infrastructure, which has 21 offices in 14 countries. 9 of which are based here in the UK.

This new technology centre will extend the Group's existing operations with staffing levels expected to grow to over 200 by 2012. The centre will focus on increasing business process outsourcing and associated IT research & development and consulting. As the Group grows it will augment the Group's existing capabilities.

Heath Davies Chief Operations Officer of the SWORD Group is very excited about the prospect. "The Group is very bullish about setting up operations in Wales. As a global organisation we could have established a technology centre anywhere in the world however there are compelling operational reasons for basing this new centre in Wales. It has the right skill pool, employee loyalty and is ideally situated, geographically, to supplement the support already provided to our UK operations.

Davies went on to say "Coupled with the operational justification, we still needed to overcome the traditional cost differentiation between a centre here and, say, in India. This is where The Welsh Assembly Government were very understanding and easy to work with as they really appreciated our business needs and helped enormously in justifying the commercial case. With our forecasted growth the Welsh Assembly Government has agreed to award SWORD UK a grant for £3.6m which helps balance the commercial arguments."

- More -

## SWORD Group News Release

Deputy First Minister Ieuan Wyn Jones added: "I am delighted that SWORD has chosen, with the support of the Assembly Government, to locate their new technology centre here in Wales."

"When an organisation like SWORD decides to locate in Wales it serves to demonstrate to the IT industry that we have the skills, infrastructure and competitiveness to support world class operations."

- End -

\* Photography available showing the SWORD Group Executive Management Committee (EMC) Heath Davies, Françoise Fillot, Group CFO and Jacques Mottard, Chairman and joint CEO.

### About SWORD Group

The SWORD Group is an International IT Products and Services Company that was founded in December 2000 by its Chairman, Jacques MOTTARD. The vision is for SWORD to become the best performing global Product and Services Company by identifying, anticipating and satisfying customer requirements whilst delivering profitability year on year and returning exceptional value to all stakeholders. As at the end of July 2007 SWORD employed 1,700 staff across 14 countries, with a 2006 consolidated turnover of € 142m and a forecasted 2007 consolidated turnover of € 180m+.

For more information about the SWORD GROUP please visit our website [www.sword-group.com](http://www.sword-group.com)

### About Welsh Assembly Government

The Welsh Assembly Government is responsible for most of the issues of day-to-day concern to the people of Wales, including the economy, health, education, and local government. The role of the Welsh Assembly Government is to exercise functions devolved to it in order to: make decisions on matters which affect people's daily lives; develop and implement policy; make subordinate legislation (e.g. regulations and statutory guidance) and propose Assembly Measures (Welsh laws).

### Forward-Looking Statements

ALL statements in this document that do not directly and exclusively relate to historical facts constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of that term in Section 27A of the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the United States Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements and this information represent the SWORD Group's (SWORD) intentions, plans, expectations and beliefs, and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, of which many are beyond the control of the Company. These factors could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements or forward-looking information. These factors include and are not restricted to the timing and size of new contracts, acquisitions and other corporate developments; the ability to attract and retain qualified members; market competition in the rapidly evolving information technology industry; general economic and business conditions, foreign exchange and other unspecified factors.

The words "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "anticipate," "foresee," "plan," and similar expressions and variations thereof, identify certain such forward-looking statements or forward-looking information, which speak only as of the date on which they are made. In particular, statements relating to future performance are forward-looking statements and forward-looking information. SWORD disclaims any intention or obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements or forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements or on this forward-looking information.

### Contacts

Investor Relations:  
Stéphanie DESMARIS  
[sdesmaris@sword-group.com](mailto:sdesmaris@sword-group.com)  
+33 (0)4 72 85 37 40

Media Relations:  
Jill GREENSHIELDS  
[media@sword-group.com](mailto:media@sword-group.com)  
+44 (0)141 427 4142

