



**NEWS**

*From Harcourt Assessment, Inc.*

Contact:  
Mark Slitt  
210.339.5399

FOR RELEASE: Monday, Dec. 6, 2004

**HARCOURT ASSESSMENT ACQUIRES ASSETS OF J C RAVEN LTD.**

**Acquisition Adds Nonverbal Intelligence Tests to Harcourt Portfolio**

SAN ANTONIO – Leading test publisher Harcourt Assessment, Inc., announced today that it has acquired the assets of Scotland-based test publisher J C Raven Ltd. (JCRL), including all rights worldwide to JCRL's nonverbal intelligence and ability tests.

The company is best known for the Raven Progressive Matrices, which are quick cognitive screeners that will complement Harcourt's full line of Wechsler intelligence tests.

Harcourt has had a successful business relationship with JCRL and has offered Raven's Progressive Matrices and Mill Hill Vocabulary Scales in the Harcourt Assessment catalog for many years. JCRL products have been marketed internationally through a distributor, Oxford Psychologists Press (OPP Ltd.), and through licensees. Many of these licensees also distribute or license Harcourt Assessment products.

With the acquisition now complete, Harcourt has assumed responsibility for the marketing, distribution and licensing of all JCRL products.

"The Raven products are highly regarded and have many practical applications," said Aurelio Prifitera, publisher of Harcourt Assessment and president of Harcourt Assessment, International. "They will complement Harcourt's existing portfolio of intelligence and ability tests, and will enable us to provide our customers with an expanded set of assessment solutions."

-- more --

## **Harcourt Assessment Acquires Assets of J C Raven Ltd.**

Dec. 6, 2004

Page 2

“When my father first published the Raven Progressive Matrices, he could only dream that one day his tests would be used to help people all around the world,” said Dr. John Raven, head of privately-owned J C Raven Ltd. “We are delighted that the Progressive Matrices and other Raven tests will now find a home at Harcourt Assessment.”

First published in the United Kingdom in 1938, and now distributed in more than 100 countries, the Raven Progressive Matrices are offered in three different forms for different ability levels, and for age ranges from five through adult. The matrices measure two complementary components of general intelligence: the ability to think clearly and make sense of complex data, which is known as eductive ability; and the ability to store and reproduce information, known as reproductive ability.

The Progressive Matrices provide an overall index of general intelligence that is suitable for use in occupational, educational and clinical settings. They can be used as a quick screening for ability or giftedness in schools, and as a cognitive measure of reasoning for talent assessment of executive and managerial candidates.

This is Harcourt Assessment’s fourth acquisition since April 2002, when it acquired Paris-based Les Editions du Centre de Psychologie Appliquée (ECPA). Last December it acquired the Dutch testing company Swets Testing International, and it recently acquired California-based Ordinate Corporation.

### **About Harcourt Assessment, Inc.**

Harcourt Assessment is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs. Its educational products include the Stanford Achievement Test series and the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test<sup>®</sup>. Under the PsychCorp<sup>™</sup> brand, it also publishes a wide variety of clinical products, such as the Wechsler<sup>®</sup> family of psychological tests and the CELF<sup>®</sup> family of speech and language tests.

-- more --

## **Harcourt Assessment Acquires Assets of J C Raven Ltd.**

Dec. 6, 2004

Page 3

Through the development of custom statewide educational testing programs, Harcourt is helping more than 20 states meet the accountability requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The company is affiliated with the Harcourt book publishing companies, and together they form the global education brand of Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL) -- a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors.

### **About J C Raven Ltd.**

John Carlyle Raven first published his Progressive Matrices in 1938. His three sons established J C Raven Ltd. in 1972. Under the direction of Raven's eldest son, Dr. John Raven, the company continued the development and maintenance of Raven's tests, and promoted the development of other tools for use in psychological assessment, organizational development, staff guidance, placement and development. Raven's Progressive Matrices include the Standard Progressive Matrices, the Coloured Progressive Matrices and the Advanced Progressive Matrices. Its other products include the Crichton Vocabulary Scales, the Mill Hill Vocabulary Scales and various research supplements. The company is based in Edinburgh, Scotland.

### **On the Web**

For more information, please visit the companies on the Web at [www.HarcourtAssessment.com](http://www.HarcourtAssessment.com) and [www.jcravenltd.com](http://www.jcravenltd.com).

###