

FOR RELEASE: Thursday, Dec. 8, 2005

**HARCOURT ASSESSMENT PARTNERS WITH SKILLPROFILER ANALYTICS  
TO BRING VERSANT™ FOR ENGLISH TO INDIA**

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, and BANGALORE, India – SkillProfilers Analytics, India's leading provider of corporate talent management services, and Harcourt Assessment, Inc., the world's leading provider of automated spoken language tests, announced today that SkillProfilers will distribute Harcourt's fully-automated Versant™ for English spoken language test in India. The Versant line of spoken language tests is powered by Ordinate technology that was developed by Ordinate Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Harcourt Assessment.

SkillProfilers will provide Versant for English primarily to the call center and business process outsourcing (BPO) industries in India along with services. With the rapid growth in these industries, scalability and attrition have become increasing challenges for recruiters and decision makers. Versant for English can help by making the hiring process more efficient and by providing a quick and reliable assessment of a candidate's spoken English ability.

SkillProfilers, with its suite of more than 800 tests across a wide spectrum of knowledge, skills and aptitudes, helps companies with accurate hiring and better talent management, two key areas of immense challenge for human resource (HR) professionals, cutting across numerous industry sectors.

"Given the speed and reliability of Versant for English, HR professionals and hiring managers will find it to be an extremely valuable tool for recruitment in India," said K.S. Karthik, managing director of SkillProfilers Analytics. "We also expect Versant for English to yield significant cost savings over traditional English assessment methods."

Karen Chiang, senior director-Asia Pacific for Harcourt Assessment, added: "As the Indian BPO and call center industries scale up and upgrade hiring standards, it is important that they take advantage of the most cutting-edge technology available. We are delighted to be partnering with SkillProfilers and believe that Indian companies will greatly benefit from using Versant for English with Ordinate technology."

## **SkillProfiler Analytics Partners With Harcourt Assessment in India**

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Versant spoken language tests are standardized, fully-automated evaluations of speaking and listening proficiency. They take just minutes to complete, are administered over the telephone or PC and are scored automatically by Ordinate's advanced speech processing technology.

Ordinate technology analyzes the linguistic content of spoken utterances and the manner of speaking to determine language proficiency and other speaker characteristics. The technology has set a new standard in language testing for speed, accuracy, cost and convenience.

### **About Ordinate Corp. and Harcourt Assessment, Inc.**

Ordinate Corp., [www.ordinate.com](http://www.ordinate.com), a wholly owned subsidiary of Harcourt Assessment, Inc., was founded in 1996 to develop advanced language testing systems based on new techniques using speech processing technology.

Harcourt Assessment is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs used by educators, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, human resource professionals, admissions and credentialing professionals, and businesses. The company is a unit of Harcourt Education, which is the global education brand of Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL). Reed Elsevier is a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors. Visit Harcourt Assessment on the Web at [www.harcourtassessment.com](http://www.harcourtassessment.com).

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### **About SkillProfiler**

SkillProfiler is a leading provider of best-of-breed solutions that objectively analyze skills and knowledge of human capital, redefining the way talent has been assessed, mapped and matched in India. Headquartered out of Bangalore, SkillProfiler has presence globally through its partners TechCheck and SkillCheck. With tools like corporate skill audit and talent acquisition fit analysis, SkillProfiler's services help hiring managers list out the right skills needed for employees to thrive in their organizations and identifies candidates who possess these skills.

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