

## Media Release

### Workplace fails to keep pace with mobile phone usage

**Sydney 20 May, 2010:** While the majority of Australian organisations give employees mobile phones for use in the workplace, a worrying 33 per cent fail to track if calls and data downloads are personal, a new survey has found.

According to a survey by leading Australian asset and expense manager Stratatel, while most (93 per cent) mobile phone usage is billed to the corporate account, 28 per cent rely on staff honesty and self regulation to declare personal calls or data downloads. This is despite the fact that 39 per cent of respondents say that non business use of mobiles is a concern for them.

And it's not just senior managers who are provided with a mobile phone. Eleven per cent of entities that provide mobile phones give them to all employees, 20 per cent to between 60 and 100 per cent of employees, 31 per cent to between 30 and 60 percent, with 49 per cent of respondents providing to under 30 per cent of staff.

"Recent high profile events triggered by personal images captured on a mobile phone and leaked to the media is a salutary lesson to employers of the risks mobile phones can pose in the workplace if personal usage is not properly tracked and monitored," the chief executive of Stratatel Mr Matthew Parry warns.

"Like most proven technologies, mobile phones are great for the workplace, but keeping track of usage, minimising risk and correctly allocating expenditure has become a challenge for many."

"Keeping track of usage is not just about managing the asset either," Mr Parry says. "It's as much about ensuring unsatisfactory workplace practices are identified and addressed at an early stage."

"For example, keeping track of mobile phone usage can often play a role in identifying corporate misconduct including fraud, workplace bullying or even sexual harassment," he said.

Of the survey respondents, 93 per cent had a mobile phone usage policy in place, commonly stating that the phone could be used for personal calls but these are to be identified and paid for by the employee.

"Key to ensuring that mobile phones are not abused by employees is a policy that clearly articulates if and when mobile phones can be used for personal calls and then have in place the necessary process and system to ensure compliance with this policy," Mr Parry said.

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#### Media Enquiries:

Trish O'Gorman, CallidusPR

Tel: (02) 928 4111/Email: [trish@calliduspr.com](mailto:trish@calliduspr.com)

**About Stratatel and Stratatel FleetManager®**

Stratatel is an Australian publicly listed organisation providing specialised software solutions for asset, expense management and cost recovery. Software solutions include FleetManager®, CADS and Softlog.Enterprise.

Stratatel's FleetManager® provides a unique finance tool that allows organisations to accurately manage a range of mobile assets and fixed line infrastructure to control, analyse and report on mobile and fixed phone line charges providing significant cost savings and visibility to companies of all sizes.