<u>Ringing endorsement for ACT Awareness</u> <u>eLearning</u>

Nine out of ten users of an online terrorism awareness course, developed by Counter Terrorism Policing and High Street giant Marks and Spencer, would recommend the package to a colleague. A survey of 20,000 course participants also found that nine out of ten said the interactive nature of the programme enhanced their learning.

More than 5000 companies have signed up to use ACT Awareness eLearning since its launch 18 months ago, with their staff collectively completing over 1.6 million of the modules which make up the course.

Shopping centres, football clubs, entertainment venues, education and faith institutions have all been helping to keep the public safe by using the innovative online training.

Specialist officers worked with M&S to develop the eLearning product, which was then made available to all companies operating in busy towns and cities.

The training covers how to spot the signs of suspicious behaviour and what to do if an attack should take place. The course takes around 45 minutes and is divided into short sections so it can be fitted in around business needs.

ACT Awareness eLearning is available to use free of charge.

Senior national Coordinator for Protective Security, Deputy Assistant Commissioner Lucy D'Orsi, says:

All staff working in crowded places — not just those who have a security role — can follow the course and be in a stronger position to help protect themselves, colleagues and the public.

We are grateful to Marks and Spencer, who entered into this collaboration with us. This is a perfect example of what can be achieved if we work in close partnership with the business community.

John Frost, Head of Business Continuity from Marks and Spencer who helped lead the project, added:

The survey findings have been overwhelmingly positive and will help us shape future modules to keep us up-to-date with any emerging threats.

I would encourage businesses large and small to register and take part.

More information on <u>ACT Awareness eLearning and details on how to start the</u> <u>course</u>, which has been produced by eLearning specialists Highfield.