



www.breakthru.org.au

## Media Statement

No. of pages: 1

28<sup>th</sup> September 2009

**Media Contact:**

Fayssal Sari  
NSW Marketing Manager

P: 02 8884 3000  
M: 0423 006 569  
E: [fayssal.sari@breakthru.org.au](mailto:fayssal.sari@breakthru.org.au)

### Break Thru's solution to skills shortage

Following the recent release of the Australian Government's National Mental Health and Disability Employment Strategy and several years of national skills shortages, employers are slowly becoming aware that there is a much wider pool of potential workers available; by including people with a disability in their workforce.

Break Thru People Solutions are supporting the campaign to encourage businesses to consider another avenue of labour to ensure they remain productive and financially viable.

Research from Australian Employers Network on Disability (AEND), also shows that businesses have witnessed first-hand that when they employ a person with disability they benefit from better attendance rates, increased job retention and loyalty and lower workplace injury rates; than those without disability.

As one of Australia's largest providers of disability employment, Break Thru People Solutions has been working with businesses for over 17 years to place not only people with a disability but other disadvantages into employment. Break Thru People Solutions is proud to promote the benefits of employing people with a disability and how they make valuable contributions to business and the community.

Ross Lewis, CEO of Break Thru People Solutions, believes *"our success is due to our unshakable belief that the people we assist can meet businesses employment needs; regardless of their barrier. In today's environment of acute skills shortages, a keen reliable worker is a real bonus.*

*"Employers have realised that our job seekers can meet their needs admirably and that the recruitment of Break Thru clients is not an act of charity, but good business sense."*

#### BREAK THRU COMPANY PROFILE

Break Thru People Solutions is an Australian not-for-profit organisation that provides multiple services to communities across New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria. Break Thru is known for its expertise in providing employment services to job seekers from diverse backgrounds including people with a disability, Indigenous Australians and those from a non-English speaking background.

Break Thru CEO Ross Lewis acknowledges *"Break Thru has experienced significant growth due to the organisation's commitment to local communities, their professional staff and the support of many loyal businesses. This success has further attributed to Break Thru being able to expand into further services such as accredited training, Indigenous specialist employment and mental health initiatives such as Care for Families. Additionally, being not-for-profit means that money is redirected to where it is most needed at a local level"*.

**-ENDS-**