



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

04 FEBRUARY 2008

# AXIA INTERACTIVE MEDIA REPORTS THE SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF THE LEARNDIRECT e-PORTFOLIO

In the autumn 2007, AXIA Interactive Media was awarded a contract to develop the learndirect e-portfolio. Delivered on schedule in February 2008, it is already in use by assessment centres across England and Wales.

The learndirect e-portfolio is a significant enhancement of the company's e-portfolio that was already available as Forward e-portfolio PLUS and NVQnow: It is easier to use and pages load more quickly. In addition, one report, allows the decisions of Assessors and Internal / External Verifiers to be made and checked. This functionality works in tandem with the planning tools developed by Ufi/learndirect, and used by the assessment centres already delivering NVQs on their behalf.

Centres using the learndirect e-portfolio also have access to the same help and support available for all applications developed for and by Ufi/learndirect. Advisors are available by phone or Email seven days a week, from 8:00am to 11:00pm, which means that users of the e-portfolio have access to better support than any other e-portfolio that is currently available.

E-portfolios are increasingly recognised as a means to increase learner achievement and reduce drop out rates. By releasing our own e-portfolio, Ufi/Learndirect has signalled to their centres that by using technology they can often reduce the bureaucratic burden, which is often associated with assessment. As a result their centres can spend more time focusing on quality of the learning experience and the assessment."

In proactive response to feedback from existing users, further enhancements to the product will be released. These include an Email alert for Assessors, letting them know that evidence has been submitted and is ready for assessment. The other alert tells Verifiers that Units are complete and ready for sign off. AXIA Interactive Media Director of Business Strategy, Chris Peat OBE, believes that these enhancements complete a very successful package:

*"We believe that the learndirect e-portfolio is so easy to use that it is accessible to learners, their Assessors and Verifiers without the need for any training. The help guides we provide online are proving to be a great benefit and if learners still need help, for the first time this is available to them for 15 hours every day. Further enhancements to the functionality ensure that we and our partners are confident that we are delivering a class-leading product."*