



Allegiance Acquires National Hotline Services to Create Ethics Reporting Powerhouse

Allegiance continues rapid growth; unites SilentWhistle with industry's leading phone-based ethics hotline to deliver unmatched ethics reporting suite

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Allegiance, Inc. and National Hotline Services, Inc. have joined forces to create the strongest ethics reporting company in the industry. The acquisition brings together the leading web-based ethics reporting and case management solution, SilentWhistle, with the industry's foremost phone-based ethics hotline services provider. Allegiance will now serve a growing customer base of more than 1,500 businesses, government agencies and educational institutions, as well as more than 20 percent of U.S. hospitals.

In addition to SilentWhistle, customers of National Hotline Services will benefit from a much broader set of enterprise feedback management solutions offered by Allegiance. The Allegiance Active Listening System is a suite of enterprise feedback management tools that help organizations to collect, manage, analyze and respond to customer, employee and partner feedback. National Hotline Services' phone service and operations center will be integrated into the Allegiance suite of products and services, and will continue to be led by Carrie Kusserow and Michael Newchok who have managed day-to-day operations for National Hotline Services since 1999. Richard Kusserow, former owner and chief executive officer of National Hotline Services, will continue as an executive consultant to the company.

"For the past several years, we have worked closely with National Hotline Services supporting mutual customers and cross-selling our product offerings," said Adam Edmunds, president and chief executive officer of Allegiance, Inc. "Because of our complementary solutions, Allegiance and National Hotline Services determined that it would be ideal for our current and prospective customers to be able to leverage a more comprehensive ethics reporting solution in a cohesive package. Together, we provide organizations with a complete suite of hotline and feedback tools that protect their businesses, improve communications inside and outside the organization, and meet industry and government compliance standards, including SOX 301. Our recent partnership with Thomson Financial and now the acquisition of National Hotline Services clearly positions Allegiance as the leading provider of corporate governance hotlines, ethics reporting and whistle-blowing solutions."

"The combination of National Hotline Services' phone hotlines, and the advanced Web-based tools from Allegiance, surpass anything that is available on the market today," added Richard Kusserow. "As a result of the merger, we can offer organizations a much broader and more powerful collection of tools that will help them capitalize on the power of feedback. We look forward to working with the Allegiance team to continue to protect our clients from fraud and mismanagement with first-class service and solutions."

Current customers of Allegiance and National Hotline Services, as well as organizations interested in enterprise feedback management and/or whistle-blowing and ethics reporting solutions, can find additional information at www.allegiance.com and www.hotlines.com.

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