

## Office workers make gains in productivity Results of 2008 White Collar Productivity Index (WPI) Study

San Diego, May 1, 2008 – According to the results from the 2008 WhiteCollar Productivity Index (WPI), the only study of its kind providing long-term data on how people actually spend their time at work, there is a reduction in the time people are spending on low productivity tasks during 2007 as compared to both 2006 and 2005.

According to Bary Sherman, CEO of PEP Productivity Solutions, “The WPI study indicates that America’s white collar worker are becoming smarter and more effective in their day-to-day routines. They appear to have a better grasp on how to use technology as a productivity tool and are getting more of the right work done in less time. Until this year we have seen a steady increase in non-productive time usage every year since we started measuring office productivity in 1994 . It will be exciting to see how this trend plays out over the next years.”

The WPI study generated serious interest from academia and organizations when it was first made public in 2005, presenting annual statistics collected since 1994 from over 3,200 employees (administration, staff, middle management and senior executives) in major U.S. companies representing a variety of sectors, including the manufacturing, automotive, finance, biotech, education, insurance, accounting and technology industries.

The core subjects measured by the 2008 WPI study are handling email, handling paper mail, attending meetings, working overtime, delegating responsibility, dealing with interruptions, looking for lost data, managing work backlogs and planning work.

The entire WPI, expressed in hours per week, per person, is as follows:

Issue	Year 2006	Year 2007	% change
Handling Email	9.4 hours	7.3 hours	-22%
Handling Paper mail	1.2 hours	1.0 hours	-17%
Attending Ineffective Meetings	3.0 hours	2.2 hours	-27%
Working Overtime	5.8 hours	4.4 hours	-24%
Delegating work	4.3 hours	3.0 hours	-30%
Being interrupted	4.6 hours	3.8 hours	-17%
Looking for information	1.6 hours	1.3 hours	-19%
Working on backlog	3.0 hours	2.2 hours	-27%
Planning work	2.0 hours	2.1 hours	+ 0.5%

PEP Productivity Solutions, Inc. (formerly IBT-USA, Inc.)

PEP, founded in 1984, is a global consulting firm specializing in workplace solutions that improve the productivity and effectiveness of executives, managers, staff and professionals. IBT-USA’s clients include such prominent organizations as AARP, Capital One, Capital Group, Ernst & Young, HP, NCR, and Toyota.

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