As part of our commitment to keep children and families safe, Vested Security Solutions monitors developments and intensifying trends related to pre-teens and teenagers. One area of particular interest is today's Internet and the dangers that lurk inside chat rooms, instant messages, e-mail and blogs. As such, Vested has issued the following "Trend Bulletin", drawing attention to a new development identified by our subject matter experts who are the very professionals that have the vast responsibility of deterring and detecting Internet crime.

### Trend Bulletin: ChatRoulette.com

**Trend Category:** Internet Safety  
**Age Range Involved:** Pre-Teen to Teenager  
**Component(s):** ChatRoulette.com  
**Description:** A social networking website designed to facilitate communication in a variety of ways.  
**Use:** "Chatroulette is a brand new service for one-on-one text-, webcam- and microphone-based chat with people around the world."

**Concerns:**
Russia-based ChatRoulette.com, launched in Fall 2009 by a Russian teenager, has been gaining popularity both in the United States and worldwide. As is the case with many such sites, it is particularly attractive to our young people. The site "requires" users to be 16 years of age or older, but employs no age verification system. The site pairs you with a random video- or audio- chat partner, though neither webcam nor microphone are required in order to participate. Either user can "next" the other – clicking the "next" button advances away from your current partner to another arbitrary partner. The novelty of communicating with people throughout the world is often interrupted by messages of hate, violence, and pervasive graphic sexual content. ChatRoulette.com exposes children to illicit material and affords child predators instant-access to children who are often not properly educated regarding the pitfalls of the World Wide Web.

Vested Security Solutions encourages parents to take a proactive approach in discovering the latest trends that affect our children. Please visit www.VestedSecurity.com or contact us at Sales@VestedSecurity.com for assistance in educating yourself, your children and your peers.