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Fit First Technologies and Autism Job Club launch a pilot study to develop tools that will help those on the Autism Spectrum find their right fit for employment

Fit First Technologies and Autism Job Club—a bridge between adults with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and the workplace— have jointly announced a research project evaluating analytics and assessment tools to help direct the transition of AJC members to the workforce.

There is a growing population of adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), with just an estimated 6% competitively employed. Today, ASD is the leading neurological diagnosis for children and yet, as adults, approximately 75% are unemployed and the remaining 19% are underemployed.

Most of us started our career with a lot of trial-and-error, learning from experience over time the kind of work and the kinds of environments that allow us to play to our strengths and do good, satisfying work. The problem is, trial-and-error can be painful and stressful for even the most gifted and versatile among us. A simple mistake, such as accepting a role which is not a good fit, can be an employment-ending move for someone with ASD.

On November 7th, join Jan G. van der Hoop, Founder of Fit First Technologies, as he takes us through a discussion of Job Fit, presents the *Four Critical Aspects of Fit*, and shares some of the exciting work they have done in applying behavioural analytics to the task of helping people make better employment and career choices.

“At a time when employers are scrambling to find people to fill their open jobs, perhaps the most overlooked and underutilized segment of the population is those with ‘Diff-abilities.’ Time and again, research has shown that when they are matched to the right role and given the right onboarding support, they are among the most productive, most loyal, most profitable employees in the organization,” states van der Hoop.

Attendees with ASD (18 years of age and older) will be offered the opportunity to participate in a scientific pilot research study, at no cost, aimed at developing and refining tools that will help them—and other people with ASD—aim for jobs that are the right fit!

Autism Job Club is a support group for young people with ASD, and their families, who have goals towards meaningful employment – whether finishing high school, college, university or under- or un-employed.

Families, educators and service providers are welcome to attend what promises to be an informative event.

For more information or interview contact Jan van der Hoop at
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Jan G. van der Hoop

Jan's passion is to help people and organizations to find better ways to work together. Jan spent more than fifteen years in senior Human Resources positions with a number of leading corporations and through this work, developed a clear understanding of the issues and challenges people face in the corporate trenches, along with some insights into how he could help organizations work smarter. In 2006, he and a partner launched Fit First Technologies in response to a demand from his clients to improve their bottom line results by changing the way they hire.