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## **Aspiring Minds widens vocational skill certification network with another 250+ centres across India**

**New Delhi, November 17, 2015** – Aspiring Minds, the world’s leading job skills credentialing firm, is also leading India’s vocational assessment and certification space. The company today announced adding over 250 assessment centres pan India in partnership with Don Bosco Tech Society. These assessment centres spread across 27 States shall be used by Aspiring Minds and its partners for delivering various skill based assessments and certifications.

Recognition of skill is extremely important in the blue collar job space where employability indicators are otherwise broken. The centres will allow freshly trained manpower as well as currently employed workers (RPL a.k.a. Recognition of Prior Learning) to get recognized for their skills by getting assessed and earning certificates. The candidates will be able to gain certification for over 110 job roles like electricians, plumbers, beautician etc. across 15+ sectors including Hospitality, Plumbing, Electronics, Agriculture, Beauty and Wellness to name a few. These new centers will also strengthen Aspiring Minds’ global skill initiatives in the Middle East, Africa and South/Southeast Asia.

Boasting of world class infrastructure and equipment and a strong delivery network, Don Bosco centres complement Aspiring Minds’ vision of setting up world class technology driven assessments to enable skill certifications and help candidates become ‘employable’. Powered by Aspiring Minds’ TESLA technology, the tests are reliable, standardised, valid and ensure high integrity results. With the Government’s Skill India mission targeted towards skilling more than 400 million candidates by 2022, it is essential to scale vocational assessment and certification infrastructure capabilities across the country. Job skill recognition paves way for differential waging, motivation and other job benefits which further recognizes and rewards more skilled workforce, thus acting as motivator for others.

“Assessment driven, industry recognized certifications are quintessential in enabling youth get the right jobs. Our skills assessment technology is used by millions of job seekers every year including lakhs of youth with vocational training. With the partnership with Don Bosco Tech Society, these vocational certifications can be taken more closer to the youth in India and help them get recognized for jobs,” said Himanshu Aggarwal, co-founder and CEO, Aspiring Minds.

Today, we have the largest youth population in human history; 1.8 billion young people in the world – with approximately 85% of them living in developing and emerging economies and fragile states. Employment and decent work, particularly among young people are the backbone of development. “It is essential to give the young quality training and certify their abilities to match the global standards to bridge the skill-gap. Don Bosco’s principle of “Learn a trade and earn a living” is to give accessibility to youth for skill training. The partnership is to leverage the strength of both Aspiring Minds and Don Bosco, to give the youth quality training and certification for employment,” said Fr. A.M. Joseph, Executive Director of Don Bosco Tech.

The nationwide network of assessment centres will also boost Aspiring Minds’ efforts in scaling their corporate recruitment business as clients will be able to fulfil their hiring needs in the vocational space. It will not only provide an extensive reach to corporations for their hiring but also serve as a medium for trained candidates to gain meaningful employment at some of the biggest corporations across the country.

#### **About Aspiring Minds:**

Aspiring Minds is a global job skills credentialing leader set up with a vision to create a merit driven talent ecosystem and enable efficient job skills matching by crafting credible and intelligent assessments. The flagship product AMCAT, is the world’s most widely-taken employability test helping over two million candidates find the ‘right’ jobs every year. Backed by state-of-the-art, adaptive assessment technology and machine learning algorithms – it allows adaptive, standardized and reliable measurement of generic employability skills (language, cognitive, behavior) and a wide range of functional skills using simulated assessments. Aspiring Minds enables job seekers to evaluate their job skills, earn industry recognized credentials and find appropriate career opportunities. We also help companies dramatically improve their quality and efficiency of hiring and are today associated with more than 2000 corporations. Founded in 2008 by Himanshu and Varun Aggarwal, Aspiring Minds is a 500+ people strong organization with operations in US, China, India, Middle East, Philippines and Sub-Saharan Africa. For more information, log on to [www.aspiringminds.com](http://www.aspiringminds.com) or [www.myamcat.com](http://www.myamcat.com)

#### **About Don Bosco Society:**

Salesians of Don Bosco, is an International Organisation focussed on youth, following the footsteps of St. John Bosco an educator saint of 19<sup>th</sup> century, popularly known as “friend of youth” who touched the lives of millions of youth across the world. Currently working in 132 countries in the world, the system of education is much loved and appreciated by youth and Society.

Don Bosco Tech, a network having 400 Don Bosco and other skill training centres attempts to bridge the widening digital, financial and social divide between those who have access to opportunities and those who are increasingly being marginalized from the “new economy” jobs. Don Bosco Tech addresses the issues of unemployment and lack of skilled manpower with a market-based approach that is sensitive to the socio-economic needs of the marginalized youth. The goal is to train 2 million youth by 2022.

The skill training is focussed on youth centred, market relevant employable skills so that every youth is given the opportunity to develop his/ her potentialities for a decent life. The state-of-the-art infrastructure, equipment and training environment are best suited to develop the potentialities of youth for employment. Decades of experience in training and youth work is put to best use in developing the youth workers for the world.