

# "Lets talk Talent Aquisition"

Karen is one of Europe's leading talent acquisition and management specialists.



Karen graduated from the University of Surrey in 1988. After 2 years post graduate commercial & management experience with a London based publishing firm, she left the UK to work and travel throughout the globe for almost 2 years. She gained valuable business and life experiences throughout India, Nepal, South East Asia and Australia, and continued a gruelling over-land journey, independently, through the Philippines, across China, Mongolia and Russia in 1992 on route back to the UK.

Once back in the UK, Karen returned to her native North East where she embarked upon her early career in Executive Search with Austin Knight, the UK's leading advertising and search firm at the time, later to be acquired by TMP Worldwide.

**Karen returned to London in the mid 90's to further progress her executive search career with TMP, and became a pivotal player in the global 'war for talent' during the technology boom.**

**Her profile was raised dramatically when she became a principal consultant within TMP Worldwide's Global Technology practice, where her reputation was enhanced with major successes within the fiercely expanding IT and communications industry. Karen recruited Speech Writes for Peter Bonfield and Sir Iain Vallance during BT's MCI merger, and undertook some politically sensitive and challenging assignments including BT's Head of Country for Wales, during the Welsh devolution. She went on to appoint some of Europe's most high profile business leaders and emerging talent into blue chip companies throughout the UK, EMEA and the US and building executive teams on behalf of pre IPO firms in Europe throughout the dot com era.**

**In 1999 she was head hunted herself, by Nortel Networks, the Canadian global telecommunications giant, to lead their internal executive talent sourcing, attraction and management strategy in Europe. Karen worked within Nortel's corporate HR function for 2 years, collaborating closely with her counterparts in North America on Nortel's global talent branding strategies. She played a key role in the development of Nortel's award winning European resourcing centre with the HR executive management team.**

**Karen left Nortel in 2002 to build her own HR solution business. As a GFI co-founder, she now drives the architecture and strategic development of GFI Consulting's talent acquisition and talent management solutions. She works relentlessly throughout the UK, Europe and US to continue to enhance GFI Consulting International's reputation as a leading edge provider of deliverable HR strategic and tactical people based offerings, to local and global markets. She also continues to operate as a hands on global search consultant, and delivers key appointments to a continually growing cross-sector base of SME's, pre IPO firms and global blue chip clients.**

She is passionate about all things football (especially her adored Newcastle United), alpine skiing and also enjoys managing a rapidly expanding property portfolio in her Native North East.

## CONTACT

## 0845 603 2815