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### ONE IN FOUR WORKERS OFF THIS WEEK

- **Over a quarter (29%) of Brits will be off work this week as they make the most of the Easter and Royal Wedding break**
- **UK workforce depleted as one in ten (11%) companies allow all employees to take the whole week off**
- **Double bank holiday bonanza, but not for the two thirds (64%) of workers left manning the fort**
- **Almost one in ten (9%) were blocked from taking the time off - just 56% of people say that holiday allocation for the days between the two bank holidays wasn't an issue where they work**
- **Ensuring adequate cover and the pressure of picking up the slack for those who are off is a headache for over one in ten workers (12%).**

Workplaces across Britain will be like a ghost town as workers take a break between Easter and the Royal Wedding, according to new research from [InvisibleHand](#), the free to download online shopping tool. One in four workers will be off this week (29%) using just three days holiday to enjoy an 11 day break from work.

Such was the demand to take these three days off that one in ten companies (11%) have decided to shut to allow all employees to take the time off. Others were not quite so understanding with almost one in ten workers (9%) blocked from taking the time off. Just 56% of people say that holiday allocation for the days between the two bank holidays didn't cause any issues at work – three in ten (30%) said that their employer operated a strict 'first come first served' policy for the three days.

While the lucky ones are busy relaxing, two thirds of workers (64%) have been left 'manning the fort'. For over one in ten (12%) the extended break is a complete headache as they struggle to provide adequate cover and support. 4% say a lot of their colleagues are unhappy about how it has been dealt with at work and 3% of workers who didn't get the holiday are disgruntled about it. 3% even expect discontented colleagues to call in sick this week.

**Robin Landy, founder of [InvisibleHand](#), says:** “With one in four workers taking time off this week, Britain’s workplaces are going to feel like a ghost town. The extended Easter and Royal Wedding break was just too good an opportunity to miss, so it comes as no surprise that so many workers have jumped at the chance to book off the three days in between. While firms may be empty, airports and travel companies are going to be busy with over 2 million Brits planning on using the break to get away.

“Finding cheap flights will be more difficult than ever with so many people hoping to get away. Using a free tool like InvisibleHand will take the hard work out of searching for the cheapest prices for flights, automatically comparing what is available on the internet so you don’t have to.”

InvisibleHand is free to download in less than a minute via the website, [www.getinvisiblehand.com](http://www.getinvisiblehand.com).

**ENDS**

**For more information please contact:**

Stuart Lerman / Jennifer Stevens  
Lansons Communications  
0207 294 3674 / 020 7566 9723  
[stuartl@lansons.com](mailto:stuartl@lansons.com) / [jennifers@lansons.com](mailto:jennifers@lansons.com)

**Note to editors:**

Research was undertaken in March 2010 with the uSwitch.com Consumer Opinion Panel covering **1,400** respondents.

**About InvisibleHand**

InvisibleHand is a free price-finder tool for online shoppers and travellers who want to be confident they have found the best price before clicking the ‘buy’ button. Instead of undertaking painstaking online research or relying on the out-of-date prices on shopping & flight comparison sites; consumers can download and install InvisibleHand on their computer for free. Once installed, the next time you go shopping InvisibleHand will work behind the scenes to automatically find the best price on products & flights, no matter where you’re searching on the web.

InvisibleHand’s price alerts appear in a temporary, drop-down bar when a better deal is found on over 60 million products and airfares. To-date, InvisibleHand has been downloaded by over 1.6 million people and has already found savvy online shoppers over £58 million worth of savings in the UK alone.

InvisibleHand is free and easy to download from [www.getinvisiblehand.com](http://www.getinvisiblehand.com).

InvisibleHand is part of the Forward Internet Group, a privately funded collection of internet-based businesses focused on consumer engagement and innovation.