# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

## FORM 8-K

## **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported):

February 1, 2010

## SearchMedia Holdings Limited

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Cayman Islands	0001-33800	77-0688094
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
15A Zhao Feng Universe Building, 1800 Zhong Shan Xi Lu, Shanghai, China,		200235
(Address of principal executive offices)		(Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code:		86-2164403190
4B, Ying Long	Building, 1358 Yan An Road West, Shang	ghia, China
Former nar	me or former address, if changed since las	t report
heck the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intervisions:	ended to simultaneously satisfy the filing o	bligation of the registrant under any of the following
<ul> <li>Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the S</li> <li>Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Excl</li> <li>Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14a-14</li> <li>Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13a-14a-15</li> </ul>	hange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12) d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 24	* **

### **Top of the Form**

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

Effective February 1, 2010, the Board of Directors of SearchMedia Holdings Limited, a Cayman Islands company (the "Company") appointed Paul Conway, age 40, as its Chief Executive Officer.

From 1998 through January 2010, Mr. Conway worked at Oppenheimer & Co., Inc., where he served as Managing Director of Media Investment Banking from January 2009 to January 2010, as Executive Director of Media Investment Banking from January 2006 to January 2009, and as Director of Media Investment Banking from January 2003 to January 2006.

Effective February 1, 2010 (the "Effective Date"), the Company and Mr. Conway entered into the Executive Employment Agreement (the "Agreement"). The term of the Agreement is for three years and the Agreement will be automatically extended for successive one-year terms unless either party gives written notice to the other party to terminate the Agreement. The Company also agreed to appoint Mr. Conway to the Board prior to the one year anniversary of the Effective Date

Pursuant to the Agreement, Mr. Conway will receive an annual salary of US \$250,000, subject to annual review by the Board of Directors (the "Board"). Mr. Conway is also entitled to expense reimbursement of up to US \$50,000 for certain expenses related to, among other things, relocation, housing, education and insurance. On February 1, 2010, Mr. Conway was granted (i) options to purchase 250,000 shares of common stock (the "Initial Option Grant"), which vest one-third annually on the anniversary of the date of grant, with an exercise price equal to the Company's closing price on the date of grant, and (ii) 100,000 restricted shares (the "Initial Restricted Share Grant") which vest on the three-year anniversary of the date of grant.

In the event the Company terminates Mr. Conway without cause or Mr. Conway terminates his employment for good reason (as described in the Agreement), (i) Mr. Conway will receive salary continuation equal to six months salary if such termination occurred pr ior to the first anniversary of the Effective Date, salary continuation equal to nine months salary and the vesting of 33,333 restricted shares from the Initial Restricted Share Grant if such termination occurrs between the first anniversary of the Effective Date and the second anniversary of the Effective Date, and salary continuation equal to nine months' salary and the vesting of 66,666 restricted shares from the Initial Restricted Share Grant if such termination occurs after the second anniversary year of the Effective Date, and (ii) those options in the Initial Option Grant that would have vested during the applicable severance period shall yest and be exercisable.

The Agreement also contains other customary provisions, including provisions relating to non-solicitation, non-compete, confidentiality and compliance with Sections 409A and 457A of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, upon the occurrence of a Change in Control (as defined in the Agr eement), all unvested options from the Initial Grant and unvested restricted shares from the Initial Restricted Share Grant will become vested and fully exercisable.

The foregoing description of the Agreement is not intended to be a comprehensive summary. A copy of the Agreement is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and its contents are incorporated herein by this reference.

In connection with the hiring of Mr. Conway, the Company issued a press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d)

Exhibit 10.1 – Executive Employment Agreement effective February 1, 2010.

Exhibit 99.1 - Press Release dated February 1, 2010.

## **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SearchMedia Holdings Limited

February 3, 2010 By: Paul Conway

Name: Paul Conway

Title: Chief Executive Officer

## Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Description	
10.1	Executive Employment Agreement effective February 1, 2010	
99.1	Press Release dated February 1, 2010	

#### **EXECUTIVE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

This EXECUTIVE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (the "<u>Agreement</u>") is entered into as of January 29, 2010 by and between SearchMedia Holdings Limited, a company incorporated and existing under the laws of the Cayman Islands (the "<u>Company</u>"), and Mr. Paul Conway, an individual (the "<u>Executive</u>") and effective on the Effective Date (as hereinafter defined). The Company and all of its direct or indirect parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, or subsidiaries or affiliates of its parent companies are referred to collectively as the "<u>SM Group</u>."

#### RECITALS

A. The Company desires to employ the Executive and to assure itself of the services of the Executive during the term of Employment (as defined below).

B. The Executive desires to be employed by the Company during the term of Employment and under the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

#### **AGREEMENT**

The parties hereto agree as follows:

## 1. POSITION

The Executive hereby accepts a position of Chief Executive Officer (the "Employment") of the Company.

#### 2. TERM

Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the initial term of the Employment shall be three years, commencing on February 1, 2010 (the "<u>Effective Date</u>"), until February 1, 2013, unless terminated earlier pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. Upon expiration of the initial three-year term, the Employment shall be automatically extended for successive one-year terms unless either party gives the other party hereto written notice to terminate the Employment no less than 60 days, and no more than 120 days, prior to the expiration of such one-year term or unless terminated earlier pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

#### 3. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Executive's duties at the Company will include all jobs assigned by the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board").

Prior to the first anniversary of this Agreement, Executive shall be appointed to the Company's Board.

The Executive shall devote all of his working time, attention and skills to the performance of his duties at the Company and shall faithfully and diligently serve the Company in accordance with this Agreement and the guidelines, policies and procedures of the Company approved from time to time by the Company.

The Executive shall use his best efforts to perform his duties hereunder. The Executive shall not, without the prior written consent of the Board, become an employee or consultant of any entity other than the Company and/or any member of the SM Group, and shall not carry on or be interested in the business or entity that competes with that carried on by the SM Group (any such business or entity, a "Competitor"), provided that nothing in this clause shall preclude the Executive from holding any shares or other securities of any Competitor that is listed on any securities exchange or recognized securities market anywhere. The Executive shall notify the Company in writing of his interest in such shares or securities in a timely manner and with such details and particulars as the Company may reasonably require.

## 4. NO BREACH OF CONTRACT

The Executive hereby represents to the Company that: (i) the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Executive and the performance by the Executive of the Executive's duties hereunder shall not constitute a breach of, or otherwise contravene, the terms of any other agreement or policy to which the Executive is a party or otherwise bound, except for agreements that are required to be entered into by and between the Executive and any member of the SM Group pursuant to applicable law of the jurisdiction where the Executive is based, if any; (ii) that the Executive has no information (including, without limitation, confidential information and trade secrets) relating to any other person or entity which would prevent, or be violated by, the Executive entering into this Agreement or carrying out his duties hereunder; (iii) that the Executive is not bound by any confidentiality, trade secret or similar agreement (other than this) with any other person or entity except for other member(s) of the SM Group, as the case may be.

#### 5. LOCATION

The Executive will be based in, and shall work from, Shanghai, China on a full time basis.

## 6. COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

(a) <u>Cash Compensation</u>. The Executive's cash compensation shall be provided by the Company pursuant to <u>Schedule A-1</u> hereto, subject to annual review and adjustment by the Board. The Company and the Executive hereby agree that any of the Company's subsidiaries' or affiliated entities' payment of the cash compensation payable for the applicable time period under its labor contract with the Executive shall constitute payment of part of the above cash compensation. The Executive's entitlement to the aggregate cash

compensation payable by the Company and any of the Company's subsidiaries or affiliated entities shall not exceed the amount set out in <u>Schedule A-1</u> hereto.

- (b) Equity Incentives. The Executive will be eligible to participate in any of the Company's equity incentive plans as determined by the Board, consistent with the terms provided to the Company's other senior officers. Subject to approval by the Company's Board of Directors and the execution of a stock option agreement and restricted share agreement which will govern the terms and conditions of your equity incentive awards, you will receive the equity awards listed on <a href="Schedule A-2">Schedule A-2</a> (respectively, the "Initial Option Grant" and "Initial Restricted Stock Grant"). Following a Company Change of Control Transaction (as hereinafter defined), all unvested options and restricted shares granted pursuant to the Initial Option Grant and Initial Restricted Stock Grant shall vest upon the closing of the Change of Control Transaction.
- (c) Expatriate Benefits. The Executive shall be entitled to an annual expatriate benefit package of up to US\$50,000 (the "Expatriate Benefit Package"), which shall include reimbursements for relocation to Shanghai, China for the Executive and his family, housing, private transportation in China, education for the Executive's children and such other matters as the Compensation Committee of the Board reasonably approves in advance. Any expenses to be incurred or reimbursed pursuant to the Executive's Expatriate Benefit Package shall be approved in advance by the Company's Compensation Committee, or a designee of the Compensation Committee, prior to incurring such expenses. The Expatriate Benefit Package will be directly paid or reimbursed by the Company. If, within one year from the date of Executive's relocation, Executive voluntarily terminates his employment with the Company for any reason other than by the Executive for Good Reason pursuant to Section 7(c) herein, Executive will be required to refund all funds expended by the Company related to the Expatriate Benefit Package to the Company within 30 days of his termination date.
- (d) <u>Benefits</u>. The Company will provide the Executive and his family with an international health insurance program ("International Health Insurance"). To the extent the cost of the International Health Insurance exceeds the cost of the standard health insurance plan for senior employees, the difference, up to a maximum of \$10,000.00, shall be applied towards the Expatriate Benefit Package cap described in Section 6(c)(3). The Company will assist the Executive in obtaining International Health Insurance. In addition, the Executive and his family will be eligible to participate in any standard employee benefit plan of the Company, including any health insurance plan and annual holiday plan.
- (e) <u>Legal Fees</u>. Upon execution of this Agreement, the Company agrees to pay the legal fees incurred by the Executive in connection with this Agreement and Executive joining the Company, up to a maximum of \$10,000.00. Such fees shall be payable within a reasonable time following the Company's receipt of such bills, not to exceed 15 days.
- (f) <u>Certain Definitions</u>. For purposes of this Agreement, a Change of Control Transaction shall mean (1) any sale, lease, exchange or other transfer (in one transaction or a series of transactions) of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company other than to a Company Affiliate; (2) any consolidation or merger or other business combination of the Company with any other entity, other than a Company Affiliate, where the shareholders of the Company, immediately prior to the consolidation or merger or other business combination would not, immediately after the consolidation or merger or other business combination, beneficially own, directly or indirectly, shares representing fifty percent (50%) of the combined voting power of all of the outstanding securities of the entity issuing cash or securities in the consolidation or merger or other business combination (or its ultimate parent corporation, if any); or (3) the Board of the Company adopts a resolution to the effect that a "Change In Control" has occurred for purposes of this Agreement. Company Affiliate shall mean any affiliate of the Company, including without limitation, Phillip Frost, Frost Gamma Investments Trust, The Frost Group, LLC or any of their respective members or affiliates.

## 7. TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT

- (a) By the Company with cause. The Company may terminate the Executive's Employment for cause, at any time, without advance notice or remuneration, if (1) the Executive is convicted or pleads guilty to a felony or to an act of fraud, misappropriation or embezzlement, (2) the Executive has been grossly negligent or acted dishonestly to the material financial detriment of the Company, (3) the Executive has engaged in actions amounting to gross misconduct or failed to perform his duties hereunder and such failure continues after the Executive has been provided with written notice of such failure and is afforded a reasonable opportunity (of no less than 30 days) to cure such failure, (4) the Executive has died, or (5) the Executive has a disability which shall mean a physical or mental impairment which, as reasonably determined by the Board, renders the Executive unable to perform the essential functions of his employment with the Company, even with reasonable accommodation that does not impose an undue hardship on the Company, for more than 180 days in any 12-month period, unless a longer period is required by applicable law, in which case that longer period would apply.
- (b) <u>By the Company without cause</u>. The Company may terminate the Executive's Employment without cause, at any time, upon 60 days prior written notice to the Executive.
- (c) By the Executive for Good Reason. If there is a material and substantial reduction in the Executive's existing authority and responsibilities, or the Executive's compensation or benefits, or location of the Executive's position, the Executive may resign upon one-month prior written notice to the Company during the first year after the Effective Date, or two-month prior written notice to the Company during any period after the first anniversary of the Effective Date. A resignation by Executive shall not constitute termination for Good Reason unless (i) there shall have passed a reasonable time (not less than 30 days) within which the Company may take action to correct, rescind or otherwise substantially reverse the occurrence supporting termination for Good Reason as identified by Executive and (ii) the Executive's termination of employment occurs within 30 days of the occurrence of an event of Good Reason.
- (d) <u>Notice of Termination</u>. Any termination of the Executive's employment under this Agreement shall be communicated by written notice of termination from the terminating party to the other party. The notice of termination shall indicate the specific provision(s) of this Agreement relied upon in effecting the termination.

- (e) Remuneration upon Termination. Upon the Company's termination of the Employment without cause pursuant to Section 7(b) above or the Executive's resignation for good reason pursuant to Section 7(c) above and upon the execution of a general release agreement in a form reasonably acceptable to the Company, the Company will provide remuneration to the Executive as follows: (1) if such termination or resignation becomes effective during the first year after the Effective Date, the Company will provide the Executive with severance pay equal to six months base salary of the Executive; (2) if such termination or resignation becomes effective during any period after the first anniversary of the Effective Date and before the second anniversary of the Effective Date, the Company will provide the Executive with severance pay equal to nine months base salary of the Executive; (3) if such termination or resignation becomes effective during any period after the second anniversary of the Effective Date, the Company will provide the Executive with a severance pay equal to 12 months base salary of the Executive; (4) the Company will vest any options of the Initial Option Grant that would have vested during the applicable severance period, (5) if such termination or resignation becomes effective during any period after the first anniversary of the Effective Date and before the second anniversary of the Effective Date, the Company will vest 33,333 shares of restricted stock from the Initial Restricted Stock Grant, and (6) if such termination or resignation becomes effective during any period after the second anniversary of the Effective Date and before the third anniversary of the Effective Date, the Company will vest a total of 66,666 shares of restricted stock from the Initial Restricted Stock Grant. Except for the foregoing, the Executive shall not be entitled to any severance payments or benefits upon the termination of the Employment for any reason, unless otherwise agreed to by the Company. Any payments made pursuant to Section 7(e)(1-3) shall be paid in accordance with the Company's normal payroll cycles in effect on the termination or resignation date.
- (f) <u>Termination by Executive for No Reason</u>. The Executive may terminate his Employment for any reason, at any time, upon 90 days prior written notice to the Company.

#### 8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND NONDISCLOSURE

- (a) <u>Confidentiality and Non-disclosure</u>. In the course of the Executive's services, the Executive may have access to the Company and/or the Company's client's and/or prospective client's trade secrets and confidential information, including but not limited to those embodied in memoranda, manuals, letters or other documents, computer disks, tapes or other information storage devices, hardware, or other media or vehicles, pertaining to the Company and/or the Company's client's and/or prospective client's business. All such trade secrets and confidential information are considered confidential. All materials containing any such trade secret and confidential information are the property of the Company and/or the Company's client and/or prospective client, and shall be returned to the Company and/or the Company's client and/or prospective client upon expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement. The Executive shall not directly or indirectly disclose or use any such trade secret or confidential information, except as required in the performance of the Executive's duties in connection with the Employment, or pursuant to applicable law.
- (b) <u>Trade Secrets.</u> During and after the Employment, the Executive shall hold the Trade Secrets in strict confidence; the Executive shall not disclose these Trade Secrets to anyone except other employees of the Company who have a need to know the Trade Secrets in connection with the Company's business. The Executive shall not use the Trade Secrets other than for the benefits of the Company.
  - "Trade Secrets" means information deemed confidential by the Company, treated by the Company or which the Executive know or ought reasonably to have known to be confidential, and trade secrets, including without limitation designs, processes, pricing policies, methods, inventions, conceptions, technology, technical data, financial information, corporate structure and know-how, relating to the business and affairs of the Company and its subsidiaries, affiliates and business associates, whether embodied in memoranda, manuals, letters or other documents, computer disks, tapes or other information storage devices, hardware, or other media or vehicles. Trade Secrets do not include information generally known or released to public domain through no fault of the Executive.
- (c) <u>Former Employer Information</u>. The Executive agrees that he has not and will not, during the term of his employment improperly use or disclose any proprietary information or trade secrets of any former employer, unless the former employer has been acquired by the Company, or other person or entity with which the Executive has an agreement to keep in confidence information acquired by Executive, if any. The Executive will indemnify the Company and hold it harmless from and against all claims, liabilities, damages and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit, arising out of or in connection with any violation of the foregoing.
- (d) Third Party Information. The Executive recognizes that the Company may have received, and in the future may receive, from third parties their confidential or proprietary information subject to a duty on the Company's part to maintain the confidentiality of such information and to use it only for certain limited purposes. The Executive agrees that the Executive owes the Company and such third parties, during the Executive's employment by the Company and thereafter, a duty to hold all such confidential or proprietary information in the strictest confidence and not to disclose it to any person or firm and to use it in a manner consistent with, and for the limited purposes permitted by, the Company's agreement with such third party.

This Section 8 shall survive the termination of this Agreement for any reason. In the event the Executive breaches this Section 8, the Company shall have right to seek any and all remedies at law or in equity.

#### 9. NON-COMPETITION AND NON-SOLICITATION

- (a) In consideration of the base salary provided to the Executive by the Company hereunder, the adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged by the parties hereto, the Executive agrees that during the term of the Employment and for a period of one year following the termination of the Employment for whatever reason:
  - (i) The Executive will not approach clients, customers or contacts of the Company or other persons or entities introduced to the Executive in the Executive's capacity as a representative of the Company for the purposes of doing business with such persons or entities which will harm the business relationship between the Company and such persons and/or entities;

- (ii) unless expressly consented to by the Company, the Executive will not seek directly or indirectly, by the offer of alternative employment or other inducement whatsoever, to solicit the services of any employee of the Company employed as at or after the date of such termination, or in the year preceding such termination.
- (b) In consideration of the base salary provided to the Executive by the Company hereunder, the adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged by the parties hereto, the Executive agrees that during the term of the Employment and for a period of one year thereafter (except in the event of a Termination by the Company without cause pursuant to Section 7(b) or in the event of a Termination by the Executive for Good Reason pursuant to Section 7(c)), following the termination of the Employment for whatever reason, unless expressly consented to by the Company, the Executive will not assume employment with or provide services for any Competitor, or engage, whether as principal, partner, licensor or otherwise, in any Competitor.
- (c) In consideration of the base salary provided to the Executive by the Company hereunder, the adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged by the parties hereto, the Executive agrees that in the event of a Termination by the Company without cause pursuant to Section 7(b) or in the event of a Termination by the Executive for Good Reason pursuant to Section 7(c), then during the term of the Employment and for the period of the duration of the severance pay described in Section 7(e)(1), Section 7(e)(2) or Section 7(e)(3), as appropriate, unless expressly consented to by the Company, the Executive will not assume employment with or provide services for any Competitor, or engage, whether as principal, partner, licensor or otherwise, in any Competitor.

The provisions contained in this Section 9 are considered reasonable by the Executive and the Company. In the event that any such provisions should be found to be void under applicable laws but would be valid if some part thereof was deleted or the period or area of application reduced, such provisions shall apply with such modification as may be necessary to make them valid and effective.

This Section 9 shall survive the termination of this Agreement for any reason. In the event the Executive breaches this Section 9, the Executive acknowledges that there will be no adequate remedy at law, and the Company shall be entitled to injunctive relief and/or a decree for specific performance, and such other relief as may be proper (including monetary damages if appropriate). In any event, the Company shall have right to seek any and all remedies permissible at law or in equity.

## 10. ASSIGNMENT

This Agreement is personal in its nature and neither of the parties hereto shall, without the consent of the other, assign or transfer this Agreement or any rights or obligations hereunder; provided, however, that (i) the Company may assign or transfer this Agreement or any rights or obligations hereunder to any member of the SM Group without such consent, and (ii) in the event of a Change-of-Control Transaction of the Company, this Agreement shall, subject to the provisions hereof, be binding upon and inure to the benefit of such successor and such successor shall discharge and perform all the promises, covenants, duties, and obligations of the Company hereunder.

#### 11. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Agreement which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications and to this end the provisions of this Agreement are declared to be severable.

### 12. GOVERNING LAW

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of New York, U.S.A. Any dispute or claim arising out of or related to this Agreement shall be brought only in a court of competent jurisdiction located in the state, county and city of New York. The parties hereto waive any objection to venue and jurisdiction of that forum.

#### 13. AMENDMENT

This Agreement may not be amended, modified or changed (in whole or in part), except by a formal, definitive written agreement expressly referring to this Agreement, which agreement is executed by both of the parties hereto.

#### 14. WAIVER

Neither the failure nor any delay on the part of a party to exercise any right, remedy, power or privilege under this Agreement shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right, remedy, power or privilege preclude any other or further exercise of the same or of any right, remedy, power or privilege, nor shall any waiver of any right, remedy, power or privilege with respect to any occurrence be construed as a waiver of such right, remedy, power or privilege with respect to any other occurrence. No waiver shall be effective unless it is in writing and is signed by the party asserted to have granted such waiver.

#### 15. NOTICES

All notices, requests, demands and other communications required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given and made if (i) delivered by hand, (ii) otherwise delivered against receipt therefor, or (iii) sent by a recognized courier with next-day or second-day delivery to the last known address of the other party.

## 16. COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original as against any party whose signature appears thereon, and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. This Agreement shall become binding when one or more counterparts hereof, individually or taken together, shall bear the signatures of all of the parties reflected hereon as the signatories. Photographic copies of such signed counterparts may be used in lieu of the originals for any purpose.

#### 17. NO INTERPRETATION AGAINST DRAFTER

Each party recognizes that this Agreement is a legally binding contract and acknowledges that such party has had the opportunity to consult with legal counsel of choice. In any construction of the terms of this Agreement, the same shall not be construed against either party on the basis of that party being the drafter of such terms.

#### 18. LANGUAGE

This Agreement is prepared and executed in English.

## 19. CODE SECTIONS 409A.

- (a) <u>General</u>. This Agreement shall be interpreted and administered in a manner so that any amount or benefit payable hereunder shall be paid or provided in a manner that is either exempt from or compliant with the requirements Section 409A of the Code and applicable Internal Revenue Service guidance and Treasury Regulations issued thereunder (and any applicable transition relief under Section 409A of the Code).
- (b) <u>Definitional Restrictions</u>. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, to the extent that any amount payable under Section 7(e) ("Remuneration upon Termination") that would constitute non-exempt "deferred compensation" for purposes of Section 409A of the Code, such amount will not be payable to the Executive by reason of such circumstance unless (i) such termination of employment meets any definition of "separation from service" in Section 409A of the Code and applicable regulations (without giving effect to any elective provisions that may be available under such definition), or (ii) the payment of such amount or benefit would be exempt from the application of Section 409A of the Code by reason of the short-term deferral exemption or otherwise. If this provision prevents the payment of any amount, such payment shall be made on the date on which an event occurs that constitutes a Section 409A-compliant "separation from service" or such later date as may be required by subsection (c) below.
- (c) <u>Six-Month Delay in Certain Circumstances</u>. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, if any amount or benefit that would constitute non-exempt "deferred compensation" for purposes of Section 409A of the Code would otherwise be payable under this Agreement by reason of the Executive's separation from service during a period in which he is a Specified Employee (as defined below), then, subject to any permissible acceleration of payment by the Company under Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-3(j)(4)(ii) (domestic relations order), (j)(4)(iii) (conflicts of interest), or (j)(4)(vi) (payment of employment taxes):
  - (i) the amount of such non-exempt deferred compensation that would otherwise be payable during the six-month period immediately following the Executive's separation from service will be accumulated through and paid or provided on the first day of the seventh month following the Executive's separation from service (or, if the Executive dies during such period, within 30 days after the Executive's death) (in either case, the "Required Delay Period"); and
  - (ii) the normal payment schedule for any remaining payments will resume at the end of the Required Delay Period.
  - (iii) in the case of any such delayed payment, the Company shall pay interest on the deferred amount at 100% of the short-term applicable federal rate as in effect for the month in which the date of termination occurred.

For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Specified Employee" has the meaning given such term in Code Section 409A and the final regulations thereunder: provided, however, that the Company's Specified Employees and its application of the six-month delay rule of Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) shall be determined in accordance with rules adopted by the Board or a committee thereof, which shall be applied consistently with respect to all nonqualified deferred compensation arrangements of the Company, including this Agreement.

- (d) <u>Treatment of Installment Payments</u>. Each payment of severance benefits under Section 7(e) of this Agreement shall be considered a separate payment, as described in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-2(b)(2), for purposes of Section 409A of the Code.
- (e) <u>Timing of Release of Claims</u>. With respect to the requirement in Section 7(e) of this agreement where payment is conditioned on the Executive's execution and non-revocation of a general release, such release, must be executed, and all revocation periods shall have expired, within 60 days after the date of termination of the Executive's employment and (i) if the payment would be exempt from the application of Section 409A of the Code by reason of the short-term deferral exemption or otherwise, then the Company may elect to commence payment at any time during such 60-day period or (ii) if the payment would constitute non-exempt "deferred compensation" for purposes of Section 409A of the Code, then payment will commence on the 61st day following termination of employment.
- (f) <u>Timing of Reimbursements and In-kind Benefits</u>. If the Executive is entitled to be paid or reimbursed for any taxable expenses under Sections 6(c), 6(d), or 6(e) and such payments or reimbursements are includible in the Executive's federal gross taxable income, the amount of such expenses reimbursable in any one calendar year shall not affect the amount reimbursable in any other calendar year, and the reimbursement of an eligible expense must be made no later than December 31 of the year after the year in which the expense was incurred. No right of the Executive to reimbursement of expenses under Sections 6(c), 6(d), or 6(e) shall be subject to liquidation or exchange for another benefit.
- (g) <u>Timing of Discretionary Bonus</u>. Any discretionary bonus that may be payable to the Executive pursuant to Schedule A-1 shall be paid after the end of the calendar year for which the bonus is earned and shall be paid no later than December 31 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which the bonus is earned.
- 20. <u>Compliance with Internal Revenue Code Section 409A and 457A.</u> This Agreement is intended to comply with the requirements of Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") Section 409A and 457A, as applicable, and the corresponding regulations and related guidance, and shall be interpreted and administered in accordance with Section 409A and Section 457A, to the extent such sections apply. To the extent Section 409A and/or Section 457A applies, the parties agree to work together to ensure any payments pursuant to Section 7(e) of this Agreement or any other

payment or benefits provided under this Agreement that constitute non-exempt "deferred compensation" for purposes of Section 409A of the Code comply with Section 409A and Section 457A, as applicable.

[Remainder of this page has been intentionally left blank.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been executed as of the date first written above.

#### SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED

By: /s/ Robert Fried Name: Robert Fried

Title: Co-Chairman of the Board

**EXECUTIVE** 

By: <u>/s. Paul Conway</u>
Name: Paul Conway

#### Schedule A-1

#### **Cash Compensation**

	Amount	Pay Period
Base Salary	US \$250,000 annually, subject to applicable withholding and other taxes	Payable in 12 equal monthly installments for each calendar year
Bonus	Discretionary as approved by the Board of Directors.	As determined by the Board of Directors

## Schedule A-2 Initial Equity Award

## **Stock Options:**

Subject to the approval of the Company's Board of Directors, Executive will be granted an option to purchase 250,000 shares of the Company's common stock pursuant to the Amended and Restated 2008 Share Incentive Plan. This award will vest 83,333 shares on the one year anniversary of the date of grant, 83,333 shares on the second anniversary on the date of grant and 83,334 on the third anniversary of the date of grant and which will subject to the terms and conditions contained in a stock option agreement to be entered into by you and the Company prior to the grant. The exercise price per share will be equal to the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date the option is granted. Following any Change of Control Transaction, all unvested options in this grant will vest upon the closing of the Change of Control Transaction. The number of options will be adjusted for stock splits, recapitalizations, stock dividends, mergers and other corporate events that occur after the date of this Agreement. The option exercise period will be ten (10) years.

#### **Restricted Shares:**

Subject to the approval of the Company's Board of Directors, Executive will be granted 100,000 Restricted Shares pursuant to the Amended and Restated 2008 Share Incentive Plan which shall vest three years from the date of grant, except as noted herein. Following any Change of Control Transaction, any unvested Restricted Shares vest upon the closing of the Change of Control Transaction. The number of Restricted Shares will be adjusted for stock splits, recapitalizations, stock dividends, mergers and other corporate events that occur after the date of this Agreement.

## SearchMedia Appoints Paul Conway as CEO

Shanghai, China, February 1, 2010 — SearchMedia Holdings Limited ("SearchMedia" or the "Company") (NYSE Amex: IDI, IDI.WS) (formerly Ideation Acquisition Corp.), one of China's leading nationwide multi-platform media companies, today announced that it has appointed Mr. Paul Conway as Chief Executive Officer of the Company, effective today.

Mr. Conway joins SearchMedia from Oppenheimer & Co., where he was Managing Director of Media Investment Banking. In this role, he was responsible for the solicitation, negotiation, structuring and execution of public and private investment banking transactions in all sectors of the media industry. Since 1998, Mr. Conway has completed over 60 transactions with a total of over \$12 billion in transactional value, including over \$1 billion in the China media sector. Prior to joining Oppenheimer, Mr. Conway served in various banking positions for five years with SunTrust Bank. Mr. Conway holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and a BBA in Finance/Economics from the University of Miami.

Mr. Rob Fried, the Company's Co-Chairman, commented, "We are very excited to welcome Paul Conway to the Company. I have known and worked with Paul on a variety of transactions over the last seven years. He spearheaded the merger with SearchMedia on behalf of Ideation and as such is very well-acquainted with the Company's business operations and senior personnel. During an 18-month period, Paul worked tirelessly and closely with us and was able to earn the entire team's trust and respect. His extensive experience with Chinese media, financial markets and mergers and acquisitions as well as his strong leadership and communication skills make him a unique and invaluable asset to our Company. We are fully confident that he will be able to help guide our Company to the forefront of Chinese media companies."

Mr. Paul Conway commented, "It is a great honor for me to join the SearchMedia team and take on the role of CEO. Working closely with the Company during the merger with Ideation, and having done so with numerous other companies in the U.S. and Chinese media industry, I became particularly impressed with SearchMedia's business model and strategic vision. We will look to continue to leverage SearchMedia's platform of billboard, elevator and transit advertising to offer local and international advertisers a compelling cross-selling opportunity in China. I feel confident in SearchMedia's ability to execute on its goals and am greatly excited to be able to make my contribution as the Company's Chief Executive Officer, using my expertise and experience to lead SearchMedia towards these ambitious objectives."

#### About SearchMedia

SearchMedia is a leading nationwide multi-platform media company and one of the largest operators of integrated outdoor billboard and in-elevator advertising networks in China. SearchMedia currently operates a network of over 1,500 high-impact billboards with over 500,000 square feet of surface display area and one of China's largest networks of in-elevator advertisement panels consisting of approximately 125,000 frames in 52 cities throughout China. Additionally, SearchMedia operates a network of large-format light boxes in concourses of eight major subway lines in Shanghai. SearchMedia's core outdoor billboard and in-elevator platforms are complemented by its subway advertising platform, which together enable it to provide multi-platform, "one-stop shop" services for its local, national and international advertising clients.

#### Forward-Looking Statements

Any statements contained in this press release that do not describe historical facts, including statements about SearchMedia's beliefs and expectations, may constitute forward-looking statements as that term is defined by the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as "will," "expect," "anticipate," "future," "intend," "plan," "believe," "estimate," "confident" and similar statements. Any forward-looking statements contained herein are based on current expectations, but are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from expectations. A number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Potential risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: the integration of new management into our current management team, our ability to achieve long-term profitable growth, the risks that there are uncertainties and matters beyond the control of management, and other risks outlined in our filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. SearchMedia cautions readers not to place undue reliance upon any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date made. SearchMedia does not undertake or accept any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement to reflect any change in their expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.

## For more information, please contact:

ICR In Beijing: Michael Tieu

Tel: +86-10-6599-7960

Email: michael.tieu@icrinc.com

In the U.S.: Ashley Ammon Tel: (646) 277-1227

Email: ashley.ammon@icrinc.com