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ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey 1Q 2018: Employers Expect to Grow Staffing Levels in All Seven Industry Sectors

Taipei, Taiwan (12 December, 2018)

According to the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey (MEOS) released today, Taiwanese employers report the most optimistic hiring intentions across the Globe for the forthcoming quarter, with a Net Employment Outlook of +25%, based on seasonally adjusted analysis. Hiring intentions among Taiwanese employers are 2 percentage points stronger when compared with the previous quarter, and remain relatively stable in a comparison with 1Q 2017.

ManpowerGroup interviewed a total of 1,018 Taiwanese employers to measure the labor market activity between January and March in 2018. The survey reveals that 28% of employers forecast an increase in staffing levels, 6% expect a decrease and 65% anticipate no change. Once the data is adjusted to allow for seasonal variation, the Outlook stands at +25% -- the strongest forecast in two years. Employers expect to grow staffing levels in all seven industry sectors during the coming quarter.

“Taiwan's economy continued to show signs of healthy hiring prospects, which was mainly driven by new technology, the positive growth on Taiwan's exports and the upcoming holiday season. Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector employers report the strongest hiring plans with a Net Employment Outlook of +31%. Elsewhere, healthy payroll gains are also expected in the Manufacturing sector and the Services sector. However, the forecast reveals that opportunities for job seekers across all sectors—even the least optimistic forecast reported in the Mining & Construction sector stands at a favorable +18% with nearly one of every four surveyed employers telling us they plan to add to their work forces in the next three months,” said Joan Yeh, the Manpower General Manager of ManpowerGroup Taiwan.

Employers in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector expect a brisk hiring pace for the upcoming quarter and report a Net Employment Outlook of +31%. Hiring plans improve by 6 and 4 percentage points quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year, respectively. “Employers in the Finance & Insurance industries are developing Fintech, AI, and Big Data, which has consequently boosted workforce demand, thus more talents with such as software developers and IT engineers are being actively recruited,” Joan said.

In the Manufacturing sector, employers report an optimistic Net Employment Outlook of +30%, improving by 2 percentage points when compared with the previous quarter, and by 7 percentage points when compared with 1Q 2017. “Higher demand in Automation, wisdom machinery, and electronics products has helped boost Taiwan’s export performance. Employers will expect to see the market improve in the next year so are planning to add staff aggressively,” indicated Joan.

Opportunities for job seekers are also expected to be strong in the Service sector, with Net Employment Outlook at +29%. “Due to the fierce competition between local and foreign e-commerce company, the main companies are looking to strengthen their squad in view of next season” added Joan. “This drives hiring demand of telemarketing personnel and software programmer.”

Employers in the Transportation & Utilities sector, Solid workforce gains are forecast for the first quarter of 2018, with employers reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +22%. Hiring prospects improve by 7 percentage points in comparison with 4Q 2017, but decline by 2 percentage points when compared with this time one year ago. “Due to the upcoming Chinese New Year holidays, employers are reporting stronger hiring plans for more workers in logistics and delivery services.” mentioned Joan.

In the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector, job seekers can expect an active labor market in the coming quarter, according to employers who report a Net Employment Outlook of +21%. Employers in Restaurants & Hotels, based on unadjusted survey data, employers anticipate a steady hiring pace, reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +18% the January-March time frame. Hiring plans improve by 17 percentage points when compared with the previous quarter.

“Employers are anticipating adding to their payrolls and expressing more confidence because seasonal demand triggers consumer’s to spend in the upcoming holiday season and festival, which is very likely to lift the market’s sales growth from department stores, grocery retailers, restaurants, and food & beverage industries. There are many job openings for temporary workforces needed for promotional events,” indicated Joan.

The hiring forecast in the Mining & Construction is the least optimistic with +13%. Hiring intentions are 2 percentage points weaker quarter-over-quarter, and decline by 3 percentage points when compared with this time one year ago.

Full survey results for each of the 43 countries and territories included in this quarter’s survey, plus regional and global comparisons, can be found at www.manpowergroup.com/meos.

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About the Survey

The global leader in innovative workforce solutions, ManpowerGroup™ releases the ManpowerGroup Employment

Outlook Survey quarterly to measure employers' intentions to increase or decrease the number of employees in their workforce during the next quarter. It is the longest running, most extensive, forward-looking employment survey in the world, polling nearly 59,000 employers in 43 countries and territories. The survey has been running for more than 50 years and is one of the most trusted surveys of employment activity in the world. The survey serves as a bellwether of labor market trends and activities and is regularly used to inform the Bank of England's Inflation Reports, as well as a regular data source for the European Commission, informing its EU Employment Situation and Social Outlook report the 'Monthly Monitor'. ManpowerGroup's independent survey data is also sourced by financial analysts and economists around the world to help determine where labor markets are headed.

About ManpowerGroup

ManpowerGroup® (NYSE: MAN), the leading global workforce solutions company, helps organizations transform in a fast-changing world of work by sourcing, assessing, developing and managing the talent that enables them to win. We develop innovative solutions for over 400,000 clients and connect 3+ million people to meaningful, sustainable work across a wide range of industries and skills. Our expert family of brands – Manpower®, Experis®, Right Management® and ManpowerGroup® Solutions – creates substantially more value for candidates and clients across 80 countries and territories and has done so for nearly 70 years. In 2017, ManpowerGroup was named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the seventh consecutive year and one of Fortune's Most Admired Companies, confirming our position as the most trusted and admired brand in the industry. See how ManpowerGroup is powering the future of work: www.manpowergroup.com