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## **Manpower Employment Outlook Survey 4Q 2015: Hiring Climate in Taiwan Remains Bright but Dips to Its Weakest Level in Nine Quarters**

Service sector employers expect most vigorous hiring pace

*Taipei, Taiwan (8 September, 2015)*

Despite employers reporting their least optimistic hiring plans in over two years, fourth-quarter prospects for Taiwan's job seekers are expected to remain robust.

According to the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, four in 10 of the 1,125 Taiwanese employers interviewed anticipate an increase in staffing levels over the next three months, while only 5 percent forecast a decrease and 53 percent expect no changes to their workforce. Once seasonal variations are removed from the data, Taiwan's Net Employment Outlook for the fourth quarter stands at +36%, 4 percent weaker than the previous quarter and 5 percent weaker year-over-year. Among the 42 countries and territories that participate in the quarterly research, only employers in India are expecting a more active fourth-quarter hiring pace than those in Taiwan.

For the upcoming quarter, the most optimistic hiring plans are reported by employers in the Services sector. The Net Employment Outlook is at +44%, making the second consecutive quarter in which employers have reported the strongest forecast among all sectors. Hiring intentions slightly decline by 1 percentage point quarter-over-quarter but are 3 percent stronger in year-on-year comparison.

"As for the Services sector, employers in the information technology (IT) industry continue to look for professionals in e-commerce, mobile application development, and data analysis particularly," said Terence Liu, Country Manager of ManpowerGroup Taiwan, "also, due to greater promotion for tourism from the government, employers in hotels and other hospitality-related enterprises are expecting to add more workforce for the upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival, National Day, Christmas and New Year's Eve," Terence said.

Of the six industry sectors analyzed, employers in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector report the most optimistic hiring plans with a Net Employment Outlook of +41%. Hiring intentions for this sector climb 4 percentage points from the previous quarter. However, when compared with

the same period last year, hiring intentions drop by a considerable margin of 11 percentage points.

“In this sector employers in finance and insurance related industries are more positive than the previous quarter. Companies are expanding their business within Southeast Asia with supports from the government to the ‘Asia League’. Thus, they are looking forward to adding more staff, especially targeting those candidates with certificates and those with IT background or skills in related career fields,” Terence added.

Favored by falling oil prices, employers in the Transportation & Utilities sector expect a brisk hiring pace in the next quarter, The Employment Outlook of +38% turns weaker by 1 percentage point in comparison to the previous quarter’s forecast, but improves by 4 percentage points year-over-year. The Outlook for the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector stands at +37%, dipping by 2 percentage points and 5 percentage points quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year, respectively.

The Manufacturing sector’s Net Employment Outlook stands at +31%. The forecast declines by 9 percentage points and 13 percentage points quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year, respectively, and dips to its weakest level since Q4 2013. “Taiwan’s export volume continues to be affected by the global economic downturn combined with fewer demands from China and other markets. Thus, employers in the Manufacturing sector remain more cautious about hiring than in the previous quarter,” added Terence.

However, the hiring prospects in the Mining & Construction sector seem to be substantially affected by government policies to the housing market. Employers in this sector report an Outlook of +23%, hitting the weakest on record since Q1 2010. The Outlook declines by 19 percentage points and 17 percentage points, respectively, when compared with the previous quarter and the same time frame last year. The sector’s fourth-quarter forecast is also the weakest reported among the six industry sectors.

Full survey results for each of the 42 countries and territories included in this quarter’s survey, plus regional and global comparisons, can be found at [www.manpowergroup.com/meos](http://www.manpowergroup.com/meos).

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### **About the Survey**

The global leader in innovative workforce solutions, ManpowerGroup™ releases the Manpower 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 42 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) has been the world's workforce expert, creating innovative workforce solutions, for more than 65 years. As workforce experts, we connect more than 600,000 men and women to meaningful work across a wide range of skills and industries every day. Through our ManpowerGroup family of brands — Manpower®, Experis™, Right Management® and ManpowerGroup™ Solutions — we help more than 400,000 clients in 80 countries and territories address their critical talent needs, providing comprehensive solutions to resource, manage and develop talent. In 2015, ManpowerGroup was named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the fifth consecutive year and one of Fortune's Most Admired Companies, confirming our position as the most trusted and admired brand in the industry.

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