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## **ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey 1Q 2017: Taiwanese Employers Report the Most Optimistic Job Prospects across the Globe**

**Employers in Transportation & Utilities sector anticipate the  
strongest hiring pace**

*Taipei, Taiwan (13 December, 2016)*

According to the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey (MEOS) released today, Taiwanese employers report the most optimistic hiring intentions in the Asia Pacific region for the coming quarter, with a Net Employment Outlook of +25%, based on seasonally adjusted analysis. Results of the forecast of Taiwan's first-quarter labor market activity indicate that employer confidence keeps improving, which might benefit the job seekers in the market. Taiwan's first-quarter forecast is also the most optimistic among the 43 countries and territories participating in the survey.

ManpowerGroup interviewed a total of 1,036 Taiwanese employers to measure the labor market activity between January and March in 2017. According to the survey, 25% of Taiwanese employers interviewed anticipate an increase in staffing levels in the next three months, 5% forecast a decrease and 65% expect no changes. Once seasonal variations are removed from the data, Taiwan's net employment outlook for the first quarter stands at +25%. The Outlook improves by 4 percentage points when compared with the final quarter of 2016 but declines by 2 percentage points year-over-year.

"Taiwan's economy continued to show signs of steady growth, which was mainly driven by the positive growth on Taiwan's exports in general. Rising global demand for electronics products has helped boost Taiwan's exporting performance. Besides, the increase in private consumption has also helped put Taiwan's economic conditions back on a modest growth track," said Joan Yeh, the Manpower Staffing Service Director of ManpowerGroup Taiwan.

Employers in the Transportation & Utilities sector, who reported the weakest hiring plans in the previous quarter, now report an outlook of +26%--the strongest forecast among all six industry sectors for the next three months. The Transportation & Utilities forecast improves by 17 and 3 percentage points from 4Q 2016 and 1Q 2016, respectively. Due to the upcoming Chinese New Year holidays, employers are reporting stronger hiring plans for more workers in logistics and delivery services. Employers are also

anticipating adding to their payrolls and expressing more confidence than the previous quarter because highway bus services are likely to benefit from higher demands on domestic transportation during the holiday period.

The Service sector's net employment outlook stands at +25%. The forecast improves by 1 percentage point in both quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year comparisons. Positive hiring activity is also forecast in the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector with a net employment outlook of +25%, staying unchanged from the previous quarter. When compared with a year earlier, hiring intentions drop by 3 percentage points. Employers in the Wholesale & Retail Trade sector are expecting growing revenue will come will the upcoming festival season.

"Seasonal demand triggers consumer's willingness to spend in the upcoming festival and holiday season, which is very likely to lift the market's sales growth from grocery retailers, department stores, food & beverage industries, and restaurants. Thus, steady domestic demand has accordingly raised employers' hiring intentions, also for temporary workforces needed for promotional events," mentioned Joan.

Employers in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector report active hiring plans for the upcoming quarter with a net employment outlook at +24%. Hiring intentions slightly decrease from the prior quarter by 1 percentage point. On a yearly basis, however, the forecast drops considerably by 18 percentage points to its weakest level since Q4 2009.

The Manufacturing sector's net employment outlook stands at +22%. In a quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year comparisons, the forecast dips 1 and 3 percentage points, respectively. "Employers are expecting to see the export market is getting improved in the near future so are planning to add staffs," indicated Joan.

The hiring forecast in the Mining & Construction report the least optimistic with +19% during January-March time frame. However, hiring prospects are 5 percentage points stronger when compared with the previous quarter while remaining relatively stable year-over-year.

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](http://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) is the world's workforce expert, creating innovative workforce solutions for nearly 70 years. As workforce experts, we connect more than 600,000 people 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 2016, ManpowerGroup was named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the sixth 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 makes powering the world of work humanly possible: [www.manpowergroup.com](http://www.manpowergroup.com).