ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey 3Q 2017: Taiwanese Employers Report the Most Optimistic Job Prospects across the Globe for Third Consecutive Quarter

Employers in Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector report the most robust Outlook

Taipei, Taiwan (13 June, 2017)

According to the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey (MEOS) released today, Taiwanese employers anticipate solid payroll gains in the forthcoming quarter, reporting a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of +24%. Results of the forecast of Taiwan's third-quarter labor market activity indicate all major sectors fluctuate slightly. The Taiwan Outlook is one of the two strongest in the Asia Pacific region and globally for the next three months.

The ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey for the third quarter 2017 was conducted by interviewing a representative sample of 1,008 employers in Taiwan to measure the labor market activity between July and September in 2017. According to the survey, Taiwanese employers report optimistic hiring intentions for the third quarter of 2017. With 30% of employers forecasting an increase in staffing levels, 4% anticipating a decrease and 64% expecting no change. Once the data is adjusted to allow for seasonal variation, the Outlook stands at 24%, and the Outlook is unchanged quarter-over-quarter and improves by 5 percentage points when compared with 3Q 2016.

"Although hiring prospects strengthen in only three of the six sectors where quarter-over-quarter comparisons are available, job gains are expected in five of the six industry sectors where trend data is available in a year-over-year comparison. Compared with last year at this time, the most notable increase of 8 percentage points is reported by employers in the Manufacturing and Transportation sectors, buoyed by an ongoing upturn in the nation's export-oriented business activity as it benefits from a global technology inventory-rebuilding cycle." said Joan Yeh, the Manpower General Manager of ManpowerGroup Taiwan.

The strongest sector hiring intentions are reported in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector, where the Outlook is +32%, declining by 3 percentage points when compared with the previous quarter but improving by 3 percentage points when compared with this time one year ago. "Employers in the Finance & Insurance industries are developing Fintech and mapping

out their oversea expansion in other Asian markets, which has consequently boosted workforce demand, thus more talents with IT background such as software developers, designers and engineers are being actively recruited," Joan said.

The Wholesale & Retail Trade sector Outlook is +28%, hiring prospects continued to show signs of steady growth, improving by 3 and 4 percentage points quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year, respectively. "Employer confidence appears to be boosted by the expansion of chain convenience stores and supermarket operations, as well as outlet expansions and retail locations for higher-priced products," mentioned Joan.

Opportunities for job seekers are also expected to be strong in the Service sector, with Net Employment Outlook at +25%. "Employer confidence appears to be boosted by the expansion of e-commerce business," added Joan. "This drives hiring demand of knowledge-intensive services in IT, specialized techniques and management fields."

Employers in the Manufacturing sector also expect an active third-quarter hiring pace with the Outlook of 25%, down by 1 percentage points when compared with the previous quarter but up by 8 percentage points year-over-year. "Higher demand on wisdom machinery and equipment will be spurred by the trend of IOT and smart technology, employers are expecting to see the market improve in the near future so are planning to add staff in preparation," indicated Joan.

In the Transportation sector, the Outlook improves by 4 and 8 percentage points from 2Q 2017 and 3Q 2016, respectively. "E-commerce and logistics are booming at present and this boom brings about a growing reliance on logistics, transportation, and storage services, thus the demand for logistic industry has increased." added Joan.

Construction sector employers report the weakest of the seven sector Outlooks, standing at +13%. Hiring plans remain relatively stable quarter-over-quarter but decline by 3 percentage points when compared with the same period last year.

Leisure & Hospitality is a new sector, previously reported in Wholesale & Retail Trade and Service sector. Based on unadjusted survey data, employers anticipate an active labor market during the July-September time frame, reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +21%. "A particularly active hiring pace is expected in the restaurants, many major Food & Beverage groups in Taiwan are planning to open new restaurants within the next year. This expansion is expected to result in a massive boost of job opportunities," added Joan

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

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