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ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey 2Q 2019: Taiwanese Employers Report the Weakest Job Prospects in Nine Years

Taipei, Taiwan (12 March, 2019)

According to the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey (MEOS) released today, Taiwanese employers report positive hiring intentions for the second quarter of 2019. With 25% of employers anticipating an increase in payrolls, 5% forecasting a decrease and 68% expecting no change, the resulting Net Employment Outlook is +20%. Once the data is adjusted to allow for seasonal variation, the Outlook stands at +18%. Hiring plans are 2 percentage points weaker when compared with the previous quarter and decline by 7 percentage points in comparison with this time one year ago, resulting in the weakest forecast in nine years.

Employers expect to increase staffing levels in all seven industry sectors during the forthcoming quarter. However, due to the U.S.-China trade war, weakening global demand for smartphones, and China's slower economic growth, hiring intentions weaken in four of seven sectors when compared with the previous quarter and decline in six sectors when compared with last year at this time.

The strongest of the seven industry sector Outlooks is reported by Services sector employers. Standing at +27%, the Outlook improves by 5 percentage points quarter-over-quarter and remains relatively stable in comparison with 2Q 2018. E-commerce, gaming, and cloud business are the mainstays of recruiting employees. AI, software, and R&D engineers are extremely hot-shot talents.

Job seekers in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector can expect the healthy hiring pace to continue in the second quarter of 2019, according to employers who report a Net Employment Outlook of +22%. The Outlook remains relatively stable in comparison with 1Q 2019 but declines by 10 percentage points when compared with this time one year ago.

Manufacturing sector employers forecast steady payroll gains in the forthcoming quarter, reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +18%. However, the Outlook is the weakest in more than two years, declining by 3 and 11 percentage points, quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year respectively. This is due to the weakening global demand for smartphones, which has hit domestic industries in the supply chain, causing many companies to adjust their recruiting plans.

With a slowdown in global and China economies, external and domestic demand are weakening. Wholesale & Retail Trade sector employers report the weakest sector hiring plans, with an Outlook of +13%, declining by 5 and 11 percentage points from 1Q 2019 and 2Q 2018, respectively. The resulting Outlook is the weakest reported in nine years.

The hiring forecast in the Mining & Construction reports a Net Employment Outlook of +16%, with employers anticipating a respectable increase in staffing levels during the next three months. Job seekers in Transportation & Utilities can expect positive hiring opportunities in the upcoming quarter, according to employers who report a Net Employment Outlook of +16%.

Based on unadjusted survey data, Restaurant & Hotel employers continue to forecast respectable payroll growth in the coming quarter, reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +14%. Hiring plans are unchanged in comparison with 1Q 2019 but decline by 3 percentage points when compared with this time one year ago.

Full survey results for each of the 44 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 over 59,000 employers in 44 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 hundreds of thousands of organizations every year, providing them with skilled talent while finding meaningful, sustainable employment for millions of people 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 70 years. In 2019, ManpowerGroup was named one of Fortune's Most Admired Companies for the seventeenth year and one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the ninth year in 2018, 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.