

For immediate release

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Employers report a significant jump in hiring expectations in Q4 2009

Talent development and staff retention are key HR priorities in 2010

SINGAPORE – 22 OCTOBER 2009 – Hiring expectations are rising sharply this quarter, according to *The Hudson Report*. In this survey of over 600 executives across key business sectors, all interviewed during August this year, 34 percent forecast increased hiring in Quarter Four (Q4) 2009, up from 26 percent in Q3 2009. A majority of respondents (61 percent) say they will keep headcount steady this quarter.

Hudson (NASDAQ: HHGP), a leading provider of permanent recruitment, contract professionals and talent management services worldwide, today released findings of its comprehensive quarterly *The Hudson Report* for Asia. A key socio-economic indicator in the current marketplace since its Asia launch in 1998, the survey has been built on the premise that employers' expectations of an increase or decrease in staffing levels represent a significant indication of their level of optimism in the growth of their organisation and their industry as a whole. *The Hudson Report* surveys the expectations of nearly 2,000 key employment decision makers from multinational organisations of all sizes in all major industry sectors.

Significant findings in ***The Hudson Report – Singapore Q4 2009*** are:

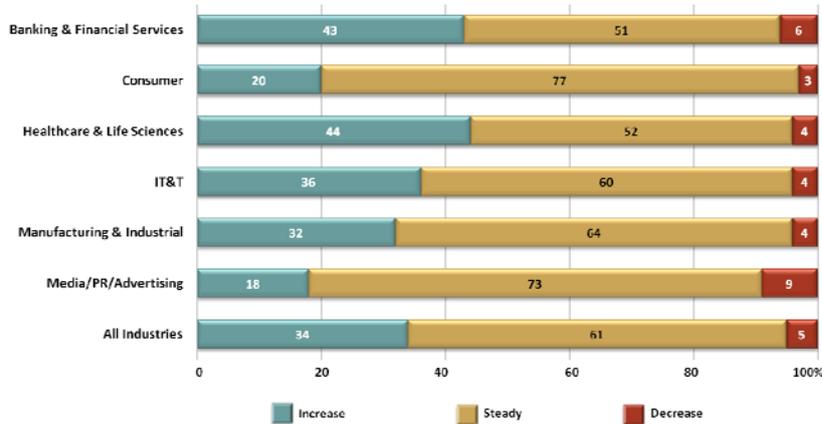
- Thirty-four percent expect to grow headcount in Quarter Four (Q4) 2009, up from 26 percent in Q3 2009;
- Forecasts of reduced headcount are sharply down compared with the previous quarter;
- Respondents in all sectors see talent development and improving retention as the top HR priorities for 2010;
- Fifty percent of respondents are prepared to hire candidates who have been out of work for an extended period of time – a far higher proportion than for any other market surveyed in Asia;
- Experience and specialist skills are the principal reasons for employing candidates who have not worked for a long time;
- In all sectors, the more senior the level, the harder it is to find local talent to fill vacancies; this issue is particularly acute in the Banking & Financial Services and Media/PR/Advertising sectors.

Sharp increase in hiring expectations

Hiring expectations are rising rapidly this quarter. Across all sectors, 34 percent of respondents plan to hire more staff in Q4 2009, up from 26 percent the previous quarter. Expectations are up in every segment except Consumer, where there is a very slight decline. The proportion of respondents expecting to reduce headcount has fallen in every sector. Overall, just 5 percent say they will shed

staff this quarter, compared with 14 percent in Q3. These figures confirm the strong upward trend in Singapore's employment market. Gina McLellan, country manager, Singapore, Hudson says, "Employers report a significant jump in hiring expectations this quarter and most sectors are increasingly optimistic about job prospects. Talent development and staff retention are seen as key HR priorities for the coming year."

Permanent hiring expectations in Singapore

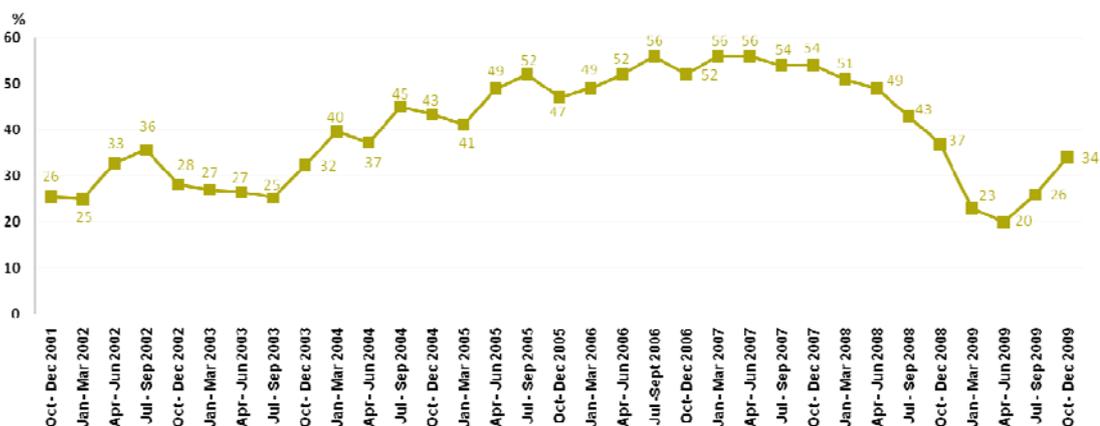


Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q4 2009

Slight decline in hiring expectations year-on-year

Despite the sharp rise since Q3, hiring expectations are still lower than they were a year ago. The 34 percent of respondents across all sectors who forecast increased hiring this quarter compares with 37 percent in Q4 2008. It should be noted that the survey for Q4 2008 was completed before the Lehman Brothers collapse and the results for that quarter therefore reflect a high level of business confidence. The Banking & Financial Services sector reports the largest rise in expectations year-on-year: 43 percent say they will grow headcount, up from 34 percent a year ago. Banks have lifted headcount freezes and are actively recruiting across the board.

Expectations to hire over time - Singapore



Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q4 2009

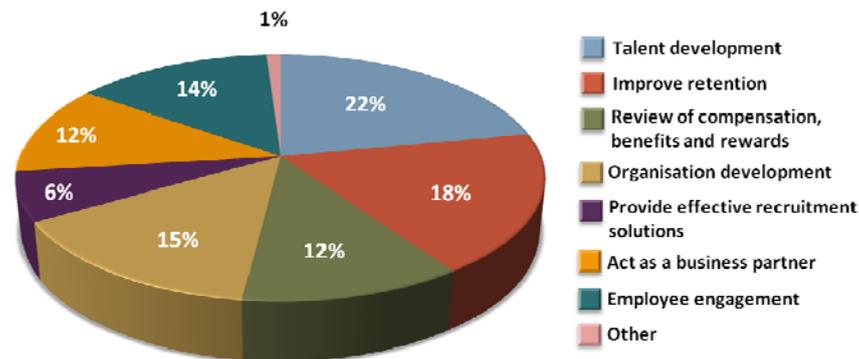
Talent development and retention are top priorities

Respondents were asked about their organisation's HR priorities for 2010. Across all sectors, talent development and improving staff retention are seen as the top priorities, with 22 percent and 18

percent respectively mentioning these issues. This response suggests that many organisations are focusing on using their available talent as effectively as possible.

At 12 percent, Singapore has a higher proportion of respondents than the other markets surveyed who say that making HR an effective partner for other departments should be a priority. This strategy is particularly important in the Consumer and Media/PR/Advertising sectors, being mentioned by 15 percent in both.

Organisations' HR priorities in 2010



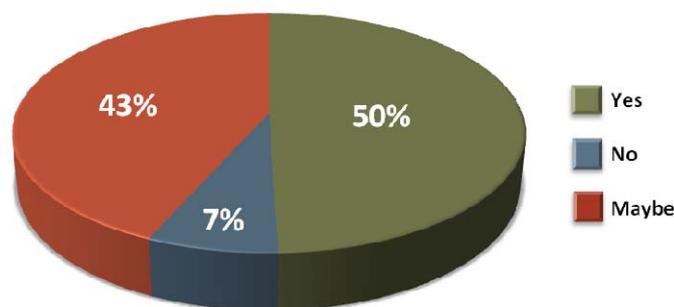
Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q4 2009

High proportion will hire long-term unemployed

Overall, 50 percent of respondents say they would be willing to employ candidates who have been out of work for over a year or an extended period of time. This figure is far higher than for the other markets surveyed in Asia. Just 7 percent say they would not hire such candidates.

Respondents in the IT&T sector are the most open to hiring candidates after a prolonged period of unemployment, with 60 percent saying they would do so and just 5 percent saying they would not.

Willingness to employ a candidate who has been out of work for a year/extended period of time

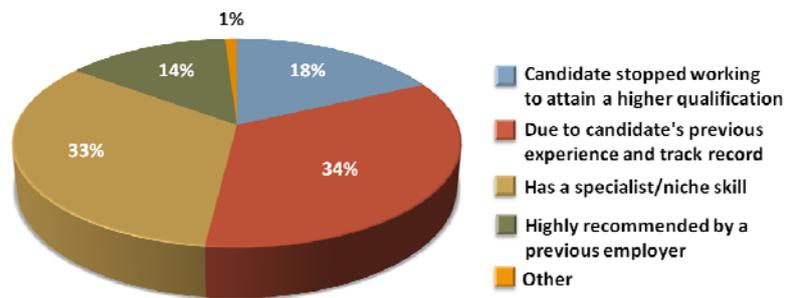


Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q4 2009

Experience and specialist skills are key reasons to hiring long-term unemployed

Those respondents prepared to hire candidates who have been out of work for an extended period have a variety of reasons for doing so. Across all sectors, the most likely reasons are the candidate's previous experience & track record and the candidate possessing specialist or niche skills. These reasons are given by 34 percent and 33 percent respectively.

Reason(s) to employ a candidate who has been out of work for a year/extended period of time

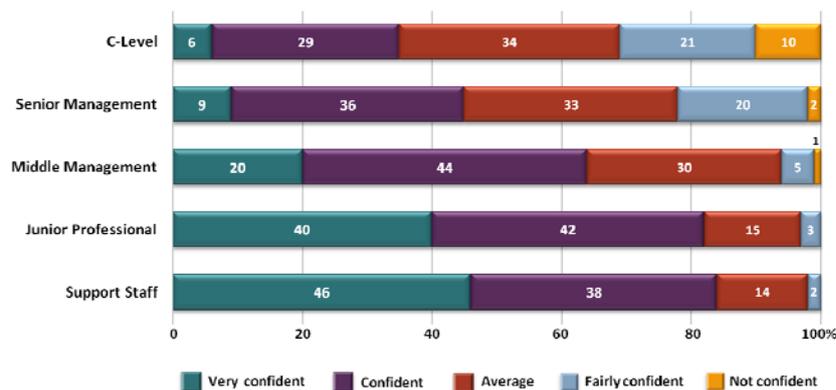


Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q4 2009

Much harder to find talent at senior levels

Respondents were asked how confident they feel about finding local talent to fill vacancies in five different categories: C-Level, Senior Management, Middle Management, Junior Professional and Support Staff. The responses clearly show that the higher the level, the harder it is for employers to find local candidates with the skills and experience they need.

Confidence in finding local talent at various levels



Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q4 2009

Hudson

Hudson (NASDAQ: HHGP) is a leading provider of permanent recruitment, contract professionals and talent management services worldwide. From single placements to total outsourced solutions, Hudson helps clients achieve greater organisational performance by assessing, recruiting, developing and engaging the best and brightest people for their businesses. The company employs nearly 2,500 professionals serving clients and candidates in more than 20 countries. More information is available at hudson.com.

Special Note:

This press release contains statements that the company believes to be "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this press release, including those under the caption "Guidance" and other statements regarding the company's future financial condition, results of operations, business operations and business prospects, are forward-looking statements. Words such as "anticipate," "estimate," "expect," "project," "intend," "plan," "predict," "believe" and similar words, expressions and variations of these words and expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, the impact of global economic fluctuations including the current economic downturn; the ability of clients to terminate their relationship with the company at any time; risks in collecting our accounts receivable; implementation of the company's cost reduction initiatives effectively; the company's history of negative cash flows and operating losses may continue; the company's limited borrowing availability under our credit facility, which may negatively impact our liquidity; restrictions on the company's operating flexibility due to the terms of its credit facility; fluctuations in the company's operating results from quarter to quarter; risks relating to the company's international operations, including foreign currency fluctuations; risks related to our investment strategy; risks and financial impact associated with dispositions of underperforming or non-core assets; the company's heavy reliance on information systems and the impact of potentially losing or failing to develop technology; competition in the company's markets and the company's dependence on highly skilled professionals; the company's exposure to employment-related claims from both clients and employers and limits on related insurance coverage; the company's dependence on key management personnel; volatility of stock price; the impact of government regulations; restrictions imposed by blocking arrangements. Additional information concerning these and other factors is contained in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this letter. The company assumes no obligation, and expressly disclaims any obligation, to review or confirm analysts' expectations or estimates or to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.