

For immediate release

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Singapore hiring expectations are at their highest level in 11 years

Employees have a growing range of attractive opportunities and companies are using a variety of measures to attract and retain high performers, the report reveals.

SINGAPORE – 20 JANUARY 2011 – Hiring expectations of Singapore employers continue to rise at an accelerating rate, says a new study of nearly 450 executives across key business sectors interviewed last month. According to *The Hudson Report*, 62 percent of respondents across all sectors forecast headcount growth in Quarter One (Q1) 2011, up from 58 percent the previous 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 Singapore. 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 over 1,500 key employment decision makers in Asia from multinational organisations of all sizes in all major industry sectors.

Significant findings in ***The Hudson Report – Singapore Q1 2011*** are:

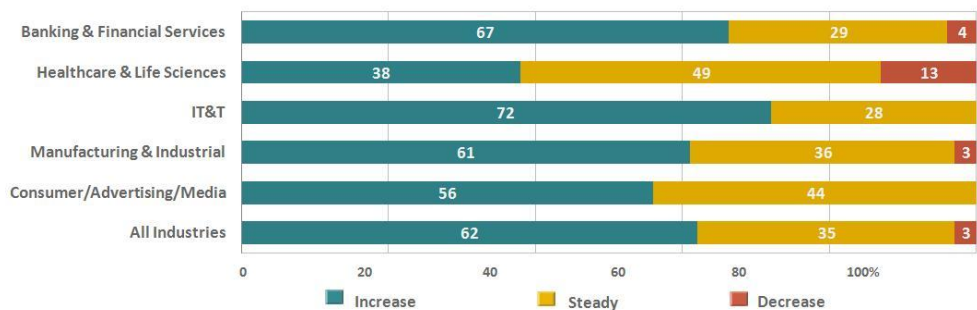
- Hiring expectations are much higher than they were this time last year: the 62 percent planning to increase hiring this quarter compares with 51 percent in Q1 2010;
- Overall, 87 percent of respondents say their organisation will pay discretionary year-end bonuses for 2010;
- The level of bonus payments is broadly similar to last year's;
- Over 90 percent of respondents plan to increase salaries for existing managerial staff this year but few will pay large increments;
- Employers are using a range of measures to enhance loyalty and retain key staff;
- Employee recognition and monetary incentives are the most popular retention measures.

Expectations still rising

Hiring expectations have risen for the seventh consecutive quarter and are now at their highest level since Q2 2000. Across all the sectors surveyed, 62 percent of respondents expect to increase hiring this quarter, up from 58 percent in Q4 2010.

Georgie Chong, executive general manager, Singapore, Hudson, comments *“Hiring expectations have risen sharply this quarter and are at their highest level for eleven years. Talented employees have a growing range of attractive opportunities and companies are using a variety of measures to attract and retain high performers.”*

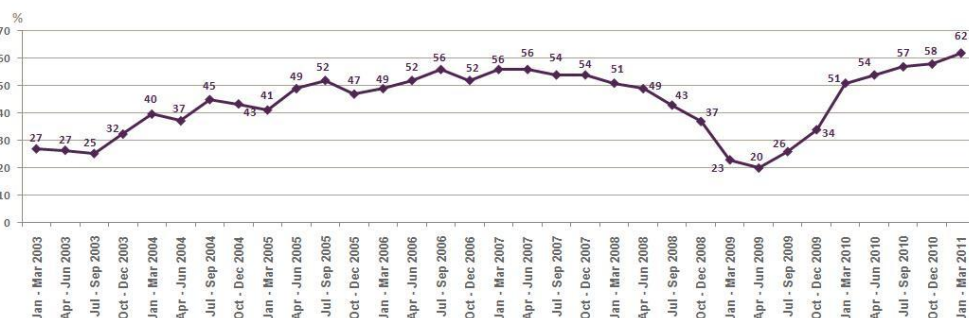
PERMANENT HIRING EXPECTATIONS IN SINGAPORE
Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q1 2011



Expectations much higher than a year ago

Hiring expectations have risen substantially year-on-year. The 62 percent of respondents planning to recruit more staff this quarter is much higher than Q1 2010's figure of 51 percent. Every sector reports a significant rise in expectations, with the exception of Banking & Financial Services, where they have fallen slightly, from 69 percent to 67 percent. This sector recovered relatively quickly from the downturn and expectations were already high by the beginning of last year.

EXPECTATIONS TO HIRE OVER TIME - SINGAPORE
Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q1 2011

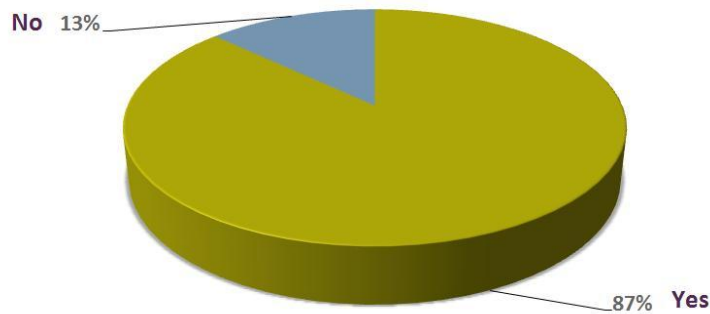


Most employers plan to pay bonus

A large majority of employers will pay discretionary year-end bonuses for 2010. Across all the sectors surveyed, 87 percent of respondents say they will do so. This figure represents a considerable increase from the 74 percent who gave this response a year ago. The variations between the sectors are much smaller this year. At year-end 2009, the highest proportion of respondents planning to pay bonuses was 96 percent and the lowest was 52 percent. This quarter the comparable figures are 94 percent and 81 percent.

ORGANISATIONS PAYING DISCRETIONARY YEAR-END BONUS IN 2010

Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q1 2011

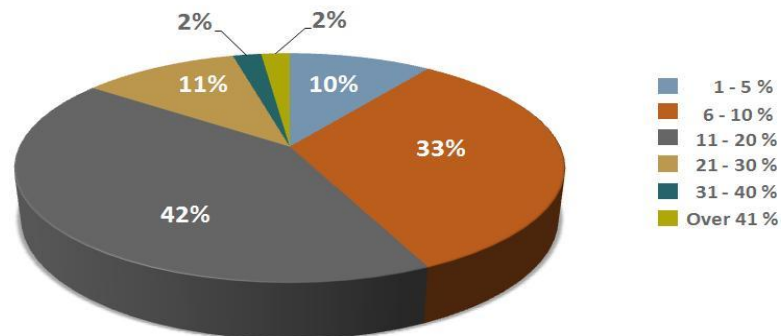


Bonus levels broadly similar to last year

Respondents planning to pay discretionary year-end bonuses for 2010 were also asked about the range of payments they will make. Overall, the levels are broadly similar to those paid at year-end 2009, though employers in some sectors plan to increase payments slightly. Across all sectors, 10 percent of respondents expect to pay bonuses of 5 percent or less, while 57 percent say payments will be more than 10 percent, of whom 15 percent will pay more than 20 percent. These figures compare with 13 percent, 50 percent and 17 percent when this question was asked a year ago.

RANGE OF DISCRETIONARY YEAR-END BONUS IN 2010

Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q1 2011

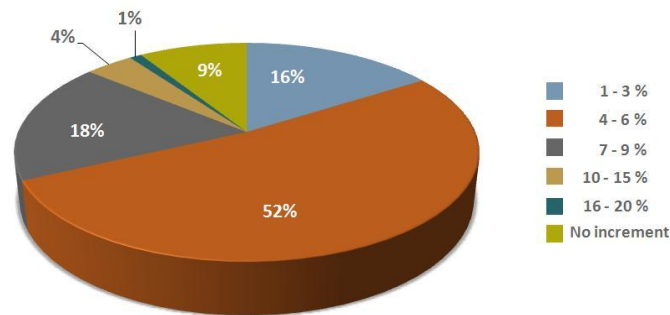


Salaries starting to rise again

A large majority of respondents say that their organisation plans to increase salaries for existing managerial staff this year. Overall, 91 percent say they will do so, reflecting the significant improvement in market conditions since 2008 and 2009, when salary freezes were widespread. Most employers now feel obliged to increase salaries but few are planning to pay large increments. Overall, more than half (52 percent) of respondents expect to pay increments in the 4-6 percent range, while just 5 percent say they will pay 10 percent or more.

RANGE OF SALARY INCREMENT FOR EXISTING MANAGERIAL TALENT IN 2011

Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q1 2011

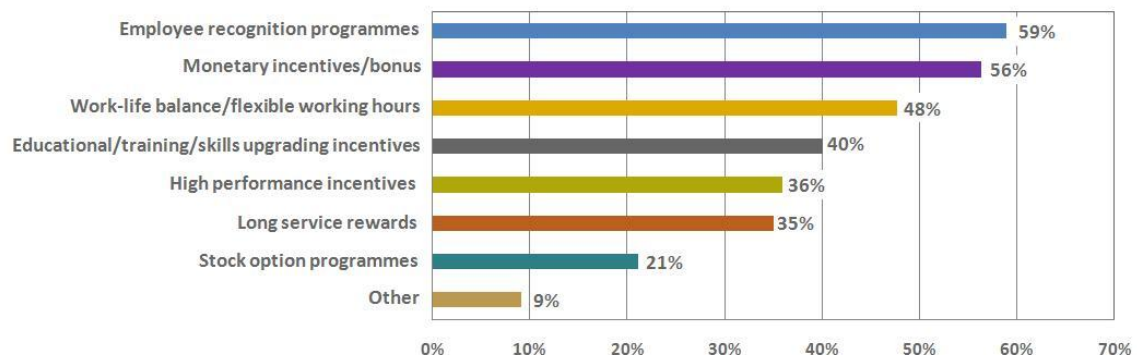


Employee recognition and monetary incentives are most popular staff retention options

Hiring expectations are rising rapidly and talented candidates have greater opportunities to find new positions. Employers are therefore using a variety of measures to enhance loyalty and retain staff. Across all sectors, employee recognition programmes and monetary incentives are the most widely used options, being mentioned by 59 percent and 56 percent respectively.

INITIATIVES TO ENHANCE LOYALTY AND RETAIN TOP TALENT

Source: The Hudson Report, Singapore - Q1 2011



Note: Figures do not add up to 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Hudson

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