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## NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

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### **Strong Job Market Expected for Memphis**

**March 11, 2008** – Memphis area employers expect to hire at a solid pace during the second quarter of 2008, according to the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

From April to June, 30% of the companies interviewed plan to hire more employees, while 3% expect to reduce their payrolls, according to Manpower spokesperson Jack Quinlan. Another 57% expect to maintain their current staff levels and 10% are not certain of their hiring plans.

“Compared with the first quarter of 2008 when 23% of companies interviewed intended to add employees, and 10% planned to reduce staff levels, area hiring levels appear to be stronger,” said Quinlan. “Employers are more optimistic about hiring activity as compared to one year ago, when 30% of companies surveyed planned to increase staff levels and 10% expected to cut payrolls.”

For the coming quarter, job prospects appear best in Construction, Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing, Transportation/Public Utilities, Wholesale/Retail Trade, Finance/Insurance/Real Estate, Services and Public Administration. Employers in Durable Goods Manufacturing plan to reduce staffing levels, while hiring in Education is expected to remain unchanged.

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After seasonal adjustments have been applied to the survey results, U.S. employers foresee a gradual decline in hiring for Quarter 2 2008. Of the 14,000 U.S. employers surveyed, 26% expect to increase their workforces, while 9% expect to reduce staff levels. Sixty percent expect no change in the hiring pace, and 5% are undecided about their April – June hiring plans.

The next Manpower Employment Outlook Survey will be released on June 10, 2008 to report hiring expectations for Quarter 3 2008.

**Note to Journalists**

The complete results of the national Manpower Employment Outlook Survey can be found in the Press Room of our Web site at <http://www.us.manpower.com/pressroom>. There you will also find the survey results from more than 420 markets across the United States.

The Quarter 2 2008 MEOS national and local results will be password protected until the embargo date of March 11, 2008 at 12:01 a.m. EST. The password that will allow members of the working press to access the information before that time is **Q208MEOS**. If you experience any difficulty accessing the site, contact Bethany Perkins at [meos@na.manpower.com](mailto:meos@na.manpower.com) or 414-906-6253.

**About the Survey**

Employment services company Manpower Inc. releases the Manpower 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 only forward-looking survey of its kind, unparalleled in size, scope, longevity and area of focus. The survey has been administered for more than 45 years and is one of the most trusted surveys of employment activity in the world. A highly respected economic indicator, the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey reports on findings from 32 countries and territories around the world. The U.S. results are based on interviews with more than 14,000 public and private employers in 460 market areas across the country.

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