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## NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

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### **Modest Job Market Expected for Charlotte**

**September 9, 2008** – Charlotte area employers expect to hire at a conservative pace during the fourth quarter of 2008, according to the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

From October to December, 38% of the companies interviewed plan to hire more employees, while 30% expect to reduce their payrolls, according to Manpower spokesperson Jessica Juba. Another 20% expect to maintain their current staff levels and 12% are not certain of their hiring plans.

“Employers anticipate staff levels to be lower than the third quarter of 2008 when 32% of companies interviewed intended to add employees, and 16% planned to reduce staff levels,” said Juba. “Compared to one year ago when 17% of companies surveyed planned to increase staff levels and 10% expected to cut payrolls, hiring intentions for the fourth quarter are steady.”

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

Of the 14,000 employers surveyed in the U.S., 22% expect to increase their staff levels during the October – December period, while 13% expect to reduce their payrolls, resulting in a Net Employment Outlook of 9%. Fifty-nine percent expect no change in hiring and 6% are undecided about their Quarter 4 2008 hiring plans.

The next Manpower Employment Outlook Survey will be released on December 9, 2008 to report hiring expectations for Quarter 1 2009.

**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/meos>. There you will also find the survey results from more than 420 markets across the United States.

The Quarter 4 2008 MEOS national and local results will be password protected until the embargo date of September 9, 2008 at 12:01 a.m. ET. The password that will allow members of the working press to access the information before that time is **meos**. 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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