

Canada's Staffing Index back to growth, a good sign for job numbers

November 17, 2011, Mississauga, ON – The Canadian Staffing Index rose 7 and 6 points in August and September, respectively, likely forecasting a similar upswing in the overall Canadian employment figures, reports the Association of Canadian Search, Employment and Staffing Services (ACSESS).

According to ACSESS, demand for temporary and contract workers often acts as a precursor to economic growth, meaning the Staffing Index is a reliable indicator of the direction employment numbers will take a few of months down the line.

“The flat or subtle net rise in index readings of 90, 85 and 92 for June, July and August, respectively, foretold the flat or subtle net increase of 7,000 jobs reported by StatsCan in September and October,” explained ACSESS President, Bryan Toffey, adding that “the Index is supporting the traditional seasonal trends which suggests that employment will peak in October and November then retract through the holiday season and first month of the new year before it starts to climb again.”

Toffey went on to describe why a slowdown in hiring is typical at year’s end, irrespective of the macroeconomic state of affairs. “New hiring slows in December as employers wait until the most unproductive season of the year passes. There’s no point in hiring new employees just in time for short workdays and a cluster of holidays.”

Staffing Industry Analysts, the research firm behind the Canadian Staffing Index, confirmed that the Index numbers are demonstrative of continued economic recovery. “After stalling for one month in July, the Canadian staffing industry has resumed showing growth on a year-over-year basis. In fact, September’s 98 is the highest Index reading in nearly 3 years,” said SIA Research Associate, Robert Balicki.

Index scores of 92 and 98 measure the respective hours of labour performed by temporary and contract staff in August and September of 2011 compared to the benchmark index of 100 established in July of 2008.

For more information, please visit www.acsess.org or contact Adam Miller, Marketing & Communications Specialist, at 905-826-6869/1-800-232-4962.

About ACSESS

ACSESS is the single voice for promoting best practices and ethical standards for the recruitment, employment and staffing services industry in Canada. Each month, ACSESS publishes the results of the Canadian Staffing Index, an independent survey conducted by Staffing Industry Analysts. The data collected for the Canadian Staffing Index is the largest sample size ever collected in Canada.

About Staffing Industry Analysts

Staffing Industry Analysts is the premier research and analysis firm covering temporary employment and the contingent workforce. Known for its independent and objective insights, the company’s proprietary research, data, support tools, publications and executive conferences provide a competitive edge to decision-makers who supply and buy temporary staffing. In addition to temporary staffing, Staffing Industry Analysts also covers these related staffing sectors: third party placement, and staff leasing (PEOs). Founded in 1989, the company is headquartered in Mountain View, California. For more information visit:

www.staffingindustry.com