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Local News Release

Embargoed Until 12:01AM, March 10 2009

Contact:

Randy Upright

Manpower Inc.

+1.403.303.4530

randy.upright@na.manpower.com

MILD HIRING CLIMATE EXPECTED FOR CALGARY

(Calgary, AB, March 10, 2009) – Calgary area employers expect a mild hiring climate for the second quarter of 2009, according to the latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

Survey data shows that 11 per cent of employers plan to hire for the upcoming quarter (April to June), while seven per cent intend to reduce their workforce, stated Randy Upright, CEO for Manpower's Alberta Region. Another 76 per cent of employers expect to maintain their current staffing levels and six per cent are unsure of their hiring intentions for the upcoming quarter.

"Calgary's second quarter Net Employment Outlook of four per cent is a 12 percentage point decrease from the same time last year when Calgary employers reported a Net Employment Outlook of 16 per cent," said Upright. "It is also a seven percentage point decrease from the previous quarter indicating a conservative hiring climate for second quarter of 2009."

"This quarter's national Net Employment Outlook indicates that the steady hiring climate experienced in the previous quarter has decreased," says Lori Rogers, VP of Operations for Manpower Canada. "Canadian employers are telling us that while they will continue to increase their payrolls they will do so at a more cautious pace than in the previous quarters."

Of the 10 surveyed industry sectors, employers in the Services sector report the most hopeful results for the April to June period of 2009 with a projected Net Employment Outlook of 11 per cent once seasonal variations are removed from the data. Employers in the Public Administration and Construction sectors expect a moderate quarter both with Net Employment Outlooks of 10 per cent.