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French Online Job Opportunities Decline due to Seasonal Slowdown in Hiring, Reports Monster Employment Index

August 2009 Index Highlights:

- The Monster Employment Index France dipped 10 points; offerings are down 39 percent compared to year-earlier figures
- Online job opportunities fell in real estate. Financial service sector opportunities, such as accounting, audit and taxes and banking, finance and insurance fell sharply.
- The Mediterranean was the only region to remain stable; online job opportunities declined in all other French regions

Summary Overview

The Monster Employment Index France's overall declining trend continued in August with offerings falling nine percent. While the latest drop mirrors summer seasonal patterns from previous years, the Index was down 39 percent compared to August 2008, a sharper rate compared to July 2009, indicating employer demand for workers remains soft. Opportunities in public driven sectors such as healthcare have been the least affected by the current economic climate, as offerings were up compared to year-earlier figures.

The Monster Employment Index Europe is a monthly analysis of millions of online job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of corporate career sites and job boards across the European Union, including Monster.fr

Monster Employment Index France findings the past 13 months are as follows:

Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
98	108	102	103	117	111	110	102	127	143	158	155	160

"Following an uptick in July, online recruitment activity in France slowed again in August, suggesting that French labour market remains turbulent and responsive to current pressures in the European economy," commented Bruno Brémond, vice president of Monster France and Southern Europe. "Despite reports from Eurostat that the French economy expanded in the second quarter, organisations still seem reluctant to hire and in general make business investments until there are long-term signs of stabilisation."

Nearly all sectors report online job opportunity declines; real estate and financial services offerings reduce

Online worker demand fell across the majority of industry sectors in August; real estate noted the sharpest decline of 26 points (13 percent). Media was the only industry sector

where offerings remained stable on the month and healthcare was the only industry sector to increase year-on-year.

Financial services reported fewer online opportunities, with offerings falling the most in accounting, audit and taxes. Offerings dipped 18 points (13 percent) compared to July 2009 and are at their lowest level since January 2007. Year-on-year offerings fell 32 percent. Banking, finance and insurance dipped 11 points (13 percent) in August and 23 percent annually.

The healthcare and social work sector did not report the seasonal slump in online worker demand exhibited by the majority of other sectors; the sector only dipped one point (one percent). Annually, offerings increased five percent.

Online worker demand in marketing, PR and media bucked the overall declining trend in August; offerings remained stable at 79 points. Year-on-year opportunities declined 22 percent, lower than the industry sector average.

Monthly and annual declines for all occupational groups in August

All occupational groups saw weaker demand, with online job offerings falling most notably for managers, declining 13 points (12 percent). Year-on-year, demand was down 34 percent. Elementary occupations fell 10 points (15 percent) following a seasonal uptick in July. The group represents the sharpest annual decline, slumping 52 percent.

The mildest decline was noted by plant and machine operators and assemblers, who declined one point (one percent) compared to July 2009. Annually, the group reported one of the smallest contraction rates in online worker demand among occupations groups, falling 28 percent.

Online worker demand falls for the majority of French regions; all report annual declines

The slowdown in online recruitment saw offering decline in all French regions with the exception of the Mediterranean where opportunities remained flat. The region represents the most moderate annual decline of all regions, falling 16 percent compared to August 2008.

Following a surge in online job opportunities in July, offerings the East declined 12 points (13 percent). The decline reflects significantly fewer opportunities for workers in the sales, construction and management sectors. Year-on-year worker demand fell 27 percent.

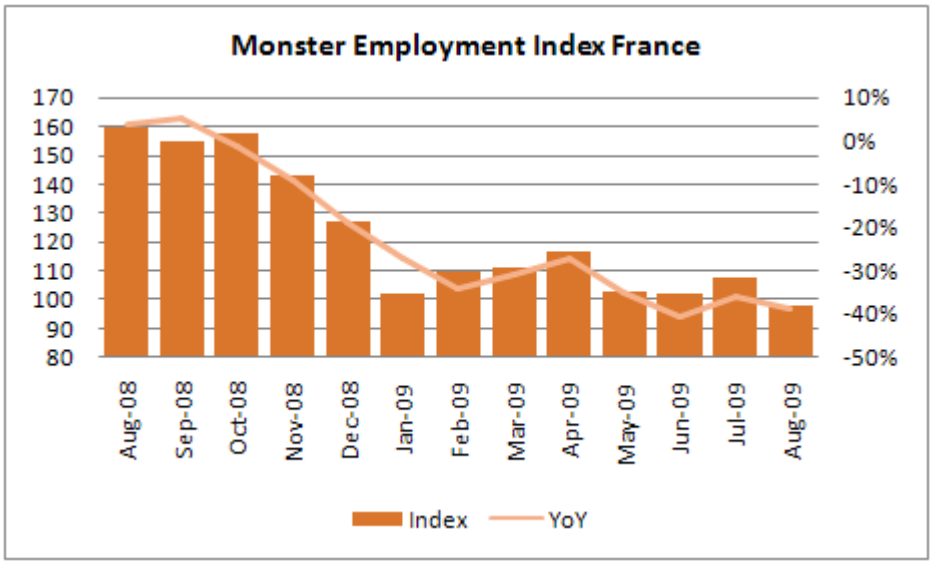
Best Performing Sectors
Industry sectors showing the best performance included:

Month-on-month

Industry	Aug 09	Jul 09	%
Marketing, PR and media	79	79	0%
Healthcare, social work	163	164	-1%
Engineering	103	106	-3%
IT	80	83	-4%
HR	104	108	-4%

Year-on-year

Industry	Aug 09	Aug 08	%
Healthcare, social work	163	155	5%
Real estate	171	184	-7%
Arts, entertainment, sport and leisure	139	152	-9%
Education, training and library	78	88	-11%
Environment, architecture, urbanism	111	130	-15%



Monster Employment Index France findings across industry sectors for the past 13 months are as follows:

Industry	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
Accounting, audit, taxes	122	140	132	128	143	144	149	131	151	172	175	177	180
Administrative, organisation	97	107	94	95	106	102	109	101	116	120	125	119	128
Arts, entertainment, sport and leisure	139	157	135	150	163	156	154	152	150	148	149	151	152
Banking, finance, insurance	72	83	73	75	83	75	79	71	80	83	90	88	94
Construction and extraction	147	162	151	152	157	147	137	128	157	175	184	188	198
Education, training and library	78	82	80	76	88	83	83	82	85	87	90	87	88
Engineering	103	106	105	107	109	108	97	92	134	171	191	198	196
Environment, architecture, urbanism	111	120	99	115	118	122	111	116	116	128	140	127	130
Healthcare, social work	163	164	150	153	168	150	121	120	125	133	179	145	155
Hospitality and tourism	76	90	87	79	88	77	71	73	91	89	123	153	182
HR	104	108	101	98	105	111	115	106	123	139	155	146	152
IT	80	83	81	84	100	98	100	99	115	120	126	122	125
Legal	76	89	82	88	95	98	99	86	113	112	115	106	115
Management and consulting	94	104	100	99	112	108	113	115	148	164	177	161	165
Marketing, PR and media	79	79	77	80	99	97	97	90	96	99	104	97	101
Production, manufacturing, maintenance, repair	115	120	117	118	135	136	133	125	137	148	158	153	164
Public sector, defence, community	131	145	139	145	168	150	130	127	139	157	151	154	159
Real estate	171	197	196	180	186	177	176	165	170	177	178	177	184
Research and development	115	123	125	129	144	140	148	138	166	185	202	180	188
Sales	108	117	114	113	121	115	122	104	132	150	173	152	151
Transport, post and logistics	77	82	76	74	77	83	86	80	103	112	130	162	180

Monster Employment Index France findings across occupational categories for the past 13 months are as follows:

Occupation	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
Managers	98	111	103	104	121	110	121	99	129	152	176	140	148
Professionals	117	125	120	123	139	131	125	119	149	167	181	173	180
Technicians and associate professionals	110	124	118	119	130	127	130	121	141	152	166	153	153
Clerical support workers	68	71	64	63	63	70	79	69	91	104	114	119	133
Service and sales workers	83	93	92	85	95	85	73	69	69	71	82	102	126
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	60	62	70	59	69	69	68	64	68	71	73	74	76
Craft and related workers	248	255	236	247	280	272	256	220	213	234	251	260	279
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	155	156	151	147	167	165	152	141	149	162	174	191	214
Elementary occupations	58	68	61	62	71	76	83	87	121	127	149	115	121

Monster Employment Index France findings across French regions for the past 13 months are as follows:

Region	Aug 09	Jul 09	Jun 09	May 09	Apr 09	Mar 09	Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Nov 08	Oct 08	Sep 08	Aug 08
Ile de France	69	79	72	75	87	82	81	67	100	122	139	133	135
East	77	89	83	82	94	93	93	91	96	100	105	103	106
North	102	113	108	106	119	118	117	113	124	130	135	133	140
West	87	98	96	96	102	99	99	96	104	110	116	113	118
South-West	74	79	75	76	87	82	82	81	87	89	93	92	96
Rhone Alpes	92	96	90	89	103	100	101	96	111	121	130	124	128
Mediterranean	88	88	88	86	97	94	93	90	97	100	104	102	105

Monster Employment Index data for September will be released on October 13, 2009.

About The Monster Employment Index Europe

The Monster Employment Index Europe provides monthly insight into online recruitment trends across the European Union. Launched in June 2005 with data from December 2004, the Index is based on a review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from a large, representative selection of corporate career sites and job boards, including Monster. The Monster Employment Index's underlying data is validated for accuracy by Research America, Inc. – an independent, third-party auditing firm – to ensure that measured online job recruitment activity is within a margin of error of +/- 1.05%.

The Index monitors online job opportunities across all European Union member countries.

The monthly reports for Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Europe are available at: http://about-monster.com/employment/index/17.

About Monster Worldwide

Monster Worldwide, Inc. (NYSE: MWW), parent company of Monster, the premier global online employment solution for more than a decade, strives to inspire people to improve their lives. With a local presence in key markets in North America, Europe, and Asia, Monster works for everyone by connecting employers with quality job seekers at all levels and by providing personalized career advice to consumers globally. Through online media sites and services, Monster delivers vast, highly targeted audiences to advertisers. Monster Worldwide is a member of the S&P 500 index. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading products and services, visit www.monster.com. More information about Monster Worldwide is available at http://about-monster.com/.

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