



## Monster Employment Index Netherlands Falls to Ten-month Low in January, With Sharp Declines in Hospitality, Banking and Transport Sectors

— Groningen and Friesland Show sharpest Declines across Netherlands —

— All Regions Show Lower Online Job Availability in January —

**Amsterdam, February 12, 2008** – There was a sharp fall in online recruitment activity in the Netherlands during January, as the Monster Employment Index Netherlands fell 17 points, to a 10-month low of 188. The fall came as a result of strong declines in demand for workers in the hospitality and tourism; transport, post and logistics; and banking, finance and insurance sectors. Year-on-year, the Index is up 17 points, or 10 percent. The Monster Employment Index Netherlands is based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from Web sites across Europe, including Monster®.

“The steep fall in January is not a surprise, since the Index traditionally dips in the New Year across the Netherlands. However, this year’s fall is greater than seen in previous years – and is the largest month-on-month fall ever recorded by the Index – which might suggest that the widespread concern over the global economy is starting to affect employers’ recruitment strategies,” commented Diana Krieger, General Manager Benelux, Monster Worldwide Europe. “Although Statistics Netherlands reports that the unemployment rate is the lowest in five years, forward-looking indicators such as consumer confidence have declined quite sharply in recent months.”

Monster Employment Index Netherlands results over the past 13 months are as follows:

Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07	Feb 07	Jan 07
188	205	202	204	197	193	197	191	198	191	185	170	171

**All Industry Sectors Show Lower Online Job Availability in January, with Hospitality and Tourism; Transport, Post and Logistics and Banking, Finance and Insurance Showing Greatest Falls**

The greatest falls in online job availability were seen in the hospitality and tourism; and transport, post and logistics industries, both of which showed a 39-point slump in demand.

Hospitality and tourism reported declining demand for service, shop and market sales workers across Drenthe and Flevoland, while transport, post and logistics saw sharp falls in demand for technicians and associate professionals; and clerks. Transport, post and logistics remained up 66 points year-on-year, while hospitality and tourism rose just 18 points, or 9 percent since last January.

Banking, finance and insurance also declined sharply, following three months of continued growth. Fewer positions were available to professionals, while technicians and associate professionals also reported a decline in demand following two months of increase. Regions showing the lowest demand within the sector were Groningen, Drenthe and Friesland, all of which had reported growth during the past three months. The fall brought the year-on-year decline to 65 points, or 38 percent.

The production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair industry also saw decline by 25 points. Despite the fall, the sector remains up year-on-year, with growth of 38 points, or 21 percent.

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

Industry	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07	Feb 07	Jan 07
Accounting, audit, taxes	172	178	171	168	173	179	181	174	172	149	161	148	146
Administrative, organization	246	272	254	251	250	264	259	278	256	246	235	216	209
Agriculture, fishing and forestry	119	125	129	129	129	116	118	122	129	130	122	111	100
Banking, finance, insurance	108	137	123	118	116	133	132	128	173	203	214	202	173
Construction and extraction	135	137	136	194	140	166	167	149	162	148	165	150	173
Education, training and library	207	215	217	219	206	195	233	228	228	206	203	189	195
Engineering	156	166	166	157	154	157	157	159	166	169	170	159	156
Hospitality and tourism	208	247	243	250	243	228	231	282	247	224	218	200	190
HR	204	208	205	193	217	210	217	206	202	204	208	188	185
IT	146	157	152	148	150	142	147	144	149	150	151	141	151
Legal	158	161	159	152	164	161	159	149	148	147	143	132	135
Management and consulting	182	189	189	190	192	187	182	175	172	169	170	158	153
Marketing, PR and media	143	150	147	148	144	143	150	144	160	166	157	149	146

Production, manufacturing, maintenance, Repair	223	248	249	274	223	203	219	206	227	208	188	173	185
Public Sector, defence, community	185	197	206	218	200	172	201	191	203	233	204	191	194
Research and development	177	179	159	157	166	188	198	200	201	209	180	195	183
Sales	192	213	211	211	212	188	186	182	187	183	170	159	159
Telecommunication	96	116	109	111	103	109	112	115	140	165	160	145	159
Transport, post and logistics	279	318	320	314	312	344	342	331	332	287	239	223	213

### **Service and Craft Workers Show Report Sharp Declines in Online Recruiting, while Elementary Occupations Show Growth**

Online demand for service, shop and market sales workers fell sharply in January for the third consecutive month. The 32-point decline was due mainly to the slowdown shown in the hospitality and tourism, while regionally dips were seen across Drenthe and Gelderland. Despite the fall, year-on-year growth stands at 51 points, or 33 percent.

A 30-point fall in demand for craft and related workers was linked to the overall decline across production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair. Utrecht showed the lowest demand for craft workers, despite two previous months of growth. Year-on-year growth for craft workers was up 43 points, or 22 percent. Clerks also saw opportunities fall sharply, by 21 points, as demand fell in the transport, post and logistics; and sales sectors.

Against the general trend in January, positions for elementary workers reported sharp growth in January, due to increased opportunities in the production, manufacturing, maintenance and repair sector. Year-on-year growth for elementary positions remained up by 52 points, or 24 percent.

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

Occupation Group	Jan 08	Dec 07	Nov 07	Oct 07	Sep 07	Aug 07	Jul 07	Jun 07	May 07	Apr 07	Mar 07	Feb 07	Jan 07
Legislators, senior officials and managers	188	197	195	190	200	198	191	170	173	168	172	161	153
Professionals	177	189	185	186	178	180	182	176	182	180	177	163	164
Technicians and associate professionals	156	170	168	163	166	165	171	170	177	170	177	164	164
Clerks	283	304	284	294	284	263	262	282	260	247	247	225	218
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	206	238	242	253	239	209	221	279	226	195	185	171	155
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	169	183	193	193	193	177	183	195	129	131	123	111	100
Craft and related workers	243	273	271	312	237	227	241	223	255	235	196	179	200
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	152	171	173	163	162	191	191	184	187	176	178	171	168
Elementary occupations	268	246	280	308	296	310	321	297	301	295	236	234	216

### **Groningen and Friesland Show sharpest Declines across Netherlands**

All regions across the Netherlands reported declining demand during January, with the sharpest fall measured in Groningen. Sectors displaying the most negative downward trends in Groningen include banking, finance and insurance; legal; and administrative and organization. Overall the region saw a fall of 29 points, with year-on-year growth of 21 points, or 13 percent. Overijssel also saw a heavy 24-point fall as a result of the heavy fall in the banking, finance and insurance sector. Year-on-year growth was 21 points, or 12 percent.

Friesland saw a second consecutive month of decline in January, with slowing demand in the banking, finance and insurance; and transport, post and logistics sectors. Year-on-year growth across the region stands at just 8 points, or 5 percent.

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

<b>Region</b>	<b>Jan 08</b>	<b>Dec 07</b>	<b>Nov 07</b>	<b>Oct 07</b>	<b>Sep 07</b>	<b>Aug 07</b>	<b>Jul 07</b>	<b>Jun 07</b>	<b>May 07</b>	<b>Apr 07</b>	<b>Mar 07</b>	<b>Feb 07</b>	<b>Jan 07</b>
Drenthe	190	210	212	207	201	197	208	208	212	212	148	181	173
Flevoland	193	207	201	200	196	205	208	204	209	210	191	174	169
Friesland	179	205	213	205	193	190	200	202	215	199	186	176	171
Gelderland	206	225	230	237	214	212	224	218	225	216	204	189	182
Groningen	188	217	220	204	202	199	205	195	200	192	188	177	167
Limburg	205	225	232	255	237	238	236	237	248	234	206	196	176
Noord-Brabant	208	226	223	231	214	214	219	220	224	201	201	184	226
Noord-Holland	169	182	180	179	182	177	176	171	177	171	172	156	152
Overijssel	199	223	224	225	203	200	218	215	225	218	208	187	178
Utrecht	174	190	187	190	181	183	182	177	180	179	179	165	159
Zeeland	150	158	153	156	152	149	152	157	157	153	140	135	130
Zuid-Holland	185	197	186	184	178	178	180	174	177	176	170	158	153

Monster Employment Index Netherlands for February will be released on March 11, 2008.

### **About The Monster Employment Index Netherlands**

Providing a broad, comprehensive monthly analysis of online job demand, the Monster Employment Index Netherlands is an extension of the Monster Employment Index Europe, which is compiled each month by researchers at Monster Worldwide Europe.

Launched in June 2005, the Monster Employment Index Europe provides monthly insight into recruitment trends across the European Union. The Index report is based on a real-time review of millions of employer job opportunities culled from Web sites across Europe, including Monster®. The Index is audited by Research America, Inc. and provides analyses of online job demand within occupational categories, industry sectors and regions.

Monthly Index reports for France, Germany, the UK, Sweden and Europe are available at: [http://www.monsterworldwide.com/Press\\_Room/MEI\\_EU.asp](http://www.monsterworldwide.com/Press_Room/MEI_EU.asp)

#### **About Monster Worldwide**

Monster Worldwide, Inc. (NASDAQ: MNST), 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 and the NASDAQ 100. To learn more about Monster's industry-leading products and services, visit [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com). More information about Monster worldwide is available at [www.monsterworldwide.com](http://www.monsterworldwide.com).

**Special Note:** Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Except for historical information contained herein, the statements made in this release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements involve certain risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding Monster Worldwide, Inc.'s strategic direction, prospects and future results. Certain factors, including factors outside of Monster Worldwide's control, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements, including economic and other conditions in the markets in which Monster Worldwide operates, risks associated with acquisitions, competition, seasonality and the other risks discussed in Monster Worldwide's Form 10-K/A and other filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which discussions are incorporated in this release by reference.

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