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## **Employer expectations Q3 Netherlands drop despite economic boom**

*Forecasts dip in two-thirds of economic sectors, labor market remains tight*

Diemen, 12 June, 2018 – **Employer expectations for the Dutch labor market have dropped by four percentage points in Q3 2018, compared to Q2. The third quarter forecast now stands at +6%, according to the latest edition of the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey (MEOS Q3). Forecasts remain positive in eight of nine industry sectors, but the hiring pace is expected to slow down in six out of nine industry sectors. However, the labor market remains tight, and the forecast highlights the growing struggles employers face with finding the right candidates in a shrinking pool of qualified talent. The survey was conducted among 750 Dutch employers, and was part of a panel of nearly 59,000 employers worldwide.**

“This decrease in hiring expectations is not at all an indication of lesser economic times,” says José Brenninkmeijer, Managing Director of ManpowerGroup. “The demand for staff has greatly increased because of the economic boom. Employees with the right type of expertise are increasingly hard to find. The inability of finding the right candidate may even harm future economic growth. For example, companies that are willing to hire (and to grow), cannot find the people to do that with.”

### **Construction retains optimism**

For the second quarter in a row and despite a decrease of 5% from last quarter, employers in construction are the most positive of all Dutch employers (+11%). Brenninkmeijer: “Traditionally, construction is one of the best indicators for the Dutch economic sentiment. Thus it is no surprise that we can find the most optimistic employers in this sector. The decrease in positivity is likely linked to an explosive increase in housing demands, which leads to shortages in qualified staff.” The greatest increase in employers optimism takes place in transport, storage and communications; from +4% to +10%. “Transport, storage and communications all benefit from the growing world economy, and the role that we play as a transit country.”

### **European forecast**

Employers in all European countries, except for Italy (-2%) continue to report positive labor market forecasts. Belgium’s forecast comes in at +4%, France at +5%, Germany at +8%, Spain at +3% and the United Kingdom at +4%. Employers in the United States remain incredibly upbeat and report an Outlook of +18%.

### **About ManpowerGroup**

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skilled talent while finding meaningful, sustainable employment for millions of people across a wide range of industries and skills. Our expert family of brands – Manpower®, Experis®, Right Management® and ManpowerGroup® Solutions – creates substantially more value for candidates and clients across 80 countries and territories and has done so for 70 years. In 2018, ManpowerGroup was named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the ninth year and one of Fortune's Most Admired Companies for the sixteenth year, confirming our position as the most trusted and admired brand in the industry. See how ManpowerGroup is powering the future of work:  
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**Notes to the editor, not for publication**

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