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For immediate release

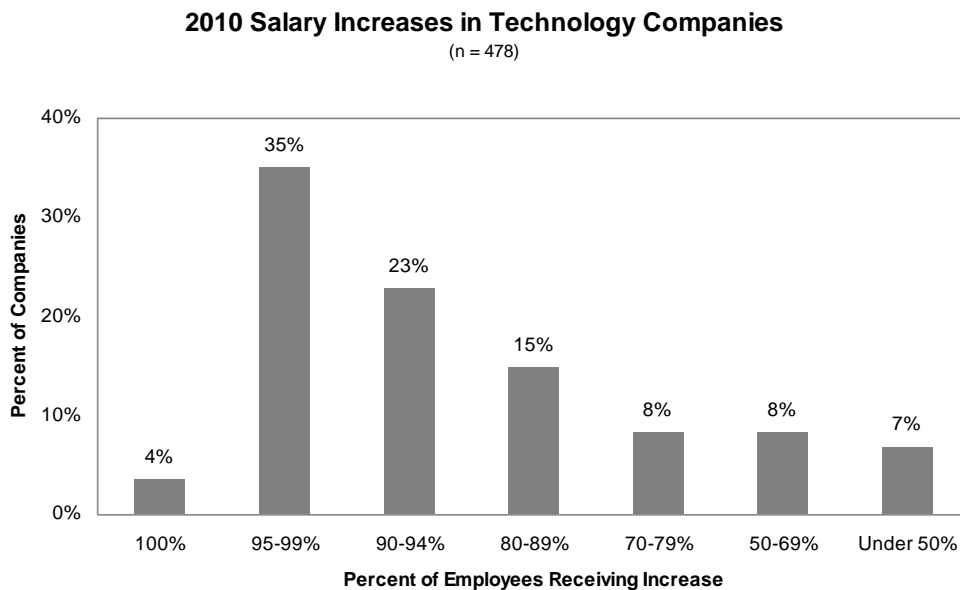
Salary Increases Return to Technology Sector, says Aon Consulting’s Radford

SAN JOSE, Calif. – After a prolonged period of pervasive job cuts, salary freezes and even pay reductions, widespread salary increases are now seen in the technology sector, according to Radford, an Aon consulting company. More than 80% of companies reported in a recent survey that they will provide increases in 2010. Of those, nearly two-thirds will provide 90% or more of their employee population with an increase.

The salary increase research findings (see Figure 1) were released as part of Radford’s quarterly global trends report on compensation practices in the technology industry.

“While the recovery has been uneven, and companies are still wrestling with a fair degree of uncertainty as the economy rebounds, the talent market is heating up again in technology as companies add in strategic areas. This competition, combined with the fact that employees have experienced a fair degree of base pay stagnation for the past 18 months is leading companies to reinstate base pay increases to reward talent and stay ahead of the competition,” said Radford President Linda E. Amuso.

Figure 1



Radford reports most employees in technology companies will receive salary increases in 2010, if they have not already. Source: Radford.



These findings are in contrast to a year ago, when about 68% of companies reported (in a separate Radford survey) that they would implement salary freezes. At that time, about 62% of companies had also experienced a recent layoff.

The return of global talent competition driving salary increases in early 2010 is reflected in data gathered on expected workforce changes over the coming 12 months. About half of companies indicate they will hold headcount stable (meaning they do not plan further layoffs) during the period, and about 36% report they will increase headcount by 5% or more. Only about 3% of the 562 responding companies report they will reduce their headcount by more than 5%.

The largest anticipated increases to headcount are expected in China, India and the United States.

“It is hard to look at the United States overall, with its high unemployment levels, and say that we have a hot labor market, but the technology industry represents a pocket of growth as companies add staff in key areas in response to customer demand,” said Amuso.

“China, India and other key countries in the Asia-Pacific region are a somewhat different story from the US. While the economies in these geographies did experience a slowdown over the past year, it was of a much lower magnitude than other more established markets; the talent competition in this region has been, and remains, strong.”

Unless otherwise noted, data in this press release was taken from Radford's Q2 2010 Trends Report (Global Technology edition), which gathered inputs from just under 700 technology companies globally during April-June, 2010.

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About Radford

For more than 35 years, Radford has provided compensation market intelligence to the technology and life sciences industries. Global survey databases, which include more than 4 million incumbents, offer current, reliable data to nearly 2,000 clients. Leveraging Radford survey data, our thought-leading global [Radford Consulting](#) team creates tailored solutions for the toughest global business and compensation challenges facing companies at all stages of development. In addition to our consulting team, we also offer equity valuation assistance via [Radford Valuation Services](#), and leading-edge market analyses and survey services with [Radford Analytic Services](#). Radford's suite of surveys includes the [Global Technology](#), [Sales](#), and [Life Sciences](#) Surveys, as well as the [US Benefits Survey](#).

About Aon Consulting

Aon Consulting Worldwide is among the top global human capital consulting firms, with 2008 revenues of \$1.358 billion and more than 6,300 professionals in 117 offices worldwide. Aon Consulting works with organizations to improve business performance and shape the workplace of the future through employee benefits, talent management and rewards strategies and solutions. Aon Consulting was named the best employee benefit consulting firm by the readers of Business Insurance magazine in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

About Aon

Aon Corporation (NYSE: AOC) is the leading global provider of risk management services, insurance and reinsurance brokerage, and human capital consulting. Through its more than 37,000 colleagues worldwide, Aon readily delivers distinctive client value via innovative and effective risk management and workforce productivity solutions. Aon's industry-leading global resources and technical expertise are delivered locally through more than 500 offices in more than 120 countries. Named the world's best broker by Euromoney magazine's 2008 and 2009 Insurance Survey, Aon also ranked highest on Business Insurance's listing of the world's largest insurance brokers based on commercial retail, wholesale, reinsurance and personal lines brokerage revenues in 2008. A.M. Best deemed Aon the number one insurance broker based on brokerage revenues in 2007 and 2008, and Aon was voted best insurance intermediary, best reinsurance intermediary and best employee benefits consulting firm in 2007 and 2008 by the readers of Business Insurance. For more information on Aon, log onto <http://www.aon.com/>.