

For Immediate Release

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Employee Confidence Rebounds in October

Hudson Employment IndexSM Jumps 1.6 Points, Nears Annual High

New York, November 3, 2004 – The *Hudson Employment IndexSM* rebounded 1.6 points in October as hiring expectations among U.S. workers strengthened and job-loss fears declined to the lowest level of the year. In climbing to 108.5, the *Index* regained most of September’s 2.0 point decline and approached its annual high of 108.9, set in August.

The hiring expectations of both workers and managers rose two points in October, to 34 percent and 35 percent respectively. Optimism about hiring among private-sector employees regained the point lost in September. Once again, 39 percent said they expect their employers to add staff, a value maintained for the previous five months.

After holding at 17 percent or higher for eight consecutive months, the percentage of U.S. workers expecting layoffs fell to 16 percent in October, its second lowest reading of the year. Workers reported no improvements in their personal finances, but fewer – 37 percent in October versus 39 percent in September – said their financial situation worsened.

“In the weeks leading up to the election, U.S. workers expressed a vote of confidence in employment market conditions,” said Jeff Anderson, senior vice president of Hudson Global Resources. “Even though workers remain strongly divided over the state of the economy and choice of leadership, we expect companies to making hiring plans contingent upon overall business circumstances, not which candidate takes office.”

Percentage of respondents who say their companies are hiring in coming months:

	Dec '03	Jan '04	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
All Workers	29	31	31	33	33	32	34	33	33	32	34
Managers	32	33	32	35	35	33	36	34	34	33	35
Private-Sector Employees	32	36	36	38	39	39	39	39	39	38	39

Hudson, one of the world's leading professional staffing, outsourcing and human capital solution providers, publishes the *Hudson Employment Index*, a monthly measure of the U.S. workforce's confidence in the employment market. Next month's *Hudson Employment Index* will be released on December 1, 2004.

The Hudson Employment Index

The *Hudson Employment Index* (Hudson-Index.com) measures the U.S. workforce's confidence in the employment market. Based upon monthly telephone surveys with approximately 9,000 U.S. workers, the *Index* tracks aggregate employment trends around career opportunities, hiring intentions, job satisfaction and retention. The *Index* is compiled each month by Rasmussen Reports, LLC, an independent research firm (RasmussenReports.com).

Data reported in this release is based upon a national telephone survey of 9,012 working Americans during the month of October. The margin of sampling error for a survey based upon this many interviews is approximately 1 percent with a 95 percent level of confidence. The data is not seasonally adjusted. It will be reviewed at year-end to determine if seasonal adjustments are appropriate. The *Hudson Employment Index* is a service mark owned by Hudson Highland Group, Inc.

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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 the company's strategic direction, prospects and future results. Certain factors, including factors outside of our 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 we operate, risks associated with acquisitions, competition,

seasonality and the other risks discussed in our Form 10-K and our other filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which discussions are incorporated in this release by reference.

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