



News

**Job ads rose 18.6% in Q1: Report**

TODAY

211 words

7 May 2009

TODAY (Singapore)

AM & PM

10

English

(c) 2009. MediaCorp Press Ltd.

EVEN as the economic recession deepened, the volume of job advertisements, interestingly, has picked up between January and March.

The number of job ads in Singapore rose 18.6 per cent, according to the **Robert Walters** Asia Job Index which tracks ad volumes, online and in print, for professional positions.

This was because of public sector spending and the completion of major leisure and infrastructure projects driving demand, said the report.

Overall, however, the first quarter saw fewer job ads placed — nearly 14-per-cent less — than in the last quarter of last year.

The ads that saw the greatest rate of increase over the first three months: For the roles of editor/reporter (60-per-cent increase), merchandising/purchasing (36 per cent) and customer service/account servicing (33 per cent).

But IT professionals saw only a 1.3-per-cent increase in the number of ads being placed.

Positions for engineers/surveyors/architects/technicians, and for accounting/finance, saw the most number of ads overall.

The job index covered Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Japan. While Hong Kong saw a 42.6-per-cent surge in job ads between January and March, Japan registered a nearly 30-per-cent fall.

Document TDAYSG0020090506e5570001y