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Ohio Workers Confident in Future of Employers; Employee Confidence Index Rebounds in August

- *Three out of four workers confident in future of current employer*
- *80 percent of workers feel it is unlikely that they will lose their job in the next 12 months*
- *Fewer workers likely to look for a new job*

COLUMBUS, Ohio, September 19, 2006 — The Ohio Employee Confidence Index increased 1.4 points to 57.0 in August according to the Ohio Spherion® Employment Report, a monthly survey conducted by Harris Interactive® on behalf of Spherion Corporation (NYSE:SFN).

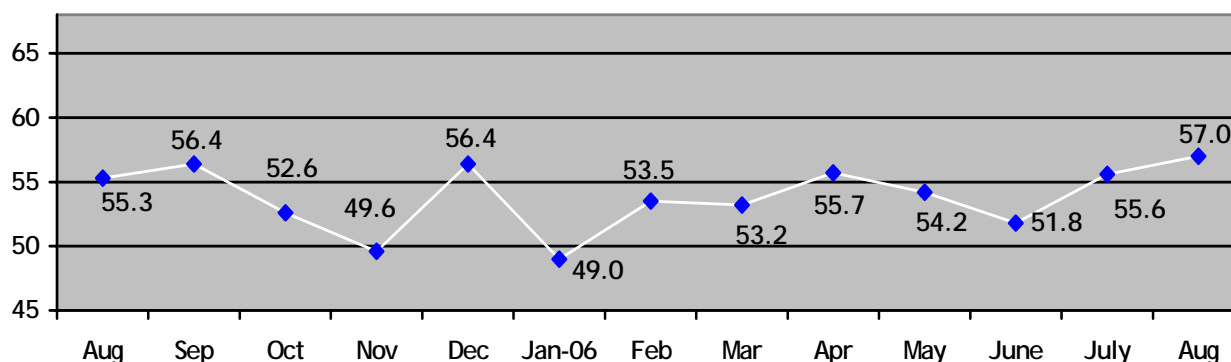
The report indicated that nearly three out of four workers (74 percent) expressed confidence in the future of their employer, a 13-percentage-point increase from the previous month. Additionally, 80 percent of workers feel that it is unlikely that their jobs will be eliminated in the next 12 months, up from 75 percent in July.

Along with the rising number of workers who express confidence, only 34 percent of workers are likely to look for a new job, down significantly from 53 percent in July.

“Candidates are in a really good place right now,” said Robert Schulte, Spherion franchise owner in Ohio. “It seems as though employers are taking notice of the continued demand for talent by increasing their retention efforts. In this area, the recent pick-up in the regional automotive sector is fueling the rise in employee confidence and job security.”

Employee Confidence Index: The Ohio Employee Confidence Index was 57.0 in August, increasing 1.4 points from July, and 1.7 points from a year ago. The Index, which measures adult workers’ confidence in their personal employment situation and in the macroeconomic environment, increased because fewer workers reported a likelihood of looking for a new job and more workers expressed confidence in the future of their current employer.

Employee Confidence Index



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August Employment Report Results

		<u>Ohio Workers</u>			<u>U.S. Workers</u>		
		<i>July</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>% Point Change</i>
Economy	Getting Stronger	18%	14%	-4%	23%	18%	-5%
	Staying Same	37%	45%	+8%	33%	36%	+3%
	Getting Weaker	45%	41%	-4%	44%	47%	+3%
Job Availability	More Jobs	23%	24%	+1%	25%	24%	-1%
	Same Amount	35%	28%	-7%	36%	34%	-2%
	Fewer Jobs	42%	47%	+5%	38%	42%	+4%
Ability to Find New Job	Confident	57%	56%	-1%	57%	57%	0%
	Neutral	29%	29%	0%	28%	30%	+2%
	Not Confident	14%	15%	+1%	15%	14%	-1%
Future of Current Employer	Confident	61%	74%	+13%	65%	63%	-2%
	Neutral	27%	17%	-10%	24%	25%	+1%
	Not Confident	12%	9%	-3%	12%	13%	+1%
Likelihood to Lose Job	Likely	12%	13%	+1%	12%	11%	-1%
	Neutral	13%	6%	-7%	9%	10%	+1%
	Not Likely	75%	80%	+5%	79%	79%	0%
Likelihood to Look for New Job	Likely	53%	34%	-19%	35%	35%	0%
	Neutral	6%	5%	-1%	10%	11%	+1%
	Not Likely	41%	61%	+20%	55%	54%	-1%

About the Spherion Employment Report

As part of the Spherion® Emerging Workforce® Series of employment surveys, the monthly Spherion Employment Report provides a snapshot of the latest workforce trends across the country and is issued in conjunction with state and national labor market releases. Three key indices are measured: the Spherion *Job Security Index*, which captures how likely respondents think it is that they will lose their job or that their job will be eliminated in the next 12 months; the Spherion *Job Transition Index*, which captures how likely respondents are to look for a new job in the next 12 months; and the *Employee Confidence Index*, which measures employees' overall confidence in the economy, the future of their employer, the availability of jobs, and their ability to find other employment. The Employee Confidence Index is based on these four components, with a 'score' calculated for each by taking the difference of the percentage of positive responses and the percentage of negative responses. These four scores are then averaged to indicate an overall level of employee confidence scaled from 0 (no confidence) to 100 (complete confidence). A reading above 50 indicates a positive confidence level.

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Methodology

The August Spherion® Employment Report is based on data from a Harris Interactive® QuickQuerySM online omnibus conducted on behalf of Spherion Corporation. A U.S. sample of 3,188 employed adults, aged 18 years and older, of whom 161 are employed in Ohio (for July 2006 n=116), was interviewed in a series of two polls conducted between August 8-10 and August 15-17, 2006. Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, income, education and region were weighted where necessary to bring them in line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting adjusted for respondents' propensity to be online.

With pure probability samples, with 100 percent response rates, it is possible to calculate the probability that the sampling error (but not other sources of error) is not greater than some number. With a pure probability sample of 3,188 U.S. employed adults one could say with a 95 percent probability that the overall results have a sampling error of +/- two percentage points, and the sampling error for the Ohio state sample results is plus or minus nine percentage points. However, that does not take other sources of error into account. This online survey is not based on a probability sample and therefore no theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

About Spherion

Spherion Corporation (NYSE:SFN) is a leading recruiting and staffing company that provides integrated solutions to meet the evolving needs of companies and job candidates. As an industry pioneer for 60 years, Spherion has screened and placed millions of individuals in temporary, temp-to-hire and full-time jobs. Positions range from administrative and light industrial to a host of professions that include accounting/finance, information technology, engineering, manufacturing, legal, human resources and sales/marketing.

With approximately 650 offices in the United States and Canada, Spherion delivers innovative workforce solutions that improve business performance. Spherion provides its services to more than 8,000 customers, from Fortune 500 companies to a wide range of small and mid-size organizations. Employing 375,000 people annually through its network, Spherion is one of North America's largest employers. To learn more, visit www.spherion.com. For up-to-date career tips and trends, visit Spherion's career blog, *The Big Time*TM, at www.spherion.com/careerblog.

About Harris Interactive

Harris Interactive is the 12th largest and fastest-growing market research firm in the world. The company provides research-driven insights and strategic advice to help its clients make more confident decisions which lead to measurable and enduring improvements in performance. Harris Interactive is widely known for *The Harris Poll*, one of the longest running, independent opinion polls and for pioneering online market research methods. The company has built what could conceivably be the world's largest panel of survey respondents, the Harris Poll Online. Harris Interactive serves clients worldwide through its United States, Europe and Asia offices, its wholly-owned subsidiary Novatris in France and through a global network of independent market research firms. The service bureau, HISB, provides its market research industry clients with mixed-mode data collection, panel development services as well as syndicated and tracking research consultation. More information about Harris Interactive may be obtained at www.harrisinteractive.com.

To become a member of the Harris Poll Online, visit <http://go.hpolsurveys.com/PR>.

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