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Contact: David Foote, [dfoote@footepartners.com](mailto:dfoote@footepartners.com)  
Bill Reynolds [billr@footepartners.com](mailto:billr@footepartners.com)  
Tel: 772-234-2787

**FOOTE NEWS ANALYSIS**

**July '09 Department of Labor National Employment Report**

**Big recovery for IT jobs in July: Thaw in the economic winter or just brief sunshine?**

**Vero Beach, FL – Sunday, August 9, 2009.** U.S. employment numbers released last Friday by the Department of Labor (DOL) displayed a startling increase in IT related jobs in the month of July following several months of decline.

“Despite monthly ups and downs in the five IT-related DOL employment segments we’ve been monitoring since last year, there has been one constant: collectively, these bellwether segments have posted monthly job losses of between 3,000 and 11,000 jobs since February (**Figure 1**),“ observes David Foote, CEO of IT workforce analyst firm Foote Partners. “This has suddenly changed with a 15,000 job swing in July. Specifically, a net gain of 7,400 IT-related jobs in July following a loss of 7,600 jobs in June. This is very encouraging news. Maybe the turning point we have all been anticipating.”

National unemployment has stabilized at 9.4%, down slightly from the prior month, with only 247,000 jobs lost---the lowest monthly loss since last August. IT job segments have been part of this recovery, led by Computer Systems Design and Related Services gaining a whopping 7,900 jobs following seven straight monthly losses totaling 17,500 jobs. Gaining 900 jobs, the Management/Technical Consulting Services

returned to positive numbers following a dip in June. This segment has been the steadiest IT-related job segment since the financial industry meltdown last October, with a net growth of 2,100 jobs since then. As further evidence of optimism, two segments---Computer and Peripheral and Equipment and Communications Equipment lost 3,400 fewer jobs July than June.

Not so lucky were tech workers in the Data Processing/Hosting/ Related Services job segment, dropping 400 jobs following a gain of 600 one months earlier.

“Do IT professionals have something to cheer about? Sure, in the short term. But can this be sustained throughout the rest of the year so that workers can begin to act on their longer term career strategies?” asks Foote. “There's reason for optimism in two additional recent developments. First, the government announcement two weeks ago that the overall economy contracted at an annual rate of only 1 percent in the spring quarter, far better than the fall and winter months. Second, Foote Partners' discovery last week that market values for 55 of 385 skills and certifications tracked in our IT Skills and Certifications Pay Index™ have increased between 6% and 29% since January.”

"There has been a vibrancy in the job market throughout this recession driven by employers search for IT workers with the right skills and experience for the job," insists Foote. " If anything, I expect this to intensify in the next several months,"

For the latest trend results from the IT Skills and Certifications Pay Index™: <http://tinyurl.com/ltfpte>

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Foote Partners LLC  
4445 North A1A, Suite 200  
Vero Beach, FL 32963  
Tel/772-234-2787 Fax/775-262-6619  
Blog: <http://twitter.com/FPview>  
Web: [www.footepartners.com](http://www.footepartners.com)

Figure 1 – U.S. Department of Labor/Bureau of Labor Statistics (through July 2009)

**JOB SITUATION TRENDS – IT PROFESSIONALS**

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
<b>Total Jobs Lost since 12/07 (millions)</b>		2.7		3.6		5.1	5.7	7	7.2	6.7
<b>Nonfarm job loss (month)</b>	240,000	533,000	524,000	598,000	651,000	663,000	539,000	345,000	467,000	247,000
<b>National unemployment rate</b>	6.5%	6.8%	7.2%	7.6%	8.1%	8.5%	8.9%	9.4%	9.5%	9.4%
	<b>Job Gains/Losses</b>									
<b>Computer/Electronic Products</b>	-4,200	-7,000	-8,200	-8,800	-13,100	-5,300	-11,700	-14,400	-16,100	-7,400
<i>Segment: Computer/Peripheral Equipment</i>	200	-1,200	-700	700	-3,100	-1,500	-2,900	-3,200	-2,300	-700
<i>Segment: Communications Equipment</i>	100	-600	-1,700	-500	-200	600	200	-600	-2,100	-300
<b>Professional/Technical Services</b>	12,500	-17,400	-18,100	-28,600	-36,700	-31,300	-17,100	-18,800	-40,400	-7,300
<i>Segment: Management/Technical Consulting Services</i>	300	1,400	-1,800	11,000	-4,800	-6,100	1,600	700	-1,100	900
<i>Segment: Computer Systems Design/Related Services</i>	5,500	2,700	-2,900	-3,500	-300	-3,900	-1,400	-2,800	-2,700	7,900
<b>Information</b>	0	-19,000	-20,000	-21,000	-15,000	-10,000	-17,000	-24,000	-21,000	-16,000
<i>Segment: Data Processing/Hosting/Related Services</i>	-100	-1,400	500	200	-2,000	-200	-900	-3,500	600	-400

**Key:**   **Job losses in red**  
          **Job gains in green**

**ABOUT FOOTE PARTNERS**

[Foote Partners LLC](#) is a Vero Beach, Florida based management consultancy and independent IT research firm founded in 1997 that provides pragmatic and forward-thinking advice about managing the modern IT professional workforce. Comprised of former Gartner, McKinsey & Company, Towers Perrin, and Wm. M. Mercer analysts and consultants, and former corporate HR, IT, and business executives, Foote Partners has been a thought leader and trusted advisor to more than 1,400 employers seeking improvements in managing IT’s impact on their businesses and customers.

**Headquarters:** 4445 North A1A, Suite 200  
Vero Beach, FL 32963  
Tel: 772-234-2787  
[www.footepartners.com](http://www.footepartners.com)

**Foote Partners 2009 IT Compensation Survey - Product Map**

