

Engineering field adding jobs, IT on the upswing

The most recent job reports are promising for a lot of reasons. The U.S. added nearly a quarter of a million jobs in January, far above expectations. While data concerning information technology jobs was not as clear cut, the engineering field is definitely seeing a positive burst.

Architectural and engineering services saw jobs jump by 7,000 in January, says the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This doesn't take into account the 50,000 or so jobs added in the manufacturing sector. Technical consultants, including engineers, are often a key ingredient in supporting a manufacturing environment. In all, about 70,000 jobs were added to business and professional services.

A 10 percent increase in information technology jobs in the first quarter of 2012?

It's not out of the question. According to The Street, companies providing computer systems design and related services added 1,700 jobs in January. Also, unemployment in the tech sector fell to 3.8 percent, well below the national unemployment rate.

Top firms appear to want to keep growing. Facebook, Amazon and Google are among the giants who plan on adding tech jobs in the coming year. The picture may get even rosier, according to some staffing agency experts. Many companies are looking to convert part-time employees into full-time ones.

Engineers and IT professionals are in high demand.

In fact, The Street reports, by the end of last year, those employed in IT-related fields numbered about 3.8 million, just below the 4 million who were employed when the recession hit nearly four years ago.

Clearly, the numbers are turning around. As employers continue to be cautiously optimistic, workers looking for temporary, part-time or full-time jobs in the engineering and information technology fields have reason to hope for the continuation of the positive trend.



Sources:

Bureau of Labor Statistics:

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.nro.htm>

The Street:

http://www.thestreet.com/story/11400170/1/tech-jobs-so-hot-right-now.html?cm_ven=GOOGLN