

Decrease in vacancies levelling off, say jobs firms

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RECRUITMENT AGENCIES say they are beginning to notice a levelling off in the decrease in vacancies available to jobhunters.

In certain areas, some agencies are reporting that there is an increase in openings.

And despite the recent sharp slowdown and the tougher trading environment, recruitment firms themselves are still seen as positive places to work. Sigmar Recruitment and Premier Group have both been recognised as among the top 50 small and medium-sized enterprises to work for across Europe.

“We are delighted to be named as the 20th best workplace in Europe, particularly being the highest ranked recruitment company,” said Sigmar associate director Robert Mac Giolla Phádraig.

Premier, which ranked 21st, said research compiled for the contest showed 90 per cent of employees trusted their management and 85 per cent reported “high engagement”.

The accolades are welcome in a challenging year for the industry.

“Regardless of the fact that Ireland is experiencing challenging economic times, our people have maintained an optimistic attitude and I am confident that our dynamic culture and positive outlook will ensure we emerge from this period stronger,” said Premier managing director Brian Murphy.

“One of our most significant achievements in recent months has been successfully reducing our cost base by 61 per cent while retaining critical mass,” said Mr Mac Giolla Phádraig.

“Our flexible business model has stood to us and allowed us to retain client relationships.”

Sigmar caters to companies seeking permanent, temporary and contract staff in sectors such as finance, science, engineering, IT, sales, marketing, legal and health.

Mr. Mac Giolla Phádraig said the decline in job opportunities on offer was levelling off and Sigmar was seeing growing demand in areas such as information and communication technology, research and development, engineering, procurement and energy.