

# HOW TO GET A JOB PART 3

By Mark Brownley

## *If you can't find a job at home, pack up and leave*

### **Checklist**

- 1.** Go to the world, don't wait for it to come to you. It won't. The big economies tend to be where the big jobs are - and more of them. There are also pockets of opportunity like the famed start-up communities in California. If you have big ambitions, your thinking needs to be global and so does your experience and skillset. That doesn't happen at home.
- 2.** Seize international opportunities. If you work for a multi-national or a company expanding globally, international opportunities will very likely come your way. If they do, don't turn them down. Go! If they don't, ask for one! It doesn't have to be forever and even two years will have a profound effect on your career trajectory.
- 3.** Internationalise your career search. Don't limit your job search to opportunities in the same city, state or country for that matter. Seek out positions and companies beyond your shores. Nowhere is more than 24 hours from home anyway so it's not like you're going to Mars. As soon as you take the geographical constraints off your job search, the opportunities will multiply rapidly.
- 4.** Join a company with an international footprint. One of the easiest and most cost-effective ways
- of finding work overseas is to join a company with global operations. Once you prove yourself, you can indicate your desire to relocate and hey presto, you can start booking your flights. It also makes immigration and residency much easier with sponsorship and working visas.
- 5.** Look at the upside. A lot of people focus on what they lose if they move interstate or overseas instead of looking at what they gain. There may not be as many beaches or family close at hand but recognise that personal growth happens outside your comfort zone, not within it. If and when you decide to return for family or other reasons, your CV will look incredibly strong. Guaranteed.
- 6.** Keep exploring. More is better. If you develop a taste for combining work and travel, so much the better. Your market value tends to correlate with the number of cities you've worked in and the number of jobs you've had in all those cities. It will be reflected in increased responsibility and your pay rises overtime.
- 7.** Reap the rewards and invest your savings. Working overseas can be financially lucrative. Australia has relatively high rates of income tax. In Singapore, for example, the highest tax rate is 22%, one of the lowest in the world. Depending on where you work, you may pay much lower rates of income tax and therefore start saving and investing a lot more and a lot earlier than if you stayed at home.

8. Allow yourself to change and be changed.  
Travelling and working globally changes you. It internationalises you and you won't think small again. You'll also become more resilient. It makes you a force to be reckoned with. Some people might find this intimidating or confronting but your personal growth will be extraordinary and it will put you in the big league.
9. Go sightseeing. Take any and every opportunity to explore those parts of the world you happen to be based in or are a short – or even long – flight away. Take the time to learn the cultures, customs and languages. Being interested makes you more interesting and that is an excellent foundation on which to build a career. It will make you a better person and people always want to work with great people.
10. Stay in touch. Building new relationships is vital when you move around the country or the world but staying in touch is also important. At some stage you might need a re-entry strategy and these are generally much easier to negotiate with someone at home rather than on the other side of the world. Check in from time to time so you're not forgotten.

#### STILL HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

Just email us at [tellus@myengineerexchange.com](mailto:tellus@myengineerexchange.com) and we'll get right back to you.

