

## **VALUE ADDED SOLUTIONS FOR OFFICE BASED POSITIONS**

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**With the skills shortage affecting numerous UK industry sectors, the call for experienced candidates to fill office-based positions has grown. As a consequence, those skilled employees on the jobs market are highly sought after. Here Rachel Shipton, Head of Omega Workforce's specialist division for commercial recruitment solutions examines the current market and highlights the importance of quality staffing solutions in this business-critical sector.**

Our region is home to some 5.1 million people and boasts an economy valued at around £84.6 billion. With such a prosperous and thriving business community, the need to maintain and nurture our skilled employee pool is crucial, especially at this time of economic uncertainty. Skilled office workers, including secretaries, administrators and customer services personnel, are all highly sought after as these are often the people who maintain the smooth running of any organisation. But, with a recent government report suggesting that almost one-third of UK adults of working age lacked basic school leaving qualifications, both temporary and permanent positions within the commercial sector are under threat.

Basic skills from IT to administration have been rated too low in our society and the result is a shortage of quality personnel to fill the number of positions on the market. These unsung heroes of the office world need to be valued and their careers cultivated in order to prevent this resource from completely drying up.

Small businesses in particular appear to be suffering. A survey conducted for last year's Enterprise Week found that of those businesses polled, 77 per cent said that they had difficulties recruiting enterprising people and more than one in three considered this to be a major problem.

Evidently, the need for businesses to tap into this dwindling skilled resource is vital. The most efficient way of finding the right people for your organisation is to go through a specialist recruitment company who have a pool of talent at their fingertips.

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