

## A Note from Tom Silver

In the past 12 months, the weak economy has been gnawing at the tech sector – in the last 30 days, it has taken a bite – as job postings on Dice have fallen 20% versus last year.

To be sure, there is still a lot of demand with 75,000 open tech positions, but it seemed natural to wonder how IT professionals can take advantage of their inherent abilities to manage their careers, in particular, their project management skills. Because, whether or not they hold the title, many have a bit of project manager in them.

Of the Dice users who responded to a recent snap poll, 13 percent said they use project management skills to organize and track all steps of their job search. Another 13 percent use them to think strategically before creating a tactical plan. Seven percent use them to communicate their ROI to prospective employers. The lion's share – 67 percent – use all of these skills.

After all, technology professionals – project managers, especially – are detail-oriented and highly valued earning among highest salaries. The same mindset that spurs them to track the status of each task in a development project translates directly to the tactics of a job search. Writing effective cover letters and resumes is about communication, sending them to appropriate companies and following up is about smart and timely action. Understanding when it's time to move on from one possibility to another is about acknowledging the environment they're working in.

As the economy becomes difficult, candidates are well-served when they bring a project manager's discipline to their job search. After all, the ability to think strategically, communicate and act aren't only components of project management – or career management, for that matter. They're also the characteristics of successful IT professionals.

Enjoy this month's issue of The Dice Report.

Tom Silver  
Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer

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## Dice by the Numbers

As of November 3, 2008\*

Available Tech Jobs: 75,640

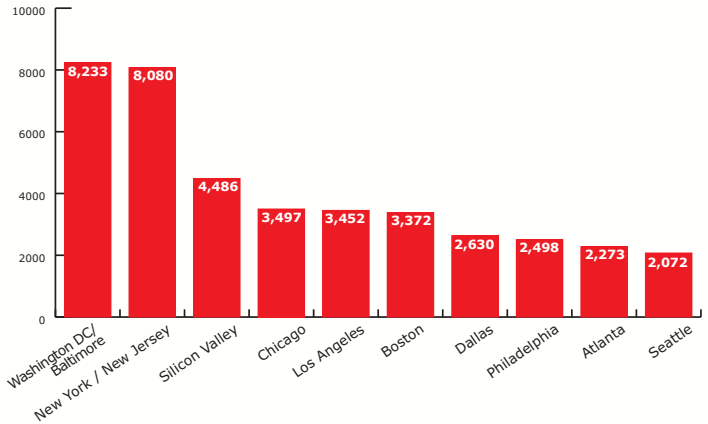
Full-time Positions: 54,090

Contract Positions: 30,563

Part-time Positions: 1,511

## Top Tech Metro Areas

Based on number of jobs posted by zip code on Dice as of November 3, 2008\*



## Top Tech Skills

Based on number of jobs posted by tech skill on Dice as of November 3, 2008\*

### Operating Systems

1. Windows – 13,609
2. Unix – 11,018

### Databases

1. Oracle – 16,592
2. SQL – 11,980

### Programming Languages

1. C, C++, C# – 14,542
2. J2EE/Java – 13,866

## Dice.com Tech Topic Poll

What are the best ways to use project management skills in your job hunt?

- 13%** Organizing and tracking all steps of the process.
- 13%** Thinking strategically before creating my tactical to-do list.
- 7%** Communicating to the employer your ROI.
- 67%** All of the above. But it's tough finding work no matter what you do.

\* A single job posting may reflect more than one skill, location or type of position; therefore, total figures for these attributes may be greater than total jobs posted.