

## EarthStream sees renewable energy experts in extreme demand in Japan in 2014

28 January 2014, Tokyo - Japan has seen an explosion of renewable energy projects over the past two years which has been dominated by Solar Developers and equipment manufacturers most of which will be exhibiting at the ever expanding PV Expo Tokyo. However, one of the key issues has been the availability of experienced professionals to hire in Japan. Leading Global Energy Recruitment firm EarthStream has been working with a number of solar project developers and their Japan Managing Director Sean Travers recently commented "In many cases a lack of qualified staff, especially in electrical fields, is the reason for many projects being delayed and some being cancelled all together".

It is however predicted that offshore wind energy, which is a key focus for METI in the coming years, will be even harder to recruit qualified candidates for. Adds Travers, "The expertise required to design, construct & commission offshore wind farms is in even shorter supply in Japan than solar markets". Large numbers of Japanese and international firms in the wind industry will be at the Wind Expo Tokyo this year trying to secure a range of contracts up for tender.

While the pay off is higher with the potential amount of electricity that can be generated by these large scale projects there will most likely need to be an influx of international talent to complete these wind farms. Comments Travers "EarthStream works in the offshore wind and Oil & Gas sectors in Europe and we predict that they will both be key pools of talent to help get Japan's offshore wind farms built".

The huge growth in demand for renewable energy experts has resulted in a corresponding growth in salary expectations which has been confirmed by a recent survey conducted by EarthStream. In a study conducted with energy experts across all the energy sectors it was revealed that over 60% of people in the solar sector are looking for a raise of over 20% to change jobs while only 15% of people in the wind sector are looking for the same level of increase. Travers again adds, "we predict that the salary expectations of wind candidates will start to rise rapidly in the next year or so in line with the growth of the sector". The survey did however show that the number one consideration for people changing jobs in the energy sector is still the quality of the company or project.

The overall career prospects for specialist energy experts remain very strong as Japan continues to reduce its reliance on nuclear energy and looks towards a clean energy future.

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### About EarthStream – [www.earthstreamglobal.com](http://www.earthstreamglobal.com)

EarthStream is a specialist global energy and resources recruitment firm dedicated to the placement of Engineering, Commercial and Scientific professionals. With a global network of offices we work with international companies that are focused on Renewables, Oil & Gas, Power Generation, Engineering & Consultancy.

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