

**Can you give me advice about finding a new job? I have 10 years manufacturing experience and 4 years as a consultant with an IT/Engineering consultancy but I am becoming disillusioned as I can't find suitable jobs advertised in the papers.**

I have worked with many qualified professionals with great experience but they struggled to locate suitable positions when job hunting. Most were relying on reactive approaches such as paper advertisements. This approach can be very successful but the problem is that it is frustrating when suitable jobs are not advertised. More importantly it is estimated that over 50% of jobs are never advertised and you will not uncover these unless you explore other options. There are other strategies to consider complimenting paper advertisements.

These strategies include online jobsites like recruitireland or computerjobs. Recruitment agencies are another option particularly those specialising in your skills area. You should also put more emphasis on networking which is an underutilised tool for job hunting. You can network within your industry but also access your network of family and friends. Another approach is speculative applications or phone calls targeting relevant companies or sectors. I noted that you work for a consultancy which would involve projects with a wide variety of clients over the years– another potential source to sound out as they have seen your work first hand.