

Whether you've just arrived in London, or you're thinking of dipping your toes into the New Zealand job market, the Absolute Recruitment Group have all the employment bases covered when it comes to professionals in finance, accounting, banking, IT, legal and H.R.



DEALING IN ABSOLUTES

London, with the strength of the pound, the proximity to Europe and the cultural offerings of the city, has always been a popular destination for Australians and New Zealanders. And, as employees, Antipodeans have always been popular in London.

Although there has been a minor slowdown in the UK employment market recently, Grant Burley, the London-based director of Absolute Global (the most recent addition to the stable of Absolute Recruitment Group, which includes New Zealand's largest IT recruitment firm Absolute IT), says there are still plenty of opportunities available for Kiwis and Aussies.

All the large multinationals, he says, are still recruiting heavily, but with a noticeable move toward temporary employment.

"Almost every conversation I have had in respect to the services we offer is

met with positive comments about the integrity and strong work ethic of New Zealanders and Australians," he says. "This is a huge advantage and can be viewed as a distinct point of difference between applicants."

Burley says Absolute Global, an international candidate career management company targeted at professionals working in the finance, accounting, banking, human resources, legal, and IT sectors, offers support to skilled professionals and helps them with their job searches before they depart.

Absolute Global aims to help candidates with every step of their overseas relocation, offering anything from London orientations, mobile phone numbers and SIM cards, and advice on bank accounts, National Insurance, and visas. Burley says they also offer interviews with some of the UK's most respected recruitment companies and an

events calendar to get the social lives of the new arrivals up and running.

With his permanent move to London and the arrival of one more employee in the near future, Burley says Absolute Global hopes to develop and grow into a strong and recognisable New Zealand brand that brings the best of what the country has to offer to London: its people.

For Kiwis returning to New Zealand, however – or those of foreign extraction hoping to migrate there – Tina Ng, the founding director and general manager of Absolute Global's IT arm in Wellington, says there are a host of opportunities on offer in the ICT sector.

Ng says Absolute IT, a specialised IT recruitment services company that has been in the Wellington market for over eight years, is renowned for their experience and business contacts, deals with blue chip clients and has numerous preferred supplier agreements. Many of



these agreements have been renewed on multiple occasions, which she feels is testimony to the company's high standards in customer service and delivery.

"We have a large team of experienced consultants, many of whom are icons in the industry," she says. "It's their contacts and relationships which help secure job seekers the best opportunities available in the New Zealand market."

And she says there are plenty of reasons to think about relocating to New Zealand – and particularly Wellington – at the moment.

In recent years, Wellington's traditional business base has diversified into new economy sectors such as film, ICT, software development and multi-media. And today, many of the city's niche companies are expanding into lucrative international markets.

"Being the capital of New Zealand makes it unique. Our clients are a mix

of commercial private entities, large government departments and creative/design companies, so your options are practically unlimited."

The IT market, she says, is extremely buoyant right now: both contract and permanent opportunities are readily available, with special demand for solution architects, senior business analysts, senior developers (Java & .net), DBA's (SQL & Oracle) and test analysts.

There are also plenty of opportunities in Wellington for those with industry experience in telecommunications and banking.

Martin Barry, Absolute IT's Auckland director, has been with the company since 2004, helping it become a leading player in the ICT recruitment market in the Auckland and Waikato regions, and says plenty of employment opportunities also lie further north in New Zealand's retail and commercial centre.

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With a wide variety of businesses operating across all areas of commerce, the same ICT skill-sets that are in demand in Wellington are also in demand in Auckland, and candidates with industry experience in financial services, telecommunications and process manufacturing are particularly sought after at present.

Barry says Absolute IT deal with the cream of Auckland's corporates, including end-users, multinational ICT companies and dynamic and innovative local software houses and computer services business, many with significant international reputations in their market niche.

But as well as the employment opportunities, Auckland and Wellington also offer a host of 'extra-curricular' benefits: the capital is a beautiful harbour city centred on a vibrant business district and surrounded by the hills of the Town Belt – a green reserve encircling the city. And from the buzzing city centre it is only a quick drive to mountains, open countryside and rugged coastlines.

And Auckland, New Zealand's largest urban area, with a population of just over one million, is perhaps the most vibrant, bustling, multicultural city in New Zealand, ranking as the biggest Polynesian city in the world and widely regarded as a water baby's paradise.

As many have already discovered, New Zealand offers the best of both worlds, with an enviable lifestyle and plenty of outstanding and challenging opportunities on the employment front. ♦

For more information on what Absolute Global or Absolute IT can do for you, visit www.absoluteglobal.net and www.absoluteit.co.nz, where you'll find jobs, salary surveys and much more.