



# Manufacturing

Hong Kong's manufacturing industry has undergone a major economic transformation since the 1980s and early 1990s. As a result of the changing comparative advantages of Hong Kong vis-a-vis other economies, many manufacturers have moved their production to mainland China to take advantage of the low labour costs there.

This has enabled the manufacturing industry to enhance levels of growth and competitiveness which are unattainable if production remains in Hong Kong. For manufacturers who have relocated their production to China, their Hong Kong offices are responsible for product design and development, quality control, administration and management, marketing and logistic support.

With the transformation of Hong Kong into a service centre, manufacturers have repositioned themselves by leveraging on the unique advantages of Hong Kong as an international financial centre and a regional hub for transportation, trading and information technology. They no longer focus on manufacturing alone but have taken on the more diversified role of manufacturing service providers and manufacturer-cum-traders.

Hong Kong now has a large trans-boundary manufacturing base which combines high value-added and technology-intensive manufacturing processes in the territory with land- and labour-intensive processes in the southern part of the Mainland and other economies. In 2007, manufacturing accounted for 2.5% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) while employment in manufacturing sector took up 4.9% of the total employment in 2007.

Information gathering and dissemination are important to the manufacturing sector to keep abreast of changes in overseas market trends and trade policies that might





affect their business. Ample job opportunities are still available for graduates since a large part of the business process in this industry is carried out in Hong Kong.

## **POSITIONS**

In this sector, positions vary greatly and include office managers, accounting officers, R&D staff, designers, marketing executives, quality control engineers and sales executives.

## **EDUCATION & REQUIREMENTS**

Depending on the positions, requirements are different. Usually, most positions in this industry require a marketing degree. For R&D positions, a degree in the relevant field is needed.

Since these companies have to explore overseas markets, good communication skills are a must. Good spoken English or other languages are needed since most manufacturing companies participate in international trade fairs to promote their products and explore business opportunities.

With the proliferation of e-commerce nowadays, the business practices of the manufacturing industry have changed accordingly. Therefore, it is essential for graduates to equip themselves with computer skills.

## **SALARY & BENEFITS**

Salaries vary according to the positions, ranging from \$8,000-\$12,000.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

The CMA Training Center is the training and knowledge transfer arm of the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong. It provides training, consultation, information and other related services to enhance the business knowledge and managerial skills of its members. The centre is located at:

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