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Headline: S'poreans prefer to relocate than travel 45mins to work

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MARKET WATCH

TOP 3 GAINERS (Lyonor China H 100SS 18.030 (+0.500) Venture 11.160 (+0.440) JSH 500USS 18.300 (+0.380)
TOP 3 LOSERS GLO 10.055 86.600 (-0.280) New Per 7.120 (-0.190) SPC 7.210 (-0.160)

MY 13 INDEX MOVEMENTS AGAINST MAY 13 RATES

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	1.2840	1.2990
EURO	2.1060	2.1310
STERLING POUND	2.0510	2.0620
US DOLLAR	1.3570	1.3730
YEN (100 units)	1.3050	1.3210

STRAITS TIMES INDEX

May 14, 2008 3,002.42 (+23.26)

MY BIZ IN 60 SECONDS

GIC BUYS 11% OF US ENERGY FIRM
GOVERNMENT of Singapore Investment Corp has bought an 11 per cent stake in US-based energy infrastructure firm AEI for US\$400 million (S\$550 million), a spokeswoman for the sovereign fund said yesterday.
AEI owns and runs energy infrastructure businesses in emerging markets including China, Mexico and Argentina.
- **STAFF**

RAFFLES BEST HOTEL IN ASIA AGAIN
THE 121-year-old Raffles Hotel Singapore has been named the Best Hotel in Asia for the second consecutive year, and it also clinched the Ultratrade Luxury Travel Related Award, at a ceremony in London yesterday.
Organised by Ultratrade

MONEY

S'poreans prefer to relocate than travel 45 mins to work

Recruitment firm poll shows locals are highly mobile when it comes to getting the right job

WORKERS in Singapore will grumble if they have to commute some distance to work, but they will readily pack their bags and fly to the ends of the earth for the right job, according to a poll by Kelly Services.

Two in three of more than 2,000 employees here polled by the recruitment firm said they were not prepared to commute more than 45 minutes each way to work. The Business Times reported yesterday.

Nearly eight in 10 of those polled would consider relocating to another country to work. This shows that despite their re-

luctance to spend more time commuting, Singapore workers are highly mobile when it comes to securing the right job.

More than half - 56 per cent - of the workers polled were even ready to uproot and move to unfamiliar territories where they don't speak the local lingo.

"With a more globalised workforce, there is increasingly a recognition that people may have to relocate to find the right work, or to advance their career," said Mr Dhirendra Shantilal, Kelly's senior vice-president for Asia-Pacific.

"There are many skills that are easily transferable across borders, including in areas such as banking and finance, IT, science and engineering."

Those willing to move, not surprisingly, are in the younger age group of 26 to 34.

"Typically, they have fewer family and other commitments that prevent them from relocating," said Kelly Services.

"Males were more willing to relocate than females."

It added that "family" was the overwhelming issue when workers polled were asked to rank the main obstacles for them to work overseas, with 72 per cent citing it as a factor.

Other factors were language barriers (49 per cent), children's education (37 per cent), tax complications (24 per cent), property ownership (20 per cent) and pension/super-annuation rights (14 per cent).

"The finding that many workers are willing to be highly mobile in their search for work is good news for employers," Kelly said.

"At a time of relative skills shortage, globally, targeting employees from another city or internationally can be one of the most effective ways of filling gaps in the labour market."

Some 13 per cent of the workers polled said that they had already relocated to a country where they did not speak the language - to find the right job.

HELPDESK 我的字典

Grumble: 抱怨
bào yuàn

Uproot: 离开故乡
lí kāi gù xiāng