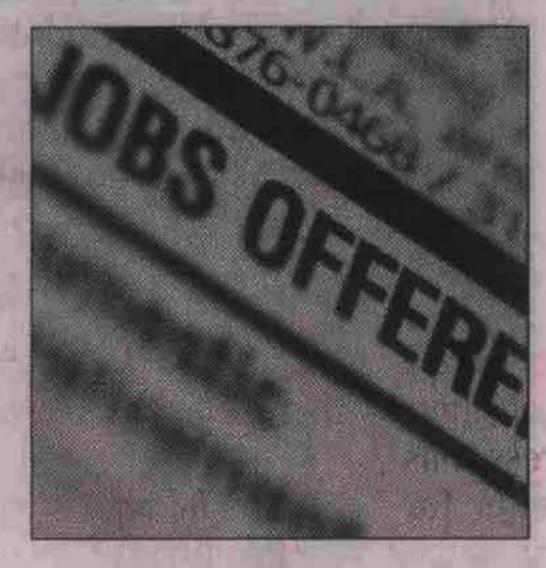
Hardware, networking jobs proves to be recession-proof

SREERUPA MITRA

Bangalore

WITH traditional IT jobs becoming few and far between, the youth is now moving toward hardware and networking jobs. The demand for hardware and networking courses witnessed a 40 per cent growth predominantly riding on its recession-proof status, according to people in the industry.

With computerisation gathering pace in all sectors of business, trade and entertainment, the need for networking professionals to run these computers and servers has significantly increased.



"Despite the meltdown, professionals in this field have wide scope and reach in almost every sector of the industry. They are needed for everything right from infrastructure set-up to the security of the information network. Telecom, media and broadcasting industry,

software as a service (SaaS) providers will be the segments where networking professionals can venture," said Ravi Dighe, national head, N-Power, the hardware and networking training wing of Aptech.

Hardware and network professionals are in demand also in consulting firms to audit and impart consulting services to organisations for their own networking requirements.

"The economic downturn has not impacted the hardware industry in the country as much as software services. There is still a demand for skilled professionals in the

hardware and networking industry," Dighe added.

As per an IDC survey, 3, 75,000 networking jobs will be generated by 2009 creating a shortfall of around 1, 00,000 skilled professionals in this domain. Not only this, there will also be shortfall of 1 lakh infrastructure management professionals.

Said N Keshav Raju, founder of Indian Institute of Hardware Technology (IIHT): "The number of students enrolling for our courses has increased to 100,000 this year from 65,000 in 2008."

shreerupamitra @mydigitalfc.com