JOBS/

Mistakes made when juggling multiple job offers

By Sheryl Silver, Career Source
There's no derying it. In the world of informution technology (IT), it on applicantle
market. Ask employers who are using every
possible resource to reruit the IT talent they
need. Ask recruiters, who although thrilled
with the strength of their businesses, are
frustrated at the shortage of qualified candidates available to fill their clients' openings.
IT professionals with in-demand technical
skills are in high demand and short supply, a
circumstance which has made multiple job
offers common.

offers common.

Although an enviable situation, choosing from multiple job offers can also be challenging. And today, asy employers and recruiten, many job hunters are being blinded by the money they're being offered, and making less than optimal job choices as a result.

Faster Im't Always Better
"Frenetic" is the word many recruiters and
employers use to characterize the pace of IT
hring today. Aware that qualified candidates
can easily command multiple job offers from a
handful of interviews, employers have accelerated their normal interview and assessment
process to avoid losing top IT candidates to
other organizations. "Us the Tickle me Elmo'
syndrome," says Carlos Echalar, employment
manager for Booz, Allen & Hamilton, Inc. in

what they is o come as the months."

Paul Siker, a principal with The Guild Corporation, an 1T recruiting firm in Northern Virginia, agrees and even recommends getting the details in writing. It had one individual get it in writing, he recalls.

McLean, VA. 'Employers feel they have to more quickly or they'll be left without top tolemore quickly or they library to the advantage of the lucrative offers combined when the jobs they've accepted haven't measured up to their expectations, any recruiters.

According to Peter Kennedy, president of the Kennisgion, MD 17 recruiting firm and the leading edge project or development work that was mentioned during an interview and forget the fact that they were told they might initially be doing several months of maintenance on an existing system. 'This 'selection manager of recruiting and staffing for the manager of recruiting farm and the they are to the market of the market, 'cautions that the highest deficient, and the market, 'cautions that the highest decision.' They're control of the market of the market, 'cautions that they are the market, 'cautions that the highest decisions,' the candidates are offers.'

Highest Offer Not Always Best Related to this 'Trush to judgement.' Photogenation being offersed. Any openation, and then he was on more into interest and then he was on more into the deading edge project or development way the leading edge project or development was the total of the series of candidates and offers with the leading edge project or development was the large of the constant of the market o Highest Offer Not Always Best

Related to this 'rmsh to judgement' phenomenon has been a tendency by many IT

professionals to choose the offer with the highest salary, simply because it has the highest salary, although recruiters and employers asy they understand the desire of candidates to get the most moore they can, they advances against focusing too exclusively on money. 'I'm not going to say people shouldn't take the money being offered,' says Scott Albrecht, manager of recruiting and staffing for the integrated Engineering Division of TRW, in the first, 'N. 'However, they need to look at the total offer base pay, bonuses, time off, benefits, work environment, work location and future opportunities."

Albrecht, who says TRW 'pays competitive to the market,' cautions that the highest offer may not be the best one. 'By focusing solely on money, candidates are forgetting a large piece of the total job,' he says. 'They need to look carefully at what the position or the organization will do for them. Job satisfaction, work environment and professional development should all play a major role in

Sheryl Silver may be contacted by writing to her at Career Source, P.O. Box 65754, Washington, D.C. 200035-5744.

A Swedish Sojourn of Saunas, Salmon and a Summer Cruise

By Jane Lesly, Chronicle Features
Last year, fusiness took me to Stockholm, it turns
out negotiations only lasted two short days – long
ones, actually, as I was visiting during the height of
summer when the sun barely sets, Sta. I was there
so briefly that it was not rearry enough time to adjusto a now time zone, let alone get to know the lay of
the land.

the land. Generally, when visiting major cities, if I can make the time, I like to plan an enticing side trip. Other times, I prefer to just look back and regroup. On this partical sweetsh journey, I made a great discovery, a cruse that offered both a great adventise and award to major.

discovery, a crusie that offered both a great adverture and a way foreign.

This unconventional excursion was on the Swodsh Islander, a small (49-passinger) sea vessed. Since I generally worry about cabin liver only or overnight sea travel, I happily boarded this ship when the only sleeping poing on; a ray, was below dock during the day in one of the two on-board nap-

OUTUITI OT DAULITAS, ping cabins, biseed of staying the night, passengurs were sent asked of staying the night, hassengurs were sent asked of staying at the waterfroot Grand Hotel in Salisyboaden and the stiffmate Griphshoin inn and Hotel, the latter a 300-year old homer moustery. This "Impressions of a Swedsh Summer" occursion, referred by the New York hosel Special Expeditions takes passengers through sections of an archipelago of more than 24,000 sistends for seven days.

My most memorable experience took place on an asked seepers, On this day some of us hiked, others took a smaller, motical boat of us hiked, others took a smaller, motical boat of us hiked, others took a smaller protocal seaunt to anyone interested. I was the only one who took him up on his

ested. I was the only one who took him up on his

ofter.

The small wooden structure was perched at the rocky water's edge, I settled in next to a fire burning in a pothelised stove. Periodically, I spooned cool water.

500 Help Wanted General

Salmon and a Sun over some hot rocks with a large wooden ladle. Soon, the tiny outhouse-stare building filled with steam. The heat was so intense that after about 10 minutes leacaged into a even-filed cove off the child batter. All this jumping around from sauma to see made me hangy. Thenefully, my next slop was a deserted sland where a delicious between west waiting. Fresh salmon and salad made for a great lanch of regional cutsine. A cheraftic crew supplied blanksis so we could pictic on a rock beneath the warm sun. The hands of the control of the country of the count

Meanwhile, if business does take you to Sweden, here are some cultural burriers to be aware.

• Don't pressure to call a prospective colosique by his or her first name. Formality nates in Sweden, where you will be introducted to Mr. Swen Colar of Mrs. Karl Engobresson.

• When alting down to a toast, wait to take a christ until after your host should short you're tool should short you're tool should short you're be subscibly be a way strong christ, usually vodu.

• If you are fortunate enough to be invited to a Sweden home during you wisk, when the moel is invised, be sure to wait until you've enached the door before puring on your coal. If you can, don't put on the garment until staff you got coach, don't put on the garment until staff you got outside. In Sweden, doing otherwise signifies that you are anxious to leave— not a very gractous earl from an hornored youst who wishes to impress.



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