



Working Abroad Expo offers Irish job hunters opportunities



Frank and Deirdre O'Callaghan with their son Evan — The family is emigrating to Australia at the end of this month.

GOOD news for Irish job-seekers is that employers from Australia, New Zealand and Canada are all unveiling openings at the **Working Abroad** Expo at the RDS, Dublin, on Saturday and Sunday, October 1 and 2.

Companies, who are coming from Sydney, Perth, Darwin, Melbourne, Auckland, Christchurch, Toronto and Alberta are looking to recruit across the board from Ireland's surplus skilled workforce.

Emigration expert Stephen **McLarnon** said: "The situation has almost completely changed from one year ago with the likes of New Zealand now proactively looking to Ireland to recruit construction workers to help rebuild Christchurch along with other areas of New Zealand; Australia's **Northern Territory** is expecting in excess of 20,000 jobs to come online with the launch of their offshore gas projects, the Western Australia Government anticipates the state will need over 150,000 workers over the next five years to sustain its resource boom. Employment opportunities are continuing to open up in Canada with

the likes of construction giants PCL attending the exhibition. For those interested in working in either Australia, Canada or New Zealand, the exhibition will have the biggest amount of jobs ever on offer over the weekend."

Also, they say that while obtaining a visa and a job abroad remained a challenge for many last year, the tide has turned for Irish people looking to emigrate.

The organisers of **Working Abroad** Expo — which is designed to help Irish people find new lives overseas — say the event will feature the largest number of overseas companies and recruiters to-date looking to employ directly from Ireland.

One year later, the **Working Abroad** Expo is likely to see equal crowds with the CSO just confirming that emigration is up 16.9% to 76,400 to April 2011.

The good news for those looking to emigrate is that economic global trends and a series of natural disasters have now created a 'pull factor' for Irish workers, who will be pleased with the new job and visa opportunities at the expo.