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Fiorina Faces Bright Job Prospects, Recruiters Say

By **PERRI CAPELL**
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Corporate recruiters say they expect Carly Fiorina will land in a good spot, but probably after some time, and some explaining.

Ms. Fiorina hasn't commented on future plans. Recruiter Peter Crist of Crist Associates in Hinsdale, Ill., suggests that a six-month-to-a-year hiatus would likely temper concerns arising from the management struggle and conflict with **Hewlett-Packard** Co.'s board.

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"The people in my world have a very short memory," he says. "There's a lot to be said for staying out of the game and then resurfacing."

After some time, "all the recruiters will come after her for one thing or another," including invitations to join company boards, says Trey Reynolds, president of The Directorship Search Group in Greenwich, Conn. "She could be a professional director," he says.

Even though Ms. Fiorina may have a wealth of opportunity in the future, she will need to address her H-P issues with potential employers, says Dale Winston, CEO and chairwoman of Battalia-Winston in New York.

"She'll be employable, but whether this will be neutral to her? The answer is no," says Ms. Winston. "When you are dealing with people at her level, you want someone who is as clean as possible. Even though some companies and people will be glad to have her, there will be others with concerns."

Brian Sullivan, chairman and CEO of Christian & Timbers, the New York-based search firm that helped place her at H-P in 1999, called Ms. Fiorina a "very marketable and a very powerful executive."

"Would I recruit her to another job?" he says. "Absolutely, no question."

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