ACIMALL

Associazione costruttori
italiani macchine
ed accessori
per la lavorazione del legno

Italian woodworking
machinery and tools
manufacturers' association

Acimall
Centro Direzionale Milanofiori
1° Strada - Palazzo F3
I-20090 Assago (Milano)
phone +39 02 89210200
fax +39 02 8259009
www.acimall.com
info@acimall.com

press office
press release No. 10/2014

Assago, 11 September 2014

ACIMALL: POSITIVE SURPRISE FROM THE SECOND QUARTER 2014!

With a slight delay compared to previous quarterly reports, Acimall published interesting figures for the April-June period of this year. Such delay was due to the fact that the analysts of the Confindustria-member associations of wood technology manufacturers wanted to check figures very accurately, as they deserve great attention.
Let's go straight to the point: the traditional market survey, based on a significant sample, shows a **strong increase in orders**. In the second quarter 2014, orders from the Italian market increased by 32.9 percent compared to the same period of last year. Another excellent result was achieved in sales abroad, with orders from foreign markets up by 25.8 percent over April-June 2013. On the whole, **orders grew by a substantial 28.7 percent**. This encouraging figure, however, must be evaluated against the economic background of the reference period, which was very positive, although the following months inevitably felt the impact of strong political, ethnical and religious crises in many markets, often strategic regions. As we were saying, the significant rally should also be considered in relation to the previous quarter (January-March 2014), which we can certainly describe as "remarkably depressed". Nevertheless, the rally was significant, corroborated by a similar trend in other segments of Italian mechanical engineering. According to Ucimu-Sistemi per produrre, for instance, metalworking machine tools recorded plus 14.4 percent in the same quarter, compared to the same quarter in 2013, and an impressive plus 38.2 percent in the domestic market.

Back to wood technology, we can add that the **orders book** covers 2.9 months (it was 2.5 in January-March 2014), and from the beginning of the year, **prices** have increased by 0.8 percent, i.e. 0.6 percent higher than at the end of March.

According to the **quality survey**, 42 percent of the interviewed companies indicate a positive production trend, 47 percent stable and 11 percent decreasing (the latter were 18 percent in the previous quarter). **Employment** is considered stationary by 84 percent of the sample and growing by the remaining 16 percent. The 27 percent share of interviewees who feared a further reduction of employment in the January-March period has disappeared, fortunately. **Available stocks** are stationary according to 74 percent, decreasing according to 21 percent and growing according to the remaining 5 percent.

The **forecast survey** outlines possible short-term industry trends. Despite booming orders, business owners are still worried about the near future, as evidence of the great sensitivity of business to international events, often dramatic. Talking about the **domestic market**, 16 percent of the sample expects shrinkage, 79 percent substantial stability and 5 percent an increase (the balance is minus 11, against minus 14 in January-March). 26 percent of the sample are confident that, in the next quarter, **foreign orders** will increase, while they will remain stable for 63 percent and decrease for 11 percent (positive balance plus 15, compared to plus 46 in the previous quarter).

For more information:
Luca Rossetti
+39 329 2197752 - rossetti@acimall.com