CEMA Business Barometer

Public excerpt January 2024
What is the CEMA Business Barometer?

- A monthly survey within the European agricultural machinery industry (started in 2008)
- Coverage of all major sectors – from tractors to municipal equipment
- Target group: 140 senior managers from 9 (CEMA) countries
- Implementation: online survey
- Questionnaire available in five languages
- Executed by VDMA for CEMA
- Subjects of the survey:
  - current and future business situation
  - situation of order intake
  - development of turnover
  - turnover expectation per country
  - production plans
  - employment plans
  - special topics, e.g. delivery times
- Deadlines: starting ca. 5th each month, closure: ca. 13th
Business climate in deep recession
Executive summary of the survey in January

The general business climate index for the agricultural machinery industry in Europe has continued its downward slide in the area of deep recession. In January, the index decreased from -48 to -50 points (on a scale of -100 to +100).

Once again more than half of the survey participants consider the current business situation to be unfavorable and even two thirds expect their turnover to decline in the coming six months.

The survey confirms also again that the direct customers of the manufacturers, the dealers, are not able to pass on their numerous orders to the end customers. According to the survey, the dealer stocks are in most European markets significantly higher than in the year 2019, which went down in history due to high dealer stock levels.

Correspondingly, there is not one single European market for which a majority of survey participants would have positive turnover expectations. For Western Europe and the Nordic countries, the confidence levels are not as negative as for Central and Eastern Europe. One exception is Germany, for which the overall confidence is also very weak (only 14% expect growth in this market while more than 60% expect a significant decline).
Business Climate
Index Development

CEMA Business Climate Index (CBI) - Total

CBI = geometric mean of 1) evaluation of the current business situation and 2) turnover expectation; Index scale from -100 to +100; positive index for 1) = majority of respondents evaluates the current situation as favourable and vice versa; positive index for 2) = majority of respondents expects for the next six months an increasing turnover and vice versa (respectively compared to the previous year’s level)

Source: CEMA Business Barometer
Business Climate
Illustration of Business Cycle

Source: CEMA Business Barometer, each value as an average of the last two months
**Business Climate**  
**Current Evaluation and Expectations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Very Unfavourable</th>
<th>Unfavourable</th>
<th>Satisfying</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>202311</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202312</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202401</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
<th>Remain Unchanged</th>
<th>Grow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>202311</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202312</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202401</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CEMA Business Barometer
Employment

Question: Our plans regarding the workforce

Regular employees
- Increase: 8%
- Keep unchanged: 77%
- Reduce: 15%

Temporary employees
- Increase: 3%
- Keep unchanged: 41%
- Reduce: 56%

Source: CEMA Business Barometer January 2024