Japanese trade expected to further continue its positive development

Key findings:

- Index for Japan shows a slight upward trend, scoring 70 in March
- Overall, Japanese trade growth expected to remain sound and robust
- Positive air trade predictions continue to remain on their – very high – levels
- Ocean trade, in contrast, mildly accelerates by two points, with Industrial Raw Materials as its main driver

Air export of Land Vehicles & Parts is expected to propel the strong growth in air exports – and therefore air trade in general. But also smaller air export industries like Industrial Raw Materials, Capital Equipment & Machinery, and Machinery Parts are contributing to the outlook of air exports out of Japan. On the air import side, Consumer Fashion Goods are expected to contribute most to the growth expectations. However, the growth of Consumer Fashion Goods – together with Machinery Parts and Chemicals & Products – is expected to slow down in the next few months.

Industrial Raw Materials remain the biggest driver for the accelerated ocean trade growth outlook, both for imports as for exports. In addition, ocean exports of Land Vehicles & Parts is predicted to perform better compared to previous index, further driving ocean exports growth projections for the next three months.

The DHL Global Trade Barometer predicts continuous growth (+1 point) for Japanese trade for the next three months (70). Air trade growth is forecasted to remain the main growth driver for Japanese trade (index is stable at 82), although the accelerator for Japanese growth stems from an improved outlook for ocean trade compared to February.
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About the DHL Global Trade Barometer:

The DHL Global Trade Barometer is an early indicator for the current state and future development of global trade. It is based on import and export data for a number of intermediates and early-cycle commodities that serve as the basis for further industrial production. Sources for the index are aggregated market data from air and containerized ocean freight from seven countries (China, South Korea, Germany, India, Japan, UK, USA), which account for more than 75 percent of world trade. These data are evaluated using artificial intelligence and various statistical methods and compressed to a single index value that represents the weighted average of the current growth and the upcoming two months of trade. The index, which was designed in cooperation with Accenture, is published four times a year by DHL on a global scale as well as for each of the seven countries surveyed.

About DHL:

Being the world’s leading logistics provider, DHL is ideally equipped to derive a global trade outlook from logistics data. DHL has both, a deep understanding of the driving forces behind global trade volumes and the industry expertise to analyze and interpret occurring market data. With its family of divisions, DHL offers an unrivalled portfolio of logistics services ranging from national and international parcel delivery, e-commerce shipping and fulfillment solutions, international express, road, air and ocean transport to industrial supply chain management. DHL employs about 350,000 people in more than 220 countries and territories worldwide, reliably enabling global trade flows. With specialized solutions for growth markets and industries including technology, life sciences and healthcare, energy, automotive and retail, a proven commitment to corporate responsibility and an unrivalled presence in developing markets, DHL is decisively positioned as “The logistics company for the world”.

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