UK trade decreases mildly – falling just below the point of stagnation

Key findings:
- UK trade drops by -4 points to 49, just below the 50-points-threshold of no growth.
- Air trade outlook also falls by -4 points to 49, mostly driven by the slowdown in imports.
- Ocean trade outlook decreases by -5 points to 48, indicating a mild trading downturn.

The DHL Global Trade Barometer predicts British trade growth to come to a standstill, dropping -4 points to 49 compared to September. The expected slowdown is driven by both air and ocean trade, as air trade drops -4 points to 49 while ocean trade slides -5 points to 48.

The sluggish air trade outlook is mostly driven by the slowdown in imports. Imports of Consumer Fashion Goods, Temperature or Climate Controlled Goods and Basic and Industrial Raw Materials are expected to weigh on air trade outlook. Contracting exports of Basic Raw Materials and Chemicals & Products together with the frail Machinery Parts undercut the positive outlook for Temperature or Climate Controlled Goods.

The British ocean trade outlook is dampened by a sluggish outlook for Capital Equipment & Machinery, Land Vehicles & Parts and Machinery Parts. The positive exception is the robust outlook for Basic Raw Materials exports. Ocean imports are also expected to contract, fueled by the downturn in Basic and Industrial Raw Materials, Machinery Parts and Consumer Fashion Goods. Temperature or Climate Controlled Goods is the sole industry that is expected to grow moderately.
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About the DHL Global Trade Barometer:

The DHL Global Trade Barometer 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.

For detailed information about the DHL Global Trade Barometer visit https://www.logisticsofthings.dhl/gtb.

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 380,000 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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