UK trade growth predictions remain slightly positive, although dynamics for both air and ocean trade decline

The deceleration of UK trade is partly due to the expected slowdown in air trade, dropping -6 points compared to March. The slowdown in air trade growth is mostly attributed to the negative outlook of Temperature or Climate Controlled Goods, both in terms of air imports and exports. However, positive developments are seen in air exports for Machinery Parts. In addition, air imports of High Tech are also expected to contribute increasingly to UK air trade.

UK ocean trade growth is also expected to decelerate in the next quarter, as the index is dropping -3 points. The main cause of the slowdown in UK ocean trade is the negative outlook for imports of Basic Raw Materials as well as ocean exports of Industrial Raw Materials. However, ocean export of Land Vehicles & Parts are given a positive growth outlook for the coming three months. On the ocean import side, Industrial Raw Materials and Machinery Parts play a vital part in the positive growth outlook.

The DHL Global Trade Barometer continues to predict positive growth for UK trade, although the index declined by -4 points compared to March. Scoring 57 points, the UK currently has the slowest growing trade of all constituent countries of the DHL Global Trade Barometer.

DHL Global Trade Barometer – UK
Indexes 2018 – latest four months

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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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