



Camera di Commercio Italiana in Cina 中国意大利商会 China-Italy Chamber of Commerce

# Q4-2021 Quarterly Business Sentiment Survey of CICC Members

**Results and Analysis** 

February 2021



# Q4 - About the Survey

From July 2020, CICC started a **quarterly survey** to gather information on the business sentiment of all our Members in China.

**GOAL:** direct and up-to-date knowledge of how business is doing in our industries every quarter.

**TIMING:** at the beginning of each quarter, we will learn how the previous one performed and what's the forecast for the following one.

**REPLY TIME:** 2 minutes are enough.

**CONTENT:** 8 questions, no figures, just assessments.

**OUTPUT:** results of the survey will be distributed to all Members with data split by geographic area and main industry.

Click at the following link to download the results of the first edition of the Quarterly Business Sentiment Survey (Q3)

http://www.cameraitacina.com/sites/default/files/q3\_cicc\_businesssurvey\_f.pdf



# Q4 - 2020 Survey Base

December 2020 ✓ Survey Period: 15- ✓ Redemption rate: 3	<sup>.th</sup> quarter October, November 21 January 34,5%, No. 200 out of 580 consistent with CICC Member	Q4-2020, 3rd edition
<ul> <li>✓ East:</li> <li>✓ South:</li> <li>✓ North:</li> <li>✓ South-West:</li> </ul>	62,50% 15,50% 10,50% 7,50%	By Area
<ul> <li>✓ Mech Eng &amp; Mfg</li> <li>✓ Services</li> <li>✓ F&amp;B</li> <li>✓ Retail, B2C</li> <li>✓ Healthcare</li> </ul>	61% 22% 8% 6% 3%	By Main Business Sector

# **Executive Summary**



### 2020 Revenues vs 2019

- ✓ 42% of companies had an INCREASE in revenues of which 19.5% had a substantial INCREASE (>20%)
- ✓ 29.5% of companies had STABLE revenues

### **Business trends forecast (6-12months)**

- ✓ 31% foresees an IMPROVING outlook for 2021
- ✓ 51% foresees a STABLE outlook for 2021
- ✓ 18% foresees a WORSE outlook for 2021

### Order intake Q4 vs Q3

- ✓ 87.37% of companies experienced NORMAL or HIGHER orders intake in Q4
- ✓ 20% on average see HIGHER new orders intake for next quarter
- ✓ Improvement for LOWER orders intake trend from -26.8% to -17.3% (+9.5%)

### **Focus China**

- ✓ *Sales Portfolio Backlog*: stable INCREASE in Q4 vs Q3
- ✓ <u>Actual Vs Forecasted Portfolio</u>: INCREASE of orders intake in Q4 was even higher than previously forecasted
- ✓ <u>2021 Q1 New Orders Intake Trend by Sectors</u>: HIGHER for up to the 42% of the represented industries
- ✓ <u>6-12 months Business Forecast by Sector</u>: IMPROVING for up to the 50% of represented industries



# Areas of the Survey Sample





## **Business Sectors Breakdown**



### **Business Sector**



# Imported Italian Products Represent more than 30% of Revenues in Mainland China





# Revenues in China compared to 2019: Higher for 42%, Stable for 29.5%,

How did your company's total 2020 revenue in Mainland China evolve compared to 2019?



# 2020 Q4 Orders Portfolio Backlog



Current Portfolio Backlog/ Current Clients Portfolio

- Strong improvement for orders intake confirmed for all categories. LOW dropped by around 10% vs. Q3 for all (previously 26.8%; 54.4%; 51.9%)
- Also, STABLE reached 49% vs 41% in Q3 for China
- Significant increase for HIGH in all.
   Export to Italy reached the 12.41%
   vs. 4.08% in Q3
- Upward trend for all EXPORTERS recovering from the previous quarter

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# Sales Portfolio Backlog: Q3 Vs Q4 Focus China



 The comparison shows a further improvement for all three categories. This confirms the positive trend started in Q3



# Q4 Actual Portfolio Vs Previous forecast Focus China



Previous forecast for Q4 vs Q4 performance

Q3 optimistic forecast was very close to the actual performance. In Q4 the increase of orders intake was even higher than forecasted



## Q4 Sales Portfolio Backlog by Sectors - Focus China



Note: in order to ensure data relevance only industries with a redemption rate higher or equal to 6% are included



## 2021 First Quarter vs Q3 New Orders Intake Trend



- Compared to Q3 forecast there is a consistent improvement for new orders intake in Q4 forecast for next quarter
- The % of companies that sees LOWER orders intake dropped significantly to 12.6% for China compared to previous 21.05%
- STABLE and HIGHER both forecast an average increase of around 2.5% for all categories
- Exporter to Italy expected to see a further improvement in the first 3 months of 2021



## 2021 First Quarter Trend of New Orders by Sectors - Focus China



Note: in order to ensure data relevance only industries with a redemption rate higher or equal to 6% are included



# Business Trends (6 - 12 Months Forecast)

70.00% 57.82% 60.00% 49.47% 50.00% 46.84% 45.75% 40.00% Worse Stable 28.76% 30.00% 25.49% Improving 23.81% 18.37% 20.00% 10.00% 3.68% 0.00% China Export to Italy/ Clients in Italy Export to RoW (rest of the world)/ Clients in the RoW

Business Trend 6-12 Months Forecast

- Upward trend with over half of the respondent foreseeing a stable outlook for all categories
- For China, the 46.8% of the respondent expect an improvement of the business outlook. Only the 3.7% still forecasts a worsening scenario
- Greater optimism towards Export, expected to improve by the 23.5% on average both for Italy and RoW.



## 6-12 Months Forecast by Business Sector - Focus China



Note: in order to ensure data relevance only industries with a redemption rate higher or equal to 6% are included



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Thank you for helping us to better help you.

Next appointement with Q1 – 2021 Quarterly Business Survey will be in April 2021



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# About the CICC

The China-Italy Chamber of Commerce (CICC) is the only business organisation recognised by both the Italian Government (Ministry of Economic Development, MiSE) and People's Republic of China (Ministry of Civil Affairs, MoCA) that aims to boost the internationalisation of Italian business and to promote the "Made in Italy" in the PRC.

Established in 1991, CICC has now offices in Beijing, Chongqing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Suzhou.

The CICC Members represent **the Italian business community** such as public-invested and multinational corporations, small and medium-sized enterprises (both manufacturing and commercial), service companies etc.

The established network together with the institutional endorsement provided the CICC with the opportunities to organise several activities boosting private businesses, b2b, institutional and business missions, participation to fairs both in China and in Italy, networking events, gala dinners, awarding ceremonies, culinary events, concerts, career days, etc.

Not a Member yet? More info at www.cameraitacina.com





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