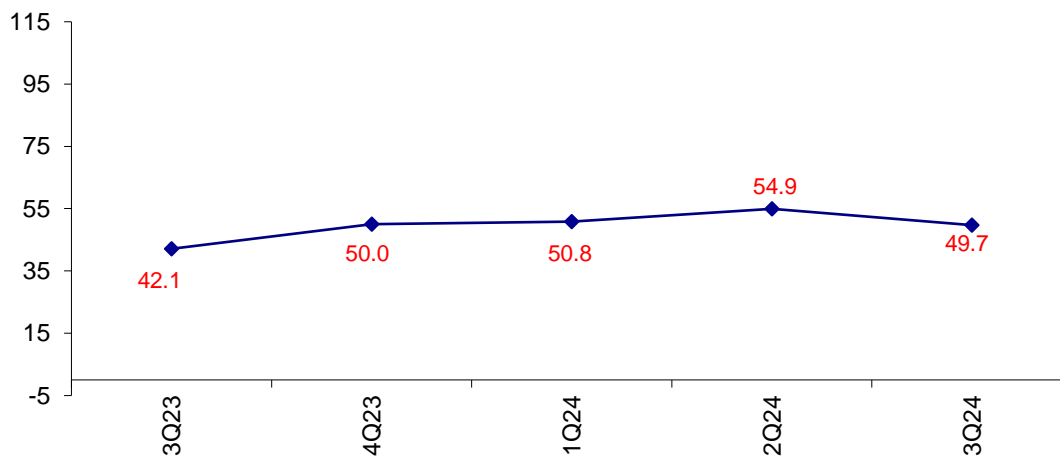


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Confidence Trend Is Flat to Down

The Connector Confidence Index is 49.7 down from the second quarter at 54.9. Industry personnel are on the fence, waiting for signs of an improving economy.

World Connector Confidence Index (WCCI) **>50.0 = Positive**



The **World Connector Confidence Index (WCCI)** is the average of all responses for “present situation,” and “future expectations.”

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Present Business Expectations

Industry personnel were asked, "What is your appraisal of current business conditions (positive, negative, neutral)?"

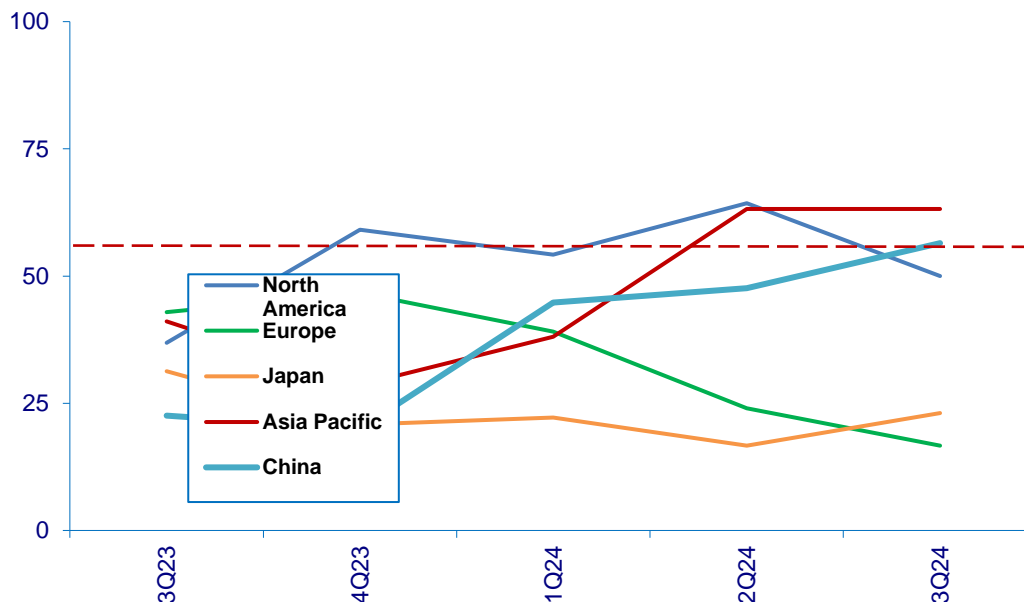
Present Situation Index – 43.7

	3Q23	4Q23	1Q24	2Q24	3Q24	Confidence Level	Confidence Trend
North America	36.9	59.1	54.2	64.3	50.0	Neu	↓
Europe	42.9	46.7	39.1	24.0	16.7	-	↓
Japan	31.3	20.8	22.2	16.7	23.1	-	↓
Asia	41.1	28.6	38.1	63.2	63.2	+	Same
China	22.6	20.0	44.8	47.6	56.5	+	↑
World	34.5	33.0	39.5	41.2	43.7	-	↑
Confidence	-	-	-	-	-		
Trend		↓	↓	↑	↑		

The present confidence level is negative at 43.7. North America is neutral. China was the only region that improved in their confidence.

Present Situation Index

>50.0 = Positive



Future Expectations

Industry personnel were asked, “What is your expectation of future business conditions six months from now (positive, negative, or neutral)?”

Future Expectations Index – 56.4

	3Q23	4Q23	1Q24	2Q24	3Q24	Confidence Level	Confidence Trend
North America	63.8	92.0	72.4	81.8	61.5	+	↓
Europe	61.2	75.0	66.7	59.1	37.5	-	↓
Japan	41.0	52.9	42.9	57.1	44.4	-	↓
Asia	53.7	88.2	66.7	84.2	77.8	+	↓
China	32.8	40.7	57.1	57.9	54.5	+	↓
World	50.0	68.6	61.9	68.8	56.5	+	↓
Confidence	Neu	+	+	+	+		
Trend		↑	↓	↑	↓		

All regions dropped in future confidence from last quarter. Obviously, there is concern about future business conditions.

Future Expectations Index

(>50.0 = Positive)

