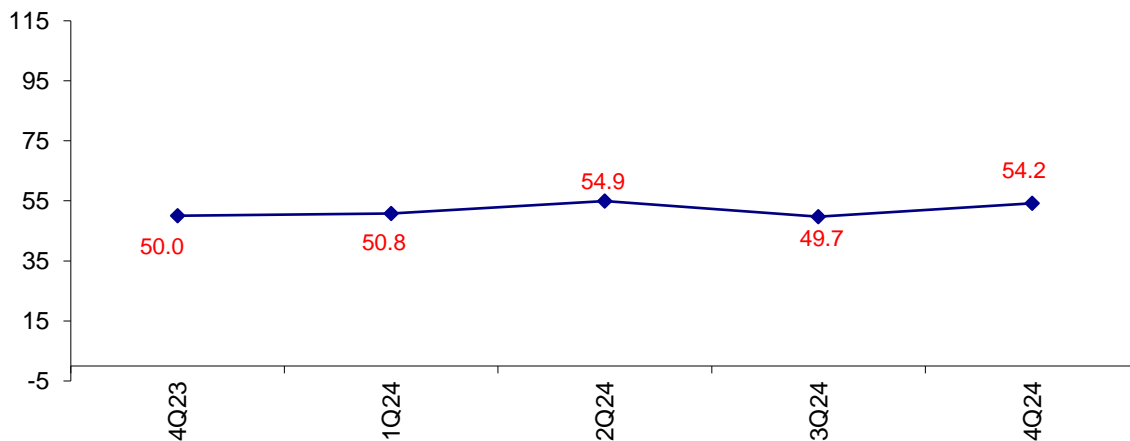


## Confidence is Positive but Just Slightly

The Connector Confidence Index is 54.2 for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2024 up from 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter at 49.7.

### 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.”

No part of this article may be used without the permission of Bishop & Associates Inc. If you would like to receive additional news about the connector industry, [register here](#). You may also contact us at [bishop@bishopinc.com](mailto:bishop@bishopinc.com) or by calling 630.443.2702.

## Present Business Expectations

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

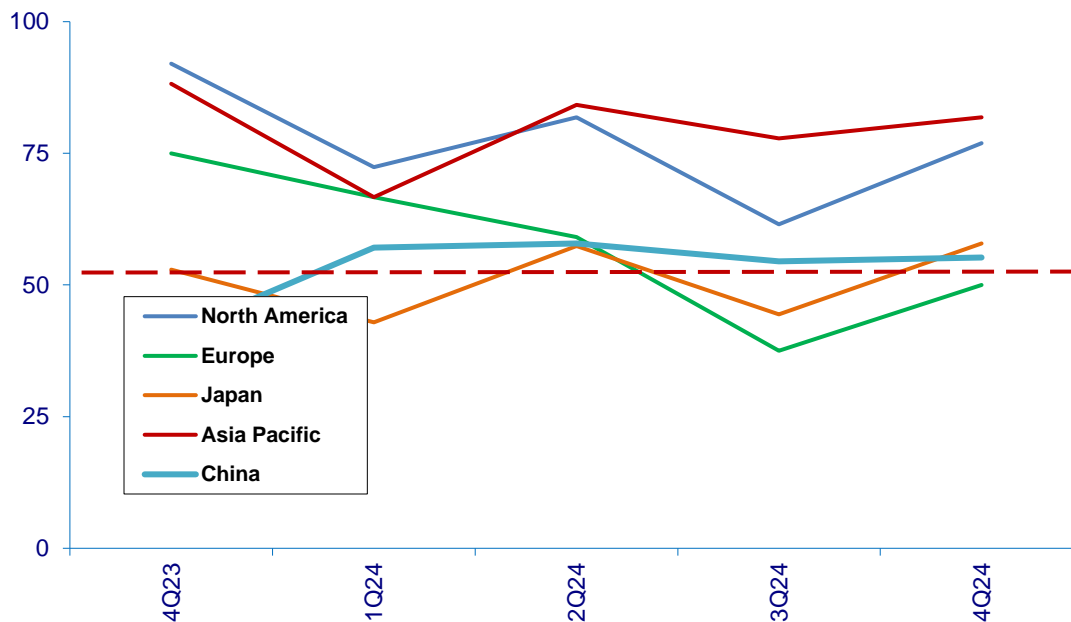
### Present Situation Index – 44.7

	4Q23	1Q24	2Q24	3Q24	4Q24	Confidence Level	Confidence Trend
North America	59.1	54.2	64.3	50.0	77.8	+	↑
Europe	46.7	39.1	24.0	16.7	16.7	-	Same
Japan	20.8	22.2	16.7	23.1	28.6	-	↑
Asia	28.6	38.1	63.2	63.2	70.0	+	↑
China	20.0	44.8	47.6	56.5	53.6	+	↓
<b>World</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>↑</b>
<b>Confidence</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>Trend</b>		↑	↑	↑	↑		

The present confidence level is negative at 44.7. North America and Asia have higher confidence in business conditions than the other regions. Europe's confidence was the same as the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

### 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 – 63.5

	4Q23	1Q24	2Q24	3Q24	4Q24	Confidence Level	Confidence Trend
North America	92.0	72.4	81.8	61.5	76.9	+	↑
Europe	75.0	66.7	59.1	37.5	50.0	Neu	↑
Japan	52.9	42.9	57.1	44.4	57.9	+	↑
Asia	88.2	66.7	84.2	77.8	81.8	+	↑
China	40.7	57.1	57.9	54.5	55.2	+	↑
<b>World</b>	<b>68.6</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>68.8</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>↑</b>
<b>Confidence</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>		
<b>Trend</b>		↓	↑	↓	↑		

All regions rose in future confidence from last quarter.

### Future Expectations Index

(>50.0 = Positive)

