

Press Release

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Leading Indicator for European Semiconductor Sales

Produced by e-forecasting.com

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Leading Indicator for European Chip Sales rose in August

Durham, NH, October 02, 2008: The leading indicator for semiconductor business activity in Europe, a forward-looking composite index that forecasts on the average five to six months ahead sales of chips, rose in August 2008.

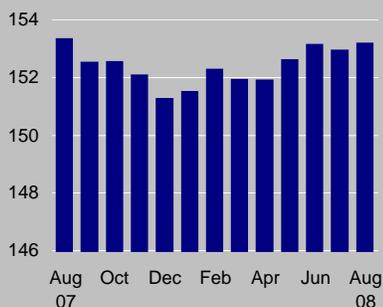
Following a decline 0.1 percent in July 2008, the early bird of semiconductor sales in Europe increased by 0.2 percent to a reading of 153.2 in August 2008. The index is set to average 100 in 2000.

Looking at the six-month growth rate of the leading indicator - which is used in business cycle analysis for both signaling impending turning points in business activity and as a recession monitor, the semiconductor leading indicator rose 1.0 percent in August 2008, after an increase of 0.6 percent in July 2008. Consecutive negative values in the six-month growth rate predict an end to an economic expansion and the beginning of an upcoming recession.

Four of the seven components that make up the leading indicator for semiconductor sales in the European market improved in August: Productivity Barometer, US Manufacturing; Non-EU Demand Prospects, Top-10 partner-countries; US Monetary Conditions, Yield Spread ; Change in Profit Margins, US Semiconductors; The three components that had a negative contribution to the leading indicator for semiconductor sales in the European market were: Productivity Barometer, European Manufacturing; Orders to Inventories Ratio, US Electronics; European Short-term Interest Rates;



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About Leading Indicators

The main objective of the leading indicator approach is to forecast turning points in economic activity. Their monthly early signals of change are closely watched by business leaders, financial analysts and policy-makers.

Like the economy-wide leading indicators, industry leading indicators predict the path of future business activity in the industry and are calculated by combining several components which capture global economic conditions related to the industry thus reducing the risk of false signals.

About e-forecasting.com

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