

ECONOMIC REPORT OF FRANCE (May 2013)
ISO Congress 2013

General Economy in 2012:

- Inflation : 1.3 %
- Growth rate of GDP : 0,0 %
- Unemployment rate : 10.2 %

Building activity (2012/2011) :

Housing :
Building permits : - 6,1 %
Starts : - 16,0 %

Offices
Building permits : + 6,9 %
Starts : - 15,8 %

Shops
Building permits : - 5,6 %
Starts : - 20,4 %

Year 2012 is less bad than planned, with a reduction in activity limited to -1,2 % in volume. For 2013, the activity was still in recession (-3.5% in volume terms).

Salaried employment in building activity decreased : -15 000 jobs in 2012 and -40 000 posts in 2013.

Shopfitting:

Overall, the year 2012 was average for shopfitting. This activity, however, varies a lot by firms and markets. Corporate cash flow is generally sufficient,

For the first half of 2013 the perspectives are decreasing. A survey has just been realized with our members : 57 % of shopfitters have between 1 and 2 working months. For 57 % of them, the order book is lower than the normal. The financial situation is stable (61 %). The level of sales prices is low.

The competition is always important between companies .Consequently margins are very low.

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