## Short economic review of the shopfitting industry in Holland 2008

The shopfitting industry performed very well in the first half year of 2008, the results in the second half 2008 on the other hand were poor. The overall turnover was 3% percent higher then in 2007. 42% had a lower turnover then in 2007, approximately the same number had a higher turnover then in year before. The prospects are negative, the average order portfolio is 12% smaller then in 2007.

The Dutch economy in general knew a growth rate of 2,0% in 2008. In the last two quarters of 2008 the economic growth came to an end. The economic crisis has hit the Netherlands hard, the perspective on the future has changed radically. The Dutch economy will shrink with 3,5% in 2009 and with 0,25 in 2010. Important components of the economic slow down are the decreasing export and the lower household consumptions.

The unemployment rate is affected by the economic situation, the unemployment rate is approximately 4% at the moment. The expected unemployment rate for 2009 is 5,5% and for 2010 8,75%. The unemployment can become a major problem in the future.

Almost every industry is affected by the recession, but especially the construction and the metal industry are taking heavy punches.

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