

PRESS RELEASE

AsiaInspection Q4 2010 Barometer: Arab Oil Fuels Chinese Exports

Shenzhen, China, January 13, 2011 – AsiaInspection, a leading provider of quality control services for manufacturing in Asia, today announces the AsiaInspection Q4 Barometer, a quarterly synopsis of the Asia-based manufacturing and quality control services industry. AsiaInspection service bookings grew **+30%** year-to-date through the end of Q4 2010.

Chinese Exports Beat Pessimistic Projections to Finish High in 2010

In Q4, AsiaInspection services performed in China increased **+29%** compared to Q4 2009, despite early indications of a manufacturing slowdown. A November spike in inflation of +4.7% combined with the highest input costs in over two years, led to early negative export output projections by some experts. Contrary to these projections, AsiaInspection services performed saw large increases in key China-dominated industries, particularly in textiles, **+39%**, and housewares, **+38%**.

China Exports to the Mideast Soar in Exchange for Oil

China has grown to buy more oil and sell more goods in the Middle East than any other country, superseding even the gas-guzzling United States. This joint trade has seen demand for Chinese exports soar; year over year inspections from Middle Eastern countries in China were up +95%, compared to **+6%** in North America.

Despite Higher Wages, China Continues to Lead the World in Exports

China remains the world's top exporter, though increases in the country's labor costs have caused some importers to buy from neighboring Asian countries, most notably Bangladesh, which has one of the lowest factory wages in Asia averaging \$0.23 USD per hour. This contributed to a dramatic increase of **+180%** from Q4 2009 for ordered inspections in Bangladesh. In 2010 China's average assembly line wage reached \$1.82 per hour, the highest in the region, but didn't hurt the manufacturing sector as expected, which topped India's growth of +28%.

Latest Growth Shows, as Exports Increase, So Do Quality Concerns

A **+150%** surge in ordered inspections in Asia for food and food packaging products following the recent cadmium drinking glass scandal indicates importers are increasingly cautious. Laboratory Testing figures increased **+172%** from Q4 2009, suggesting a growing awareness among importers regarding the importance of incorporating lab testing as an integral part of their production and product safety.

"The growth seen in these Q4 figures is representative of another phenomenal year for the China export market", said Sebastien Breteau, CEO of AsiaInspection. "It's particularly encouraging, from a quality control perspective, that along with renewed interest in product types previously plagued by scandal, more importers are taking measures to ensure product quality and consumer safety."

About AsiaInspection

AsiaInspection is a leader in quality control services for the manufacturing industry in Asia, providing web-based account management, fast scheduling and highly competitive prices for companies seeking Product Inspection, Factory Audit and Laboratory Testing services in Asia. Your Eyes in the Factory™, AsiaInspection serves clients from over 100 countries worldwide. Learn more at www.Asiainspection.com.

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