

GLOBAL BUSINESS MONITOR 2017

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

49%
OF SMEs ACROSS THE WORLD SEE A LACK OF SKILLED STAFF AS THEIR GREATEST CHALLENGE

33%
OF SMEs GLOBALLY HAVE WRITTEN OFF MONEY AS BAD DEBT



Canadian SMEs are most confident about future sales, with 70% expecting growth



German SMEs are most confident about the local economy with 81% saying their national economy is performing well



Investment in machinery and equipment is a key focus for Polish SMEs (41%)



The majority of Czech SMEs report an increase in sales over the past 12 months (57%)



SMEs in Hong Kong (28%) and UK (22%) are least optimistic about the future performance of their local economy



Canadian SMEs are most likely to say the availability of finance is good or excellent (52%)



U.S. SMEs are paid almost three weeks quicker (24 days) than those in France (45 days)



19% of SMEs in Ireland see expanding domestically as their biggest opportunity



Singapore is top for both import (62%) and export (61%)



SMEs in Hong Kong (46%) and Singapore (39%) are least positive, following a decline in sales over the past 12 months

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