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ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES, AND ORDERS October 2002

(All figures in text below are in seasonally adjusted current dollars and **exclude data for semiconductor manufacturing**)

● **NEW ORDERS** for manufactured durable goods in October increased \$4.8 billion or 2.8 percent to \$173.9 billion, the Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau reported today. This followed a 4.6 percent September decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 2.4 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 3.8 percent. Year to date, new orders for 2002 were 0.5 percent below the same period a year ago.

Transportation equipment had the largest increase, \$2.0 billion or 4.0 percent to \$51.3 billion, led by motor vehicles and parts which increased by \$1.5 billion. Computers and electronic products increased \$1.5 billion or 6.2 percent to \$26.3 billion, due to communications equipment. The communications equipment increase of \$2.0 billion was the largest increase since January 1997.

● **SHIPMENTS** of manufactured durable goods in October increased \$2.1 billion or 1.2 percent to \$176.1 billion. This followed a 0.9 percent September decrease. Year to date, shipments for 2002 were 0.9 percent below the same period a year ago.

Transportation equipment had the largest increase, \$1.3 billion or 2.5 percent to \$53.8 billion, due to motor vehicles and parts, which increased by \$1.6 billion.

● **UNFILLED ORDERS** for manufactured durable goods in October decreased \$2.2 billion or 0.5 percent to \$483.6 billion and were at the lowest level since October 1996. This followed a 1.0 percent September decrease.

Transportation equipment had the largest decrease, \$2.4 billion or 1.0 percent to \$249.5 billion, due to nondefense aircraft and parts, which decreased \$1.7 billion.

● **INVENTORIES** of manufactured durable goods in October, down twenty-one consecutive months, decreased \$0.6 billion or 0.2 percent to \$263.0 billion and were at the lowest level since November 1995. This followed a 0.2 percent September decrease.

Machinery, down nineteen consecutive months, had the largest decrease, \$0.2 billion or 0.4 percent to \$44.5 billion.

● **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, DEFENSE** New orders in October decreased \$1.3 billion or 17.2 percent to \$6.2 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.2 billion or 3.5 percent to \$6.5 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.2 percent to \$126.0 billion. Inventories increased slightly to \$18.5 billion.

● **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, NONDEFENSE** New orders in October, up five of the last seven months, increased \$2.2 billion or 4.2 percent to \$55.1 billion. Shipments increased \$0.7 billion or 1.2 percent to \$57.1 billion. Unfilled orders, down twenty of the last twenty-one months, decreased \$2.0 billion or 0.9 percent to \$209.9 billion, the lowest level since February 1996. Inventories, down twenty-one consecutive months, decreased \$1.0 billion or 0.9 percent to \$112.0 billion, the lowest level since December 1995.

● **REVISED SEPTEMBER DATA** Revised seasonally adjusted September figures for all manufacturing industries are: new orders, \$318.5 billion (revised from \$318.1 billion); shipments, \$323.4 billion (unrevised); unfilled orders, \$485.8 billion (revised from \$485.3 billion); and total inventories, \$429.0 billion (revised from \$428.8 billion).

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Table 1. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders
 (Millions of Dollars)

| Item | Seasonally Adjusted | | | | | | Not Seasonally Adjusted ¹ | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| | Monthly | | | Percent Change | | | Monthly | | | Percent Change Oct 02/01 |
| | Oct 2002 ² | Sep 2002 ^r | Aug 2002 | Sep - Oct ² | Aug - Sep ^r | Jul - Aug | Oct 2002 ² | Sep 2002 ^r | Oct 2001 | |
| DURABLE GOODS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 176,123 | 174,025 | 175,561 | 1.2 | -0.9 | -1.8 | 181,451 | 185,951 | 174,816 | 3.8 |
| New Orders..... | 173,926 | 169,122 | 177,296 | 2.8 | -4.6 | -1.1 | 177,141 | 176,397 | 176,065 | 0.6 |
| Excluding transportation: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 122,336 | 121,554 | 122,902 | 0.6 | -1.1 | -0.7 | 124,098 | 130,613 | 122,560 | 1.3 |
| New Orders..... | 122,583 | 119,740 | 119,761 | 2.4 | 0.0 | -1.7 | 123,293 | 126,464 | 118,073 | 4.4 |
| Excluding defense: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 168,514 | 165,995 | 167,827 | 1.5 | -1.1 | -1.9 | 173,954 | 177,027 | 168,075 | 3.5 |
| New Orders..... | 166,387 | 160,315 | 168,983 | 3.8 | -5.1 | 0.1 | 170,635 | 167,727 | 158,467 | 7.7 |
| Manufacturing with unfilled orders: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 122,547 | 122,240 | 122,167 | 0.3 | 0.1 | -1.3 | 124,361 | 131,023 | 122,042 | 1.9 |
| New Orders..... | 120,350 | 117,337 | 123,902 | 2.6 | -5.3 | -0.4 | 120,051 | 121,469 | 123,291 | -2.6 |
| Primary metals: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 11,404 | 11,341 | 11,395 | 0.6 | -0.5 | 0.4 | 11,954 | 11,498 | 11,562 | 3.4 |
| New Orders..... | 11,356 | 11,338 | 11,412 | 0.2 | -0.6 | 1.8 | 11,414 | 11,009 | 10,466 | 9.1 |
| Fabricated metal products: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 21,251 | 21,342 | 21,358 | -0.4 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 22,338 | 22,018 | 22,112 | 1.0 |
| New Orders..... | 21,247 | 21,105 | 20,802 | 0.7 | 1.5 | -1.9 | 21,840 | 21,201 | 20,940 | 4.3 |
| Machinery: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 22,916 | 22,782 | 23,063 | 0.6 | -1.2 | -0.8 | 22,741 | 23,914 | 22,860 | -0.5 |
| New Orders..... | 22,704 | 21,988 | 22,012 | 3.3 | -0.1 | -4.3 | 22,490 | 22,735 | 21,536 | 4.4 |
| Computers and electronic products: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 26,180 | 26,079 | 26,498 | 0.4 | -1.6 | -1.7 | 24,827 | 30,665 | 25,005 | -0.7 |
| New Orders..... | 26,335 | 24,808 | 25,295 | 6.2 | -1.9 | -4.0 | 24,806 | 28,982 | 24,192 | 2.5 |
| Computers and related products: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 7,256 | 6,746 | 6,846 | 7.6 | -1.5 | -3.2 | 6,837 | 8,476 | 5,954 | 14.8 |
| New Orders..... | 7,285 | 7,384 | 6,763 | -1.3 | 9.2 | -0.1 | 6,890 | 8,810 | 6,130 | 12.4 |
| Communications equipment: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 5,095 | 5,364 | 5,464 | -5.0 | -1.8 | 0.3 | 4,529 | 6,478 | 5,787 | -21.7 |
| New Orders..... | 5,185 | 3,139 | 5,074 | 65.2 | -38.1 | -8.5 | 4,716 | 4,514 | 5,505 | -14.3 |
| Semiconductors: ⁵ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| New Orders..... | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Electrical equipment, appliances, and components: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 8,999 | 8,896 | 8,937 | 1.2 | -0.5 | -1.9 | 8,876 | 9,834 | 9,233 | -3.9 |
| New Orders..... | 8,977 | 9,121 | 8,896 | -1.6 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 8,960 | 9,672 | 9,023 | -0.7 |
| Transportation equipment: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 53,787 | 52,471 | 52,659 | 2.5 | -0.4 | -4.2 | 57,353 | 55,338 | 52,256 | 9.8 |
| New Orders..... | 51,343 | 49,382 | 57,535 | 4.0 | -14.2 | 0.2 | 53,848 | 49,933 | 57,992 | -7.1 |
| Motor vehicles and parts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 39,513 | 37,957 | 38,821 | 4.1 | -2.2 | -3.5 | 43,918 | 38,968 | 38,868 | 13.0 |
| New Orders..... | 39,266 | 37,798 | 38,439 | 3.9 | -1.7 | -4.9 | 43,500 | 38,645 | 38,429 | 13.2 |
| Nondefense aircraft and parts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 6,310 | 6,305 | 5,678 | 0.1 | 11.0 | -13.4 | 5,518 | 7,017 | 6,435 | -14.3 |
| New Orders..... | 4,565 | 4,721 | 9,005 | -3.3 | -47.6 | 45.7 | 3,455 | 4,304 | 2,139 | 61.5 |
| Defense aircraft and parts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 2,877 | 3,129 | 2,963 | -8.1 | 5.6 | -5.7 | 2,787 | 3,618 | 2,178 | 28.0 |
| New Orders..... | 2,683 | 2,851 | 3,107 | -5.9 | -8.2 | -50.0 | 1,810 | 2,942 | 13,256 | -86.3 |
| All other durable goods: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 31,586 | 31,114 | 31,651 | 1.5 | -1.7 | -0.4 | 33,362 | 32,684 | 31,788 | 5.0 |
| New Orders..... | 31,964 | 31,380 | 31,344 | 1.9 | 0.1 | -0.3 | 33,783 | 32,865 | 31,916 | 5.8 |
| Capital goods: ³ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 63,540 | 63,079 | 63,302 | 0.7 | -0.4 | -2.2 | 61,539 | 69,946 | 61,488 | 0.1 |
| New Orders..... | 61,365 | 60,421 | 66,258 | 1.6 | -8.8 | 6.1 | 59,377 | 65,558 | 66,533 | -10.8 |
| Nondefense capital goods: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 57,082 | 56,389 | 56,822 | 1.2 | -0.8 | -2.5 | 55,222 | 62,640 | 55,499 | -0.5 |
| New Orders..... | 55,132 | 52,896 | 59,214 | 4.2 | -10.7 | 4.0 | 53,674 | 58,128 | 49,405 | 8.6 |
| Excluding aircraft: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 53,892 | 53,133 | 54,200 | 1.4 | -2.0 | -1.2 | 52,643 | 59,360 | 52,274 | 0.7 |
| New Orders..... | 53,413 | 50,747 | 53,043 | 5.3 | -4.3 | -1.4 | 52,566 | 55,955 | 50,112 | 4.9 |
| Defense capital goods: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments..... | 6,458 | 6,690 | 6,480 | -3.5 | 3.2 | 0.1 | 6,317 | 7,306 | 5,989 | 5.5 |
| New Orders..... | 6,233 | 7,525 | 7,044 | -17.2 | 6.8 | 28.3 | 5,703 | 7,430 | 17,128 | -66.7 |

NA Not Available ^r Revised

¹ Shipments and new orders are the totals for the period and are adjusted for trading-day and calendar-month variations; unfilled orders and total inventories are as of the end of the period and are not adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variations.

² Based on advance sample. Estimates of manufacturers' shipments, inventories, and orders are subject to survey error and revision. One major component of survey error is nonsampling error, which includes errors of coverage, response and nonreporting. Since the survey panel is not a probability sample, estimates of sampling error cannot be calculated. Further details on survey design, methodology, and data limitations are contained in our most recent annual benchmark publication, Current Industrial Reports: M3-1(01), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 1992-2001."

³ The Capital Goods Industries include Nondefense: small arms and ordnance; farm machinery and equipment; construction machinery; mining, oil, and gas field machinery; industrial machinery; vending, laundry, and other machinery; photographic equipment; metalworking machinery; turbines and generators; other power transmission equipment; pumps and compressors; material handling equipment; all other machinery; electronic computers; computer storage devices; other computer peripheral equipment; communications equipment; search and navigation equipment; electromedical, measuring, and control instruments; electrical equipment; other electrical equipment, appliances, and components; heavy duty trucks; aircraft; railroad rolling stock; ships and boats; office and institutional furniture; and medical equipment and supplies.

Defense Capital Goods include: small arms and ordnance, communications equipment, aircraft; missiles, space vehicles, and parts, ships and boats, and search and navigation equipment.

⁴ Aggregate estimates and percent changes exclude semiconductor industry data. Due to the number of large semiconductor manufacturers choosing not to participate in this voluntary monthly survey, the Census Bureau cannot currently produce monthly estimates of semiconductor shipments, orders, or inventories.

⁵ Due to the number of large semiconductor manufacturers choosing not to participate in this voluntary monthly survey, the Census Bureau cannot currently produce monthly estimates of semiconductor shipments, orders, or inventories.

Table 2. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders and Total Inventories
 [Millions of Dollars]

| Item | Seasonally Adjusted | | | | | | Not Seasonally Adjusted ¹ | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| | Monthly | | | Percent Change | | | Monthly | | | Percent Change Oct 02/01 |
| | Oct 2002 ² | Sep 2002 ^r | Aug 2002 | Sep - Oct ² | Aug - Sep ^r | Jul - Aug | Oct 2002 ² | Sep 2002 ^r | Oct 2001 | |
| DURABLE GOODS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 483,599 | 485,796 | 490,699 | -0.5 | -1.0 | 0.4 | 475,161 | 479,460 | 509,138 | -6.7 |
| Total Inventories..... | 262,952 | 263,514 | 264,070 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.1 | 264,966 | 263,393 | 284,462 | -6.9 |
| Excluding transportation: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 234,094 | 233,847 | 235,661 | 0.1 | -0.8 | -1.3 | 230,198 | 230,992 | 250,970 | -8.3 |
| Total Inventories..... | 192,024 | 192,538 | 192,891 | -0.3 | -0.2 | -0.1 | 192,507 | 191,638 | 207,556 | -7.3 |
| Excluding defense: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 336,909 | 339,036 | 344,716 | -0.6 | -1.6 | 0.3 | 332,737 | 336,045 | 370,175 | -10.1 |
| Total Inventories..... | 240,945 | 241,450 | 242,102 | -0.2 | -0.3 | -0.3 | 242,801 | 241,037 | 262,712 | -7.6 |
| Manufacturing with unfilled orders: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 483,599 | 485,796 | 490,699 | -0.5 | -1.0 | 0.4 | 475,161 | 479,460 | 509,138 | -6.7 |
| Total Inventories..... | 213,662 | 213,924 | 215,014 | -0.1 | -0.5 | -0.1 | 215,434 | 213,934 | 233,412 | -7.7 |
| Primary metals: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 15,895 | 15,943 | 15,946 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 14,980 | 15,509 | 16,247 | -7.8 |
| Total Inventories..... | 18,437 | 18,404 | 18,425 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.7 | 18,593 | 18,494 | 19,649 | -5.4 |
| Fabricated metal products: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 38,687 | 38,691 | 38,928 | 0.0 | -0.6 | -1.4 | 38,225 | 38,723 | 41,245 | -7.3 |
| Total Inventories..... | 30,809 | 30,836 | 30,755 | -0.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 30,594 | 30,734 | 32,555 | -6.0 |
| Machinery: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 45,890 | 46,102 | 46,896 | -0.5 | -1.7 | -2.2 | 45,450 | 45,701 | 54,204 | -16.2 |
| Total Inventories..... | 44,452 | 44,635 | 44,769 | -0.4 | -0.3 | -0.5 | 44,662 | 44,363 | 48,314 | -7.6 |
| Computers and electronic products: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 109,152 | 108,997 | 110,268 | 0.1 | -1.2 | -1.1 | 107,200 | 107,221 | 114,058 | -6.0 |
| Total Inventories..... | 42,401 | 42,510 | 42,798 | -0.3 | -0.7 | -0.5 | 42,667 | 42,160 | 49,064 | -13.0 |
| Computers and related products: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 6,848 | 6,819 | 6,181 | 0.4 | 10.3 | -1.3 | 6,667 | 6,614 | 6,864 | -2.9 |
| Total Inventories..... | 7,043 | 7,303 | 6,852 | -3.6 | 6.6 | -1.3 | 7,011 | 6,983 | 7,883 | -11.1 |
| Communications equipment: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 39,207 | 39,117 | 41,342 | 0.2 | -5.4 | -0.9 | 38,468 | 38,281 | 42,485 | -9.5 |
| Total Inventories..... | 9,059 | 9,173 | 9,970 | -1.2 | -8.0 | -2.8 | 9,148 | 9,189 | 12,527 | -27.0 |
| Semiconductors: ⁵ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Total Inventories..... | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Electrical equipment, appliances, and components: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 14,732 | 14,754 | 14,529 | -0.1 | 1.5 | -0.3 | 14,529 | 14,445 | 14,903 | -2.5 |
| Total Inventories..... | 12,582 | 12,749 | 12,885 | -1.3 | -1.1 | -1.2 | 12,553 | 12,435 | 13,847 | -9.3 |
| Transportation equipment: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 249,505 | 251,949 | 255,038 | -1.0 | -1.2 | 1.9 | 244,963 | 248,468 | 258,168 | -5.1 |
| Total Inventories..... | 70,928 | 70,976 | 71,179 | -0.1 | -0.3 | -0.3 | 72,459 | 71,755 | 76,906 | -5.8 |
| Motor vehicles and parts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 12,194 | 12,441 | 12,600 | -2.0 | -1.3 | -2.9 | 11,621 | 12,039 | 11,756 | -1.1 |
| Total Inventories..... | 20,650 | 20,720 | 20,318 | -0.3 | 2.0 | -0.7 | 21,015 | 21,032 | 21,041 | -0.1 |
| Nondefense Aircraft and parts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 112,641 | 114,386 | 115,970 | -1.5 | -1.4 | 3.0 | 112,023 | 114,086 | 128,805 | -13.0 |
| Total Inventories..... | 28,736 | 28,721 | 29,448 | 0.1 | -2.5 | -1.0 | 29,722 | 29,043 | 34,396 | -13.6 |
| Defense Aircraft and parts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 57,532 | 57,726 | 58,004 | -0.3 | -0.5 | 0.2 | 55,677 | 56,654 | 51,666 | 7.8 |
| Total Inventories..... | 10,861 | 10,915 | 10,876 | -0.5 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 10,920 | 10,990 | 10,177 | 7.3 |
| All other durable goods: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 9,738 | 9,360 | 9,094 | 4.0 | 2.9 | -3.3 | 9,814 | 9,393 | 10,313 | -4.8 |
| Total Inventories..... | 43,343 | 43,404 | 43,259 | -0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 43,438 | 43,452 | 44,127 | -1.6 |
| Capital goods: ³ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 335,849 | 338,024 | 340,682 | -0.6 | -0.8 | 0.9 | 331,154 | 333,316 | 358,991 | -7.8 |
| Total Inventories..... | 130,547 | 131,506 | 132,586 | -0.7 | -0.8 | -0.4 | 131,934 | 131,215 | 146,883 | -10.2 |
| Nondefense capital goods: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 209,853 | 211,803 | 215,296 | -0.9 | -1.6 | 1.1 | 208,403 | 209,951 | 236,297 | -11.8 |
| Total Inventories..... | 112,006 | 112,974 | 114,020 | -0.9 | -0.9 | -0.9 | 113,387 | 112,521 | 128,145 | -11.5 |
| Excluding aircraft: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 125,863 | 126,342 | 128,728 | -0.4 | -1.9 | -0.9 | 124,413 | 124,490 | 138,632 | -10.3 |
| Total Inventories..... | 89,871 | 90,650 | 91,118 | -0.9 | -0.5 | -0.8 | 90,308 | 89,832 | 100,397 | -10.0 |
| Defense capital goods: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Unfilled Orders..... | 125,996 | 126,221 | 125,386 | -0.2 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 122,751 | 123,365 | 122,694 | 0.0 |
| Total Inventories..... | 18,541 | 18,532 | 18,566 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 2.9 | 18,547 | 18,694 | 18,738 | -1.0 |

See footnotes at end of Table 1