EMPLOYMENT!!!

Employment, Finished Goods Inventory Major Purchase Prices UP!

The National Purchasing of Managers — Houston reported this month that the Houston Purchasing Managers Index was 53.3 in February. The Houston area purchasing executives are indicating that economic activity in the Houston area continued to rise slightly in February for the eleventh consecutive month. This is the highest reading since May, 2009 when the PMI registered 39.0. This increase, although only an increase of .1 from January still indicates continued economic growth in our area.

The PMI, which indicates likely shifts in Production volume three or four months in advance, now shows a signal that production is continuing to move forward.

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The Houston PMI is based on eight components had five showing gains from January to February. The larger Increases were in Finished Goods Inventory, Prices Paid for Major Purchases and Employment. Lead time and Production had minimum gains. Sales Purchased Inventory and Purchases all fell over the month. Sales were the most significant decliner falling 9 points month over month.

The large increase in Employment indicates the area is starting to bring back workers, which is a large turn around from the last couple of months and good news for those looking for work.

The Houston PMI has averaged 47.2 over the last twelve months. There has been an improvement of 37% since May, 2009.

The National Association of Purchasing Management - Houston has published the Houston Purchasing Managers Index monthly since January, 1995 as a service to its members and the wider Houston business community.