

**News Digest**

Continued from p. 1 of this section

down 3 percent from August 2013.

August **U.S. manufacturing technology orders** totaled \$356.69 million according to The Association For Manufacturing Technology. This total, as reported by companies participating in the USMTO program, was up 0.4 percent from July but down 6 percent when compared with the total of \$379.26 million reported for August 2013. With a year-to-date total of \$3,076.98 million, 2014 is down 2.4 percent compared with 2013.

**Industrial production** increased 1 percent in September and advanced at an annual rate of 3.2 percent in the third quarter. The **capacity utilization** rate for total industry moved up 0.6 percentage point in September to 79.3 percent.

The **October 2014 composite index** of the MAPI Foundation Business Outlook slipped to 67 from 71 in the July 2014 survey, ending a run of six quarters of incremental improvement.

Prices for **U.S. imports** decreased 0.5 percent in September following a 0.6-percent decline in August, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. **U.S. export prices** declined 0.2 percent in September after a 0.5-percent decline in August.

The **Producer Price Index** for final demand decreased 0.1 percent in September, seasonally adjusted, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The combined value of **distributive trade sales and manufacturers' shipments** for August, adjusted for seasonal and trading-day differences but not for price changes, was estimated at \$1,353.4 billion, up 4.5 percent from August 2013 but down 0.4 percent from July, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

**Privately owned housing units** authorized by building permits in September were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,018,000. This is 1.5 percent above the revised August rate of 1,003,000, and 2.5 percent above the September 2013 estimate of 993,000.

**Canadian manufacturing sales** decreased 3.3 percent to C\$52.1 billion (US\$46.2 billion) in August. Excluding motor vehicles and parts, sales declined 1.9 percent.

**Canadian municipalities issued building permits** worth C\$6.7 billion (US\$6 billion) in August, a 23.7 percent decline, according to Statistics Canada.

**Calculation of MDM Inflation Index for September 2014**

	BLS Price Indices Sept '14	BLS Price Indices Aug '14	BLS Price Indices Sept '13	Weighted % Sales Weight	Weighted Indices Sept '14 (1)X(4)	% Change Sept '14 Aug '14	% Change Sept '14 Sept '13	
1136	Abr. Prod.	573.5	573.5	564.9	19.1	109.54	0.00	1.52
1135	Cutting Tools	495.7	495.7	488.1	18.9	93.68	0.00	1.56
1145	Power Trans.	803.8	803.8	800.7	15.4	123.79	0.00	0.39
1081	Fasteners	506.6	510.4	503.4	9.0	45.60	-0.74	0.64
1149.01	Valves, etc.	961.4	961.8	953.2	7.6	73.07	-0.03	0.87
1132	Power Tools	362.5	362.0	355.6	6.5	23.56	0.12	1.93
1144	Mat. Handling	582.0	581.4	567.4	6.2	36.08	0.10	2.58
0713.03	Belting	838.5	838.5	860.4	6.1	51.15	0.00	-2.54
1042	Hand Tools	776.8	779.5	774.1	8.1	62.92	-0.35	0.35
108	Misc. Metal	478.9	479.4	476.6	3.1	14.84	-0.12	0.47

"New" September Index	331.4	September Inflation Index	634.23	-0.08	0.76
-----------------------	-------	---------------------------	--------	-------	------

"New" August Index	331.7	August Inflation Index	634.77		
--------------------	-------	------------------------	--------	--	--

		September 2013 Inflation Index	629.45		
--	--	--------------------------------	--------	--	--

New index reflects 1977-100 base other #: 1967 To convert multiply by .52247