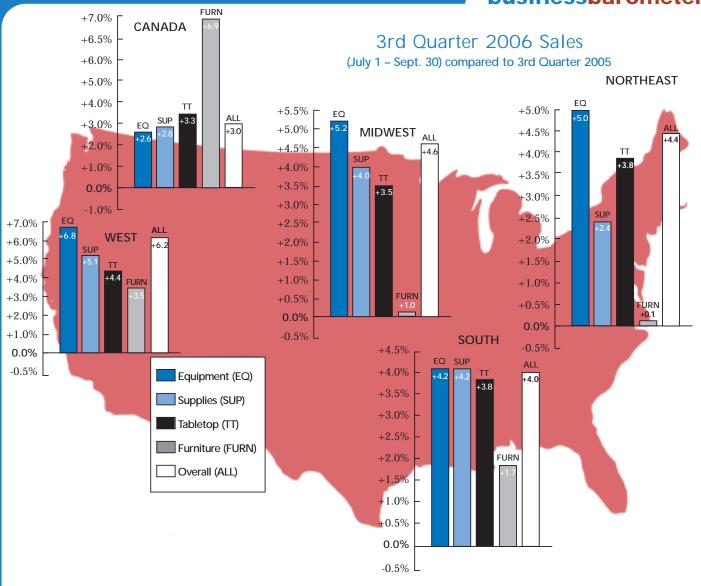
businessbarometer





THIRD QUARTER 2006 MAFSI BUSINESS BAROMETER DATA IS RECORD BREAKING! Predictions for Fourth Quarter 2006 Call for Further Acceleration

MAFSI's just released figures show that the Foodservice Equipment and Supply business is heating up in nearly all geographic areas and product categories. Overall business grew by 4.5% for Q3/06 versus 3.4% for Q2/06 and 2.7% for Q1/06. This was the 8th consecutive quarter of improvement and the growth rate is accelerating.

Third quarter growth ranged by territory from a high of 6.2% in the West followed by 4.6% Midwest, 4.4% Northeast, 4.0% South and 3.0% Canada.

Equipment sales led the way with an increase of 4.8%, both Supplies and Tabletop at 3.8%, and Furnishings at 2.5%.

The 4th Quarter forecast calls for further acceleration with an overall plan of 4.6% with the Northeast most optimistic at 5.6%.

The Stock Market is scaling new highs, fueled by falling energy prices and strong corporate earnings. The Industry's latest round of price increases to offset stainless steel, aluminum and copper cost pressures should lead to improved sales at higher prices. Holiday retail sales and restaurant traffic should have a very happy year-end, as MAFSI reps see it.

MAFSI releases the Business Barometer on a quarterly basis. Fourth quarter results will be released the first week in February 2007.

businessbarometer

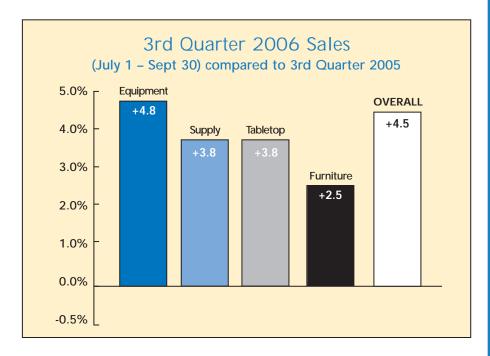
MAFSI Business Confidence Index for 4th Quarter 2006

(Oct 1 – Dec 31) compared to 4th Quarter 2005

 $^{\text{ALL REGIONS}}_{+4.6\%}$

MAFSI Business Confidence Index for 2006 Compared to 2005

+5.4%



Projected 4th Quarter 2006 Sales (Oct 1 - Dec 31) compared to 4th Quarter 2005

NORTHEAST +5.6%

south +4.8% $\begin{array}{c} \text{MIDWEST} \\ +4.9\% \end{array}$

 $^{\text{WEST}}_{+4.5\%}$

CANADA +3.3%

Projected 2006 Overall Sales Forecast (Compared to Overall Sales for 2005)

NORTHEAST +5.8% south +5.2% $^{\text{MIDWEST}}_{+4.4\%}$

west +6.3% canada +5.1%

Regions Represented Total Respondents 136

NORTHEAST — ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT, DE, NJ, NY, PA, DC, MD, VA

SOUTH — NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, TN, MS, AR, LA, OK, TX

MIDWEST — KY, W.PA, WV, ND, SD, NE, KS, MN, IA, MO, WI, IL, IN, MI, OH

WEST — WA, OR, ID, MT, WY, CO, NM, UT, AZ, NV. CA, AK, HI

CANADA — Includes all of Canada

