

Seven Out Of Ten UK Small Businesses Are Confident For The New Year

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Technology and more time off is top of Christmas wish list

Three quarters (72%) of UK businesses are confident about the future prospects in the New Year according to a Christmas poll from The Orange SMS Business Jury. New equipment or technology and extra holidays are top of the UK's business wish list for Christmas this year, however six respondents (2%) did ask for a new PA!

When asked what is most likely to impact on business performance in 2008, businesses identified the credit crunch and weaker customer confidence (both at 23%) as likely to have the biggest impact. The UK's businesses would also welcome more support from Gordon Brown, with over two thirds (62%) saying they do not believe that Brown is providing enough genuine support. One fifth of respondents (21%) expect the proposed Capital Gains Tax reforms announced in the pre-budget report to negatively impact business, but two fifths (40%) say it will have no influence at all.

Technical details

The Orange Business Jury is a panel of 968 small business owners, managers and decision makers working for companies with up to 250 employees. The panel is run by Ipsos MORI. The survey is conducted using The 3rd Degree software tool, via SMS, and allows a fast response to issues as and when they affect the small business community. The study was conducted on the 13th of December 2007 between 11am and 2pm. The response rate was between 39% and 43% for the questions asked.