



# Broadly Positive Business Confidence in February

## ■ Manufacturing confidence stayed at a high level

Finnish manufacturing confidence stayed at a strong level in January. The confidence indicator was unchanged at +15 points in February (revised figure +15 in January, too) while the long-term average is +1. Production expectations remained broadly positive and order books are rather robust. Stocks of final goods stayed slightly below normal.

## ■ Construction confidence recovered somewhat

The construction sector confidence indicator recovered somewhat in February. Its most recent figure is +3, up from 0 points one month earlier. The indicator is steadier than its long-term average (-7). Order books are currently close to normal. Personnel figures are expected to increase slightly when taking into account the seasonal factors.

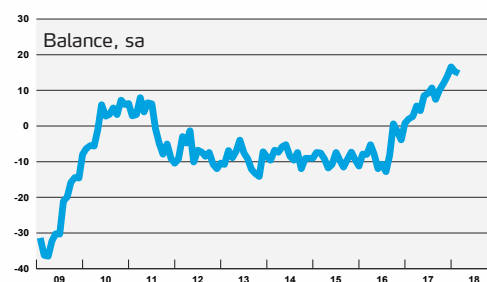
## ■ Service confidence improved further

Service sector confidence indicator reached +28 points in February, up from +23 in January. Confidence is clearly stronger than its long-term average (+13). Service companies assess that their overall business situation has improved during the last few months. They also expect that sales volumes continue in a steady growth.

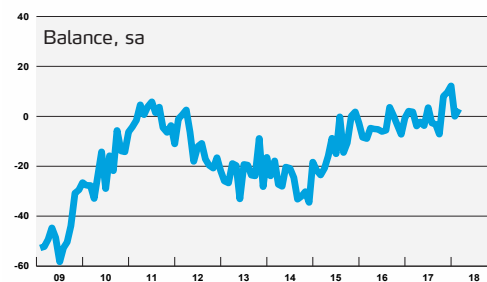
## ■ Retail trade confidence at a strong level

The retail trade confidence indicator turned up and reached a strong level in February. It scored +24 points in February (revised figure +15 in January). Confidence is well above its long-term average (-2). Sales growth has accelerated and sales expectations for the next few months are generally positive. Level of stocks shrank to average in February.

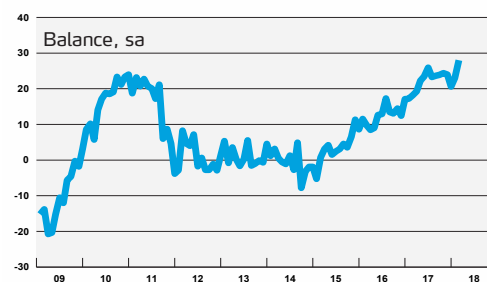
### Industrial Confidence Indicator



### Construction Confidence Indicator



### Services Confidence Indicator



### Retail Trade Confidence Indicator

