Video transcript

China manufacturing 'on track' despite slowdown

After a strong start to 2013, Chinese manufacturers have seen conditions ease slightly during February, with HSBC's latest Flash PMI™ coming in at 50.4.

That's down on January's strong showing of 52.3 – but crucially the number remains above 50 – the figure that signifies the difference between an industry shrinking or growing.

Manufacturers in the world's second largest economy have now enjoyed four consecutive months of expansion.

And according to HSBC's Chief Economist for Greater China, Qu Hongbin, China remains on track for a gradual recovery from recent economic headwinds.

"The underlying strength of the Chinese growth recovery remains intact, as indicated by the still-expanding employment."

February's Final PMI™ reading is due on Friday, 1 March.