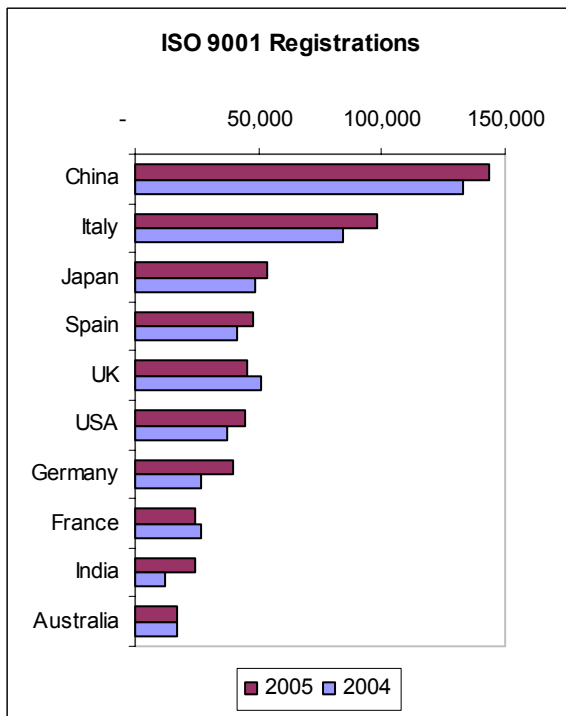




## ISO 9001 registrations – still growing but .....

The 2005 statistics for ISO 9001 worldwide registrations shows that an overall growth of 18% was achieved during the year. Most people would expect the emerging economies of China and India to account for most of this growth however, the statistics show some surprising trends. The least surprising is that India, from a relatively low level of registrations the previous year, sprinted to almost double its total in a year.

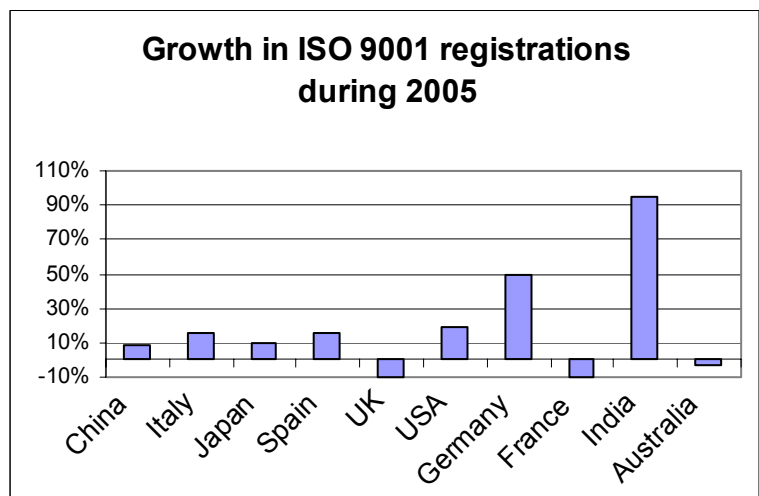


Meanwhile, more surprisingly, China, who has seen staggering growth in registrations over the last 5 years to become the world leader, during 2005 saw a more modest growth of 8%. Germany and USA, large economies with relatively low numbers of registrations in 2004, made up ground by increasing registrations by almost 50% and 19% respectively.

Even more surprisingly, in the UK, France and Australia registrations shrank by as much as 10% in the year. As there is no single database of ISO 9001 registrations, even within most countries, the data is not 100% accurate, and therefore, it could be that the decline is not as dramatic as

the figures suggest. Undeniably, particularly in the UK where it topped the registration table for many years, the recent demise of traditional manufacturing will have contributed to this decline.

Despite the slowdown in growth of registrations in China and the decline in a few countries the overwhelming view is that ISO 9001 is still a standard which has currency within the global supply chain. The value of the standard may decline in the longer term, but not until either confidence in the third party registration system or the failure of ISO 9001 standard to keep pace with the demands of the supply chain, compromise its effectiveness.



For more information visit the ISO website: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)