

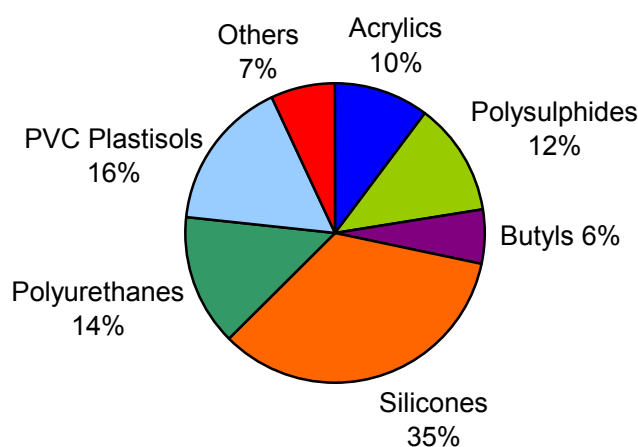
NEW FROM IAL CONSULTANTS

THE EUROPEAN SEALANTS MARKET

IAL Consultants is pleased to announce the publication of the 6th edition of its report, *The European Sealants Market*. Taking into account the 15 countries of Western Europe, the total demand for sealants is estimated at around 392,000 tonnes in 2002.

Just over half of the market is shared by silicones and PVC plastisols, as shown below:

European Sealants Market by Volume, 2003 (%)



Source: IAL Consultants

- DIY applications offer the best growth prospects – about 2.4 % pa, owing to the increasing profile of DIY retailers and the greater universality of sealant formulations of DIY users. Expansion of the DIY sector in Iberia suggests that the Spanish and Portuguese markets will offer the best growth prospects over the next five years.
- By contrast, consumption in the transport sector is forecast to fall slightly in the future, owing to increasing formulation efficiencies and an expected decline in car manufacture. Noise reduction and sound insulation have offered the best opportunities for the sector.
- Construction activity in Europe shows a narrow spectrum of activity, from decline in Germany to modest growth in Spain. Growth in this sector will be around 1.4% pa.
- Glazing offers slightly better growth prospects. Butyls in particular are likely to make gains among smaller insulated glass manufacturers, and in other areas

at the expense of silicones. The fortunes of the construction sector are also reflected in demand for glazing sealants.

Robert Peacock, author of the report, said "The most pressing issue for the industry is the supply and demand scenario. Construction is either stagnant or in recession in most Western European countries, while prices are low owing to overcapacity, especially in the field of silicones. On the other hand, there has been rising demand for silicone sealants owing to changing lifestyles and the expansion of DIY retailing, which has offered respite from a weak construction market."

The European Sealants Market 2003 provides comprehensive analysis by country, technology and application. The following 15 countries are covered:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Portugal
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- UK

Data is also presented on the following sealant technologies:

- Silicones
- Acrylics
- PU 1-part and 2-part
- PS 1-part and 2-part
- Butyls
- Oil-based
- Bitumen and pitch
- PVC plastisols
- Modified silicones

The contents of *The European Sealants Market 2003* are as follows:

1. Introduction
2. European Summary
3. Market Review by End-Use
4. European Suppliers and Supply Structure
5. Sources of Information
6. Acknowledgments

The European Sealants Market 2003 (164pp and 108 tables) costs \$2,950 and is available now from IAL Consultants.

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