

GLOBAL OVERVIEW OF THE THERMOPLASTIC POLYURETHANE MARKET (TPU)

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IAL Consultants is publishing its first global review of the thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) industry. The report is available as a single volume, covering the three main global regions:

EUROPE (incl. Middle East/Africa):

Western Europe: Austria, Benelux, France, Germany, Italy, Nordic, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, UK/Ireland

Eastern Europe: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic

Middle East/Africa: Egypt, Iran, Mahgreb, Turkey, Syria & South Africa

THE AMERICAS:

North America: Canada, Mexico, USA

South America: Argentina, Brazil, Chile

ASIA-PACIFIC:

Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam

Global production of TPUs in 1998 was estimated at 196,000 tonnes; by 2003 this figure is estimated to have grown to nearly 300,000 tonnes, creating an AAGR of 8.9%. Although still regarded as a niche product within the PU market, there is growing interest due to the wide variety of applications and properties offered by this material. Demand for TPUs in China alone has been estimated to be 100,000 tonnes in 2003, representing a third of global demand. An explosion in the number of new producers in China is anticipated, provided raw materials and technology is available.

This report will provide data for both the production and consumption of TPUs by major country by type:

- Injection
- Extrusion
- Adhesive
- Coating

Consumption will be broken down by end-use as:

- Automotive
- Construction
- Engineering
- Footwear
- Hose/ Tubing
- Medical
- Wire & Cable

Associated raw material demand, by country, will also be provided for MDI, ADI, PTHF, Polyether, Polyester and Polycaprolactone polyols.

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