



Assocomaplast

ITALIAN PLASTICS AND RUBBER
PROCESSING MACHINERY AND MOULDS
MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

Associated with:
CONFINDUSTRIA,
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PRESS RELEASE

POSITIVE 2007 BALANCE

for the Italian plastics and rubber machinery industry

The Italian industry of plastics and rubber machinery ranks among the very first places of the world classification as per production and export capacity.

According to the statistics worked out by the sectoral association ASSOCOMAPLAST, the positive trade balance of the sector in 2007 exceeds 2 billion euro, with an increase in production of 9% and a growth in export of 15%, in comparison with the previous year.

The work force - with reference to the Member companies only - after a certain stagnation in 2005-2006, increased by 1.6% in 2006-2007.

The growing trend of the export was sustained, in particular, by sales to expanding markets such as Russia (+90.4% in comparison with 2006), India (+36.8%) and Turkey (+19%) but even to "traditional" partners like Germany (+22%), France (+11.1%), Spain (+5.3%) and United States that, despite the negative impact of the dollar's depreciation, recorded +4.2%.

On the basis of the good trend in 2007, the vast majority of the Italian manufacturers has acquired an order portfolio that covers the first semester of the current year. For almost all the sub-sectors (injection moulding machines, extrusion lines, blow moulding machines for bottles, recovery and recycling plants etc.) the orders' trend at the end of the first two months is still good but it is quite difficult to make forecast for the second part of the year, in particular in light of the crisis in the United States that could affect such market and those in the dollar-area that are important for the sectoral made in Italy.

Italian market of machinery, equipment and moulds for plastics and rubber (million euro)

	2005	2006	2007
production	3,700	3,850	4,250
export	2,184	2,336	2,691
import	567	630	612
domestic market	2,083	2,144	2,171
trade balance (surplus)	1,617	1,706	2,079



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Italian import-export of machinery, equipment and moulds for plastics and rubber (January-December - million euro)

	import			export		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
flexographic printing machines	15	20	16	138	124	119
injection moulding machines	61	88	58	217	239	162
extruders and extrusion lines	40	39	57	273	286	320
blow moulding machines	11	25	16	102	103	166
thermoforming machines	7	17	13	29	35	29
presses (various)	26	28	46	56	62	155
other machines	72	60	74	541	570	712
parts and components	131	118	114	314	326	373
moulds	204	235	218	514	591	655
total	567	630	612	2,184	2,336	2,691

Destination areas of the Italian export of machinery, equipment and moulds for plastics and rubber

	2005	2006	2007
Europe	57.8 (UE=42.7)	61.5 (UE=47.9)	62.9 (UE=46.3)
North America (NAFTA)	13.3	10.9	9.5
Central/South America	5.6	5.6	6.4
Africa	4.6	4.0	4.1
Asia and Oceania	18.7	18.0	17.1

Top ten destination markets of the Italian export of machinery, equipment and moulds for plastics and rubber

2005	%	2006	%	2007	%
Germany	13.0	Germany	13.2	Germany	14.1
United States	7.7	United States	6.3	Russia	7.7
China	6.8	France	5.8	United States	5.7
Russia	6.2	China	5.6	France	5.6
Spain	6.0	Spain	5.5	Spain	5.1
France	5.6	Poland	4.8	China	4.7
United Kingdom	4.0	Russia	4.7	Poland	4.2
Turkey	3.7	United Kingdom	3.8	Turkey	3.6
Mexico	3.6	Turkey	3.5	United Kingdom	3.3
Poland	3.1	Mexico	3.0	Mexico	2.7
other countries	40.3	other countries	43.8	other countries	43.3

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