



Assocomaplast

ITALIAN PLASTICS AND RUBBER
PROCESSING MACHINERY AND MOULDS
MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

Associated with:
CONFINDUSTRIA,
FEDERMACCHINE and EUROMAP

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PRESS RELEASE

A GOOD YEAR

for the Italian plastics and rubber machinery industry

The statistics recently published by ISTAT reveal an increase of 21% in export and of 2% in import of machinery, equipment and moulds for plastics and rubber.

According to such data, the sectoral association Assocomaplast has estimated a positive trade balance for 2007 at around 2 billion euro.

Looking at the destination areas of the Italian export, it is confirmed that, as usual, the largest share of exchanges (63%) took place within Europe and in particular the European Union, that represents the 47% out of the total, it is to say 915 million euro.

In some more detail, Germany confirms its dominance as the traditional first destination for the Italian exports in this sector, with almost doubled sales year-to-year, it is to say from about 192 to over 295 million euro.

Even as regards Russia, it must be remarked that in the last years the Italian export has been experiencing a steady and remarkable growth: as a matter of fact, it jumped from 74 to almost 140 million euro, bringing the country as the second destination market of the Italian sectoral export, according to the mentioned official statistics referred to the period January-September 2007. The Russian processors purchased in particular extruders/extrusion lines (32 million euro, versus 22 in 2006), injection moulding machines (8 million) and machines for foamed products (6.6 million).

The Americas hold the second place with a 16% share on the total, showing an increase of 14 percentage points: from around 270 to almost 307 million euro. The most substantial slice is represented by the NAFTA countries: from about 180 to some 185 million euro.

The third ranked destination region, Asia, instead showed a stability in imports from Italy, from nearly 299 million euro in September 2006 to 301 million in the same month of 2007. Looking at the breakdown into Middle and Far East, we find that these "blocks" recorded an opposite trend, from 94 to 108 million the former and vice-versa the latter: from over 205 down to less than 193 million, mainly due to a decrease of the sales to the Chinese market (from 97 to about 82 million euro).

Italian sales to the end-users of Africa and Oceania recorded, respectively, from about 67 to over 83 million euro (meaning the 4.3% out of the total export) and from 13 to some 18 million euro (0.9% is the relevant share).



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Centro Direzionale Milanofiori - Palazzo F/3
Casella Postale 24 - 20090 Assago (Milano)
Tel (+39) 02 8228371 - Fax (+39) 02 57512490
<http://www.assocomaplast.org>
e-mail: info@assocomaplast.org
codice fiscale 80134430158



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Italian market for plastics and rubber machinery (million euro)

	2005	2006	2007*
production	3,700	3,850	4,200
export	2,184	2,268	2,600
import	567	589	600
domestic market	2,083	2,171	2,200
trade balance (surplus)	1,617	1,679	2,000

*estimates

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