



Assocomaplast

ITALIAN PLASTICS AND RUBBER PROCESSING MACHINERY
AND MOULDS MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION



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AV

THE ITALIAN PLASTICS AND RUBBER MACHINERY INDUSTRY

Early balance 2006 in synthesis

The Italian plastics and machinery suppliers, represented by ASSOCOMAPLAST (CONFINDUSTRIA's member), preserve their leading position at world level, keeping within the relevant ranking the second placement as for production and export values, just behind the homologous German manufacturers.

Waiting for the final data, to be published by Istat as for sectoral national trade and those ones gathered by ASSOCOMAPLAST, according to turnover and sales abroad of almost 170 companies Membership – even if more recently a tendential improvement has been seen, in particular on the export side and among the manufacturers there is a quite spread optimism recovery, appreciating a strengthened demand on the local and foreign markets, along the last quarter of 2006 and at the beginning of the current year – the same Association considers much appropriate for the time being to reconfirm its own forecasts, released a couple of months ago, as mentioned in the following table, according to the Italian market macro-data.

Italian market for plastics and rubber machinery (million euro)

	2004	2005	2006 (*)
production	3,870	3,700	3,700
export	2,274	2,145	2,150
import	634	552	600
domestic market	2,230	2,107	2,150
trade balance	1,640	1,593	1,550

(*) estimates

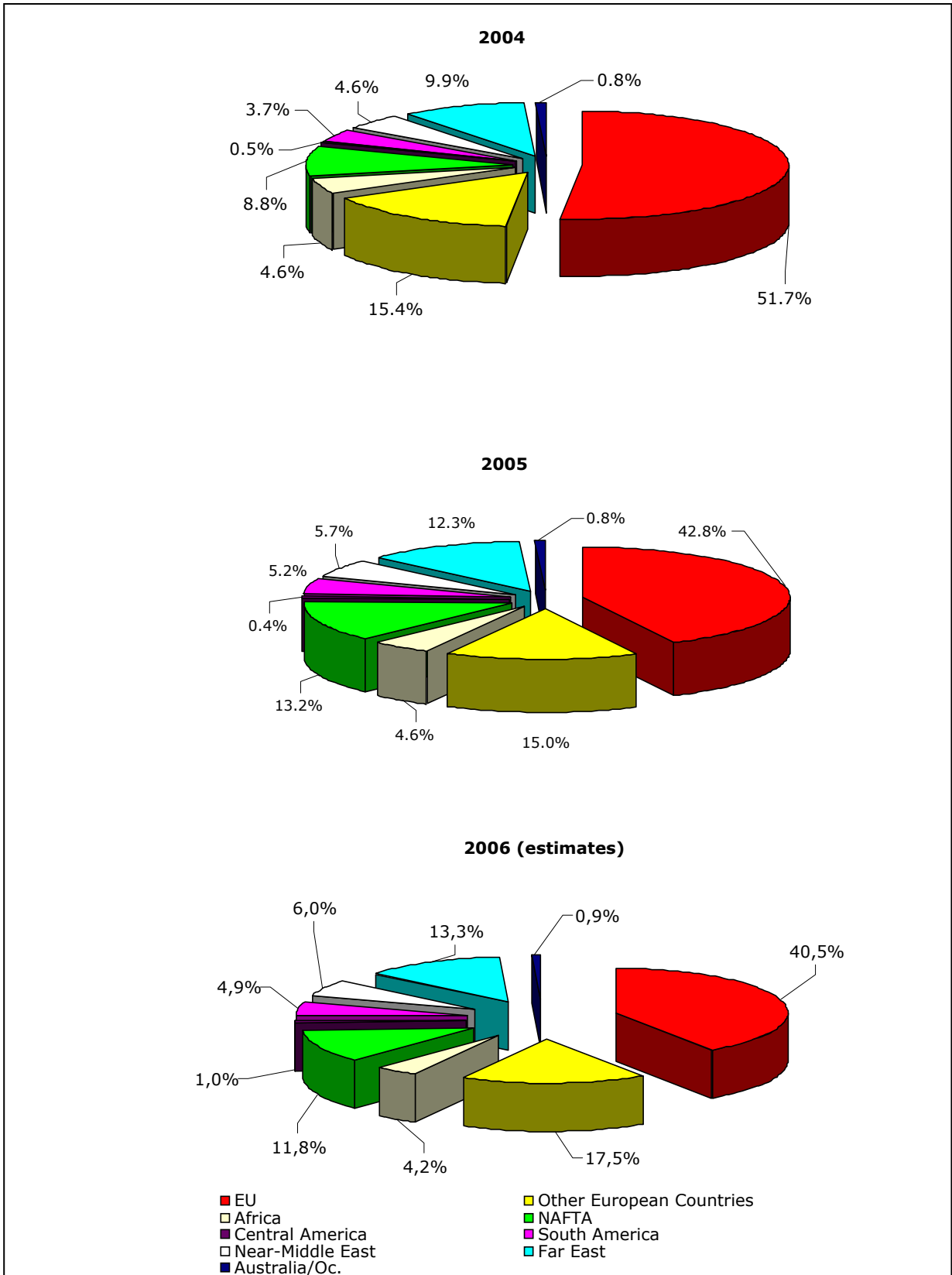
As shortly mentioned, the evolution of the sectoral export is rather positive, seeing an upturn of 5 percentage points on January-October 2006 with respect to the same period of 2005. The specular growth of the import (apart from the considerable value gap) demonstrates the good investment bent of the Italian plastics and rubber processors.

Barely on geo terms, also to be concise, the statistical projection carried out by ASSOCOMAPLAST, as far as abroad sales are concerned – imagining they might reach the 2.5 billion euro-mark (generating a notable trade surplus, possibly about 1.9 billion euro (stemming the national deficit as a whole) – the expected 2006 results, matching them immediately with the previous two-year period, have been translated in the following graphs, showing first the economic areas distribution and secondly the first 10 most important outlets.



2.

Italian export of plastics and rubber machinery (areas - % shares - 2004-2006)





3.

Italian export of plastics and rubber machinery (the "top 10" - % shares - 2004-2006)

