

REGIONAL NEWSLINK CENTRAL REGION
November 2012

Dear Colleagues,

Business as usual for us in November: Numerous talks on very different levels, phone calls and webinars, meetings with very different people - ministers, experts, NGO representatives, journalists and many more - in very different places, the leading event on plastics waste management with more than 170 people attending and, of course, organised by PlasticsEurope, the restart of a media campaign in Austria, a full pager on plastics in Germany and many many more. I'd say, it was an ordinary month for the people working in the plastics industry's association. Far from being boring. This report reflects a very small part of what we do. Enjoy reading, and let's be proud on what we achieved so far.

Best regards

Rüdiger Baunemann

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1. ETS

DE: No national agreement on compensation for risen electricity prices yet

The EU commission published environmental guidelines that allow member states to pay a financial compensation for risen electricity prices under certain circumstances. Germany announced to be willing to pay at least 500 Mio. Euros as compensation for energy intensive companies. The German ministry of environment and economics set up a draft for a German guideline to implement the European environmental guidelines. But no agreement has yet been found. The ministries intend to have the agreement fixed by end of year. However, any payment will only be realized in 2014, as foreseen in the European environmental guidelines.

Contact: Tina Buchholz

PL: A new look at energy climate strategy

Representative of PlasticsEurope Polska has participated in the meeting "Post Energy Roadmap 2050 – consequences for Poland" organised by Polish Chamber of Commerce together with Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Environment. The participants have discussed alternative approach to modification of European energy-climate strategy. These modifications that Poland is proposing include: changes in ETS system including voluntary participation, changes of RES energy efficiency, new balanced integrated energy policy based upon energy safety, environment, resource efficiency and economic development.

Polish energy-intensive industry, including chemicals and plastics, is faced to a big challenge with EU energy initiatives. Energy-related costs in Polish conditions are among the highest in Europe due to coal-based energy producing. The plastics industry, that depends heavily on energy, is therefore at risk with threatening penalties (ETS certificate, possible coal tax) to be paid due to inefficient energy producing system in Poland. Respective documents are available in PlasticsEurope Polska upon request.

Contact: Kazimierz Borkowski

SK: Cabinet Adopted the Rules for CO₂

On 7 November the Slovak Cabinet adopted an allocation scheme governing emissions allowances, but left opened the question of how the proceeds earned by auctioning greenhouse gas emissions quotas will be spent, raising concerns that instead of going toward environmental protection they may instead be used to patch holes in the state budget.

Slovakia will get 32.2 million tonnes of emissions in 2013. About one half of the above quota should be allocated free of charge, the rest will be sold to big energy companies. The ministries of environment and finance respectively, will negotiate each year how to spend the money earned from the emission trade system. "The auction of emission allowances should bring around €105 million in the next year" said Peter Žiga, the Minister of Environment.

The ministry of environment intend to spend the money as follows:

- 50 % for the finance support of big infrastructure projects
- 10 % for the state scheme supporting the plants threatened by carbon leakage
- 20 % for elimination of negative impact of climate changes
- 20 % for the support of "de minimis" projects that means for instance for building insulation, and other similar energy saving projects.

Source: *The Press Agency of the Slovak Republic (TASR), 8 November 2012*

Contact: Silvia Surová

SK: Spain`s Interest in Slovak Emissions

Slovakia is close to selling 22 million tones of emissions to Spain. "We are very close to the agreement with the Spanish Government," said Peter Žiga, the Minister of Environment after the yesterday meeting of the Slovak Cabinet. The Minister did not want to specify the price of the transaction. Žiga confirmed also the negotiations on emissions selling with the Austrian Government. Slovakia has now altogether 27 million tons of spare emissions.

Source: *Hospodárske noviny (Economy News), 8 November, 2012*

Contact: Silvia Surová

2. Climate Protection & Energy Efficiency

CZ: Working group of the Chemical association with the Ministry of industry

Meeting was held on 24 October.

Main topics:

- Energy
- Prices of electricity
- Low about support of renewable resources
- Differences between support of industry in CZ and SRN, Poland, Slovakia, Austria, Hungary
- Strategy of another development of the Czech republic
- Revenues from ETS use for support insulation of the houses “ Green for savings”

Contact: *František Svoboda*

DE: 7th European Bioplastics Conference in Berlin

The importance of bioplastics – as a central element of the European bioeconomy strategy – is uncontested. This was the core message from Alfredo Aguilar Romanillos (European Commission) and Clemens Neumann (Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection/BMELV) at the 7th European Bioplastics Conference on 6/7 November in Berlin. Over 400 participants and 240 companies from all over the world obtained information about new developments and progress in bioplastics. Furthermore, they discussed questions about the growing demand for bioplastics in various sectors and the impacts on recycling of rising volumes of individual bioplastics.

The 7th Bioplastics Award went to two first winners, both from the automobile industry: TAKATA AG for its steering wheel system and the Institute for Bioplastics of Hannover University for the biobased tailgate of the Bioconcept car.

Contact: *Sabine Lindner*

DE: Advisory Board meeting of the Bio-polymer Network at the Agency for Renewable Resources (FNR)

The Bio-polymer Network at the Agency for Renewable Resources (FNR) is an information and communication platform for industry, science, politicians and the general public – in the field of bioplastics: <http://www.biopolymernetzwerk.de>. The Network's advisory board gives recommendations and impulses (also see “Monthly Report” of October 2012). The 2nd advisory board meeting took place on 23 October in Berlin. The board members discussed the activities in the fields of processing, recycling & disposal as well as carmaking. In August, a call was issued for a new research funding focus “Sustainable recovery strategies for products and wastes from bioplastics”. In order to increase the response, it was proposed to better tackle the need for action by way of commissioned studies. Most definitely, the dialog with companies of the plastics and disposal and recycling industries will continue. Therefore, an expert meeting is planned for February 2013 to address the projects “Cascade use of bio-polymer plastics” (IfBB, FKZ 22029208, running to 31.08.2013) and “Anaerobic testing methods for the certification of biodegradable materials” (Bauhaus University Weimar, FKZ 22023209, running to 31.05.2013).

Concerning eco-balances, the advisory board discussed various approaches for further dealing with this issue – such as the focus on 1 to 2 products and exemplary eco-balancing along the entire value chain, or the development of a scenario (e.g. ecological assessment for bioplastics in the year 2050).

The draft paper “Background information on bioplastics” was on the agenda too.

Contact: *Sabine Lindner*

3. Waste Framework Directive Transposition

CZ: 5th meeting of the Council for second raw materials and wastes

This council including Ministry of the Industry, Ministry of the Environmental, representative of industry and Statistic office of the Czech Republic and universities.

Agenda of the meeting:

- Information about approval of the documents.

- State energy strategy of the Czech Republic
- The Czech Republic 's policy raw materials
- Information about preparation new legislation for waste management and back taking of the products
- New waste management plan
- Legislative intent of the Waste law
- Amendment to the Act No. 477 /2001Sb. Packaging
- Information about actual state of discussion between CZ and EU on topics waste x non waste
- Information about transposition of:
Direction 2012/19/EU (WEEE)
Direction 2011/65/EU (RoHS)
- Information about statistics investigation of wastes and second raw materials in 2011.

Contact: František Svoboda

SK: Slovakia Will Get out of the Penalty

On 19 November the MPs of the Slovak Parliament adopted the Law on Wastes amendment by which Slovakia transposed the Directive 2008/98/EC into the legal system of the Slovak Republic. As the member states had to implement the Waste Directive till December 2010 the European Commission turned to the European Court of Justice in April 2012 and proposed a penalty of € 17,136 for each day of delay.

Contact: Silvia Surová

7. Consumer Protection

AT: Implementation of NAP and Web-Site for “Nano”

The Austrian National Action Plan (NAP) on nano technology is based on a broad platform of stakeholders coming from ministries, academia, industry and NGOs. Overall goal is the reduction of risk and simultaneously the support for research and industry. The precautionary principle is applied in a rather balanced way whenever there is lack of knowledge and reasonable (!) concern about consumer and environmental safety.

On 8 November the preliminary documentation of implementation of this NAP has been published on the web for public consultation. See www.nanoinformation.at



Contact: Heinz Schratt

AT: Xeno Hormones

Among other tasks, hormones are the triggers for the development of youngsters, and they control the sex life of grown-ups. Consequently they get a lot of attention in the media and in science as well.

Lately, “endocrine disruption” has been closely linked to food packaging and to plastics. Hormon like effects of chemicals are broadly tested with modified yeast cells. Literature and testing resulted in a vast number of suspected substances.

Only lately the Austrian Test and Research Institute (ofi) established and verified screening methodology based on human (tumor) cells. They are now comparing their results with conventional yeast. Although the project is not finished yet, preliminary results show that there is a whole range of “testing artefacts” caused by the widely used standard tests based on yeast versus, that cannot be reproduced with human cells.

In other words: Plastics in food contact is not only safe, it is virtually sex-less (despite all those stories and worries to the contrary).

Contact: *Heinz Schratt*

DE: 2nd ordinance amending the German Drinking Water Ordinance

On 12 October the Bundesrat (chamber of parliament representing the federal states) essentially approved the 2nd ordinance amending the Drinking Water Ordinance (Top 38 Bundesrat):

http://www.bundesrat.de/cln_227/nn_6898/DE/parlamentsmaterial/to-plenum/901-sitzung/to-node.html?_nnn=true

The 2nd ordinance amending the Drinking Water Ordinance (BR-Drs. 525/2012 of 31.08.2012) includes some corrections and clarifications. Important to the plastics manufacturing industry is §17 which lays down the requirements to installations for the production, treatment or distribution of drinking water. Here, the Federal Environment Agency (UBA) is empowered to determine the assessment basis for materials which are used in the building of new or the maintenance of existing installations for the production, treatment or distribution of drinking water and which have drinking water contact. This includes testing rules and methods for the assessment of the hygienic suitability of starting materials, and positive lists of starting materials of hygienic suitability for the production of materials – including restrictions of their uses.

Contact: *Sabine Lindner*

DE: Adoption of the act to adapt the German Construction Products Act

In its session of 18 October the Bundestag (chamber of German parliament) adopted the draft act submitted by the federal government – for adapting the Construction Products Act and further legal provisions to the “Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products” (Drucksache 17/10310). This step was based on the recommended decision and on the report by the Committee on Transport, Building and Urban Development (Drucksache 17/10874). There were no changes, with one exception: In Article 2 § 8 clause 2 no. 2 letter b, the word “or” is deleted after the words “Article 9 clause 3 sentence 1”.

Contact: *Sabine Lindner*

DE: Special meeting “Nano” of the BLL discussion group “Food contact commodities”

Within the discussion group “Food contact commodities”, a special meeting focusing on “nanotechnology” was held on 7 November at the German umbrella association of the food sector (BLL), with a wider circle of participants. An introduction to the current situation for the use of nanomaterials in the food (packaging) chain (from the chemical industry’s viewpoint) was followed by examples of uses as well as topical research results from the field of plastic packaging for foodstuffs, food colorants and additives, pigments and printing inks – presented by delegates from sector associations. Moreover, the participants discussed recent developments, with an emphasis on the definition from the food industry’s perspective.

Contact: *Sabine Lindner*

EU: 63 new substances proposed in the Community Rolling Action Plan (CoRAP)

Where there are reasons to suspect a substance of posing a risk to human health or the environment, this substance is initially put on a list of substances for evaluation. This is part of the Community Rolling Action Plan (CoRAP). The substances in question need to be evaluated within 3 years’ time.

On 23 October the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) published a draft list of 116 substances for evaluation within CoRAP between 2013 and 2015:

http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13628/draft_corap_2013-2015_en.pdf

Contact: *Sabine Lindner*

EU: The need to regulate food contact materials for which no specific legislation is in place

The EU Commission has launched an initiative for non-plastic food contact materials for which no specific legislation is in place (“Food Contact Materials – Specific provisions for materials other than plastics – implementing measure”).

Potential needs and options for regulating this field are to be examined. For this purpose, a “roadmap” was developed and discussed with the Member States at the level of the Commission working group. Now a consultation process has been started; it includes an impact assessment. The questionnaire can be answered by 14 December.

Contact: Sabine Lindner

8. Communications

AT: Re-Launch of Campaign “Kunststoff Hört Zu”

After a learning period – with change of agency – the campaign Kunststoff Hört Zu (Plastics is listening) is getting back on track.

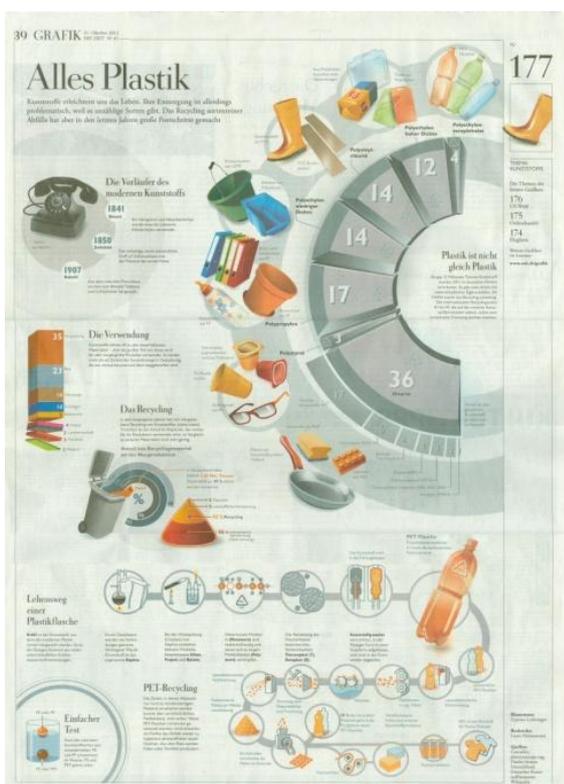
A round table with Minister of the Environment (Niki Berlakovich), the owner of ex Tengelmann group / Austria (Jan Satek), denkstatt (Harald Pilz), ÖKK president (Leopold Katzmayer), PlasticsEurope (Heinz Schratt) and others was moderated by the editor in chief of a daily newspaper (“Österreich”).

This was done as part of a media co-operation and will result in a large story on the benefits of plastics end of November. One main effect, though not yet visible to the outside world, was more than one hour time of undivided attention of the minister.

Contact: Heinz Schratt

D: Weekly newspaper „Zeit“ with full-pager on plastics

An article in the weekly “Zeit” is always something special, because every week this publication reaches more than two million readers – with a circulation of 503,559 sold copies.



Socio-demographic readership data are interesting too: 44 percent of “Zeit” readers are between 20 and 49 years of age, 61 percent have successfully completed their secondary schooling or a university education, 52 percent have a monthly net household income of 3,000 euros or more. It is also worth noting that the “Zeit” is read highly intensively: on average, 69 percent of readers dedicate three hours of their weekends to this newspaper.

All this makes it even more encouraging that a full-page (!) information graph about plastics came out in issue 45 of 31 October. The history of plastics, the different types of polymers, fields of application, recycling and – by way of example – the life cycle of a plastic bottle were addressed in a factual and balanced way and in much detail. PlasticsEurope, Dual System Germany (DSD), Wikipedia and the German Plastics Museum were quoted as sources. This is a great achievement of consistent communication work. The page with the heading “Alles Plastik” in the “Zeit” (according to the current price list, it would have cost 79,419 euros gross to place the graph as an

advertisement) can be accessed online at www.zeit.de/grafik.

Contact: Michael Herrmann

PL: Zero plastics to landfill by 2020 – how to reach the goal

The 10th edition of IdentiPlast 2012, held in Warsaw (Poland) on 6-7 November 2012, brought together some 170 European experts on plastics waste management. Europe's leading event on plastics waste management, focused on the ambitious goal of zero plastics to landfill by 2020. Along with representatives of plastics production, recycling and recovery industries from 18 European countries, USA and Japan, high profile guest speakers included Prof. Helmut Maurer, European Commission, DG Environment, MEP Boguslaw Sonik as well as representatives of the Polish Ministry of Environment.

The conference was opened by Kazimierz Borkowski, Managing Director of PlasticsEurope Polska, who warmly welcomed all invited speakers and guests of IdentiPlast in Poland, introduced the speakers of the opening session and wished all participants fruitful exchange of opinions and experiences.

Polish MEP Boguslaw Sonik in his opening statement referred to diversion of plastics waste from landfill calling it a serious challenge for Member States which encounter numerous obstacles while striving to implement the related EU directives. Then Piotr Chelmiński, Board Member PKN Orlen, explained in his opening speech, why for Poland, country of growing consumption of plastics and still big potential of growth the proper management of plastics waste is of such an important. Next speaker Marc Jamin from Sabic concentrated on the role of plastics in sustainable growth, and presented some examples of industry initiatives to promote it to general public.



The first day of the conference entitled “Political and economic perspectives on plastics waste” started with panel debate “Zero plastics to landfill – a realistic goal?”, with participation of Helmut Maurer (DG Environment, European Commission), Alexander Janz, (German Ministry of Environment), Ryszard Wójcik (Polish Recovery Organisation – PSR), Steve Dwyer (CEO and President of the Management Board at Basell Orlen

Polyolefins), Keith Riley (VEOLIA), Kirsten Henson (Director KLH Sustainability UK). The panel, moderated by experienced journalist Laura Shields, led to the conclusion that the 2020 target is within reach, provided all interested parties will step up their efforts, from policy makers enforcing strong landfill restrictions to rapidly expanding collection and reprocessing infrastructure. The session on WFD implementation showed how complex and sometimes difficult this process is in different European countries. In session on future regulation on plastics waste, moderated by Craig Cookson from American Chemistry Council, Helmut Maurer explained the principles of “Green paper on plastics” currently being under preparation by EC. In his view the recycling is the favorable solution for plastics waste, and European countries should strive to increase recycling rate as much as possible. Moreover extended producers responsibility should be applied to plastics products. Kerstin Henson, Director of KLH Sustainability, taking as an example the London 2012 sustainability legacy showed, how the sustainability can create the business value for the company.

The second day of the conference concentrated on technical aspects of plastics waste management and started from another panel debate “How to deal with NIMBY syndrom?” Participants of the debate: Keith Riley, Craig Cookson, Jean Robert Mazaud (S'PACE), Lia Detterfelt (RENOVA), Piotr Leszczyński (MPO) agreed that the consultations with local communities are of utmost importance on every stage of the construction waste management plants, especially sensitive ones like municipal waste incinerators. Several sessions on

collection, sorting, recycling and recovery of plastics delivered an update both on market data and new techniques and technologies.

At the end of the conference Terry McCormack (LyondellBasell) in his witty wrap up underlined that “Zero plastics to landfill by 2020 “ might be difficult in some countries but the reputation of plastics is worth defending because of their contribution to sustainability.

The next IdentiPlast conference will be held in Paris on 28 - 29 November 2013.

Contact: Anna Kozera-Szałkowska/Kazimierz Borkowski

PL: Recycling Cup - award in ecological education

PlasticsEurope Polska has become a member of the Chapter of Recycling Cup Contest 2012 in two categories: Plastics and Ecological Education. The Recycling Cup has been organised for 13 years already and promotes local administration entities, waste management companies and schools achieving best results in recycling. The members of the Chapter coming from Polish waste management sector, NGOs, National Fund for Environmental Protection vote to select winners in each of 7 categories. For the fifth time PlasticsEurope Polska gave the award for the biggest engagement in education on value of plastics waste – this year the winner in an elementary school for South Poland. The cups and other prizes will be handed ceremonially during biggest national ecological fairs POLEKO in Poznań (19-23 November).

Contact: Anna Szałkowska/Kazimierz Borkowski

PL: Plastek project in Kraków

PlasticsEurope Polska started third primary school edition of ‘Plastek’ program – this time in Kraków, Two meetings for teachers from 60 primary schools have been arranged with the organizational help of methodological advisers for early education of Kraków city – the first took place in October, second is planned in November. As before at each meeting ‘Plastek’ program is presented (books, experiments, Q&A session) together with short presentation about PlasticsEurope Polska and its main educational activities. It is followed by a distribution of the ‘Plastek’ kits and other educational materials and film animations prepared by PlasticsEurope Polska. We plan to continue the program in other major Polish cities after winter break.

Contact: Edyta Wielgus-Barry

9. Economy and Trade - “Trade-related Issues”

EU: Current business situation of the plastics industry in Europe (EU27)

Overview: The positive development of the EU27 Plastics Industry after the bounce back from the great recession continued until the beginning of 2011. Since then the Primary Plastics and Plastics Products sector showed primarily decreasing tendencies, but July and August 2012 showed first signs of a possible growth trend in the Plastics Products sector again. The Plastics Machinery sector continued its growth until the third quarter 2011, but since then shows a downward trend.

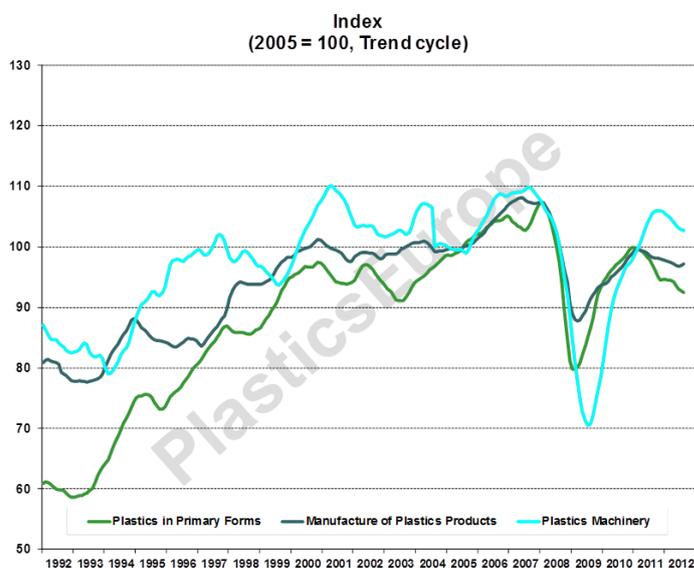
Sectors: Across sectors, primarily declining tendencies can be observed in 2012. Production quantities of Primary Plastics and Plastics Machinery showed clearly decreasing tendencies especially in the second quarter 2012. Also the Plastics Products sector showed a constantly declining production trend until mid 2012. However, this trend did not continue in July and August. While Plastics Machinery sector’s output from January to August 2012 is still higher compared to 2011, this does not hold true for Primary Plastics and Plastics Products, which both declined on a year over year basis. In the first half 2012 Plastics Industry producer prices increased in all the three segments, but showed decreasing tendencies in June and July. Nevertheless producer prices still remain on a high level.

End use Industries: The Electrical Machinery Industry’s production shows a sideway movement since mid 2011. Also the Automotive sector shows a more or less constant development in 2012. Production figures for the construction industry decrease again since the fourth quarter of 2011 after almost two years of consolidation. Production in the more crisis-resistant Food and Beverages sector further on with a more or less sideway movement.

External Trade: Total export quantities of Primary Plastics have reached its peak at the end of 2010. In 2012 slightly decreasing Import quantities can be observed for Primary Plastics while the corresponding export quantities show a sideways movement. Exports of Plastics Products show a more or less constant development since mid 2010. Also total import quantities of Plastics Products remain on a stable level.

Outlook: While the Primary Plastics and Plastics Machinery sectors seem to slightly decrease further on, the Plastics Products sector shows first signs of a possibly starting positive trend in the second half year 2012.

European Union (EU27) Plastics Industry Production

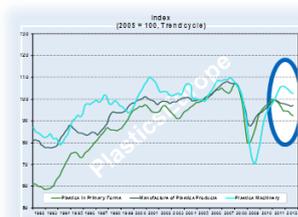


Actual data status of Production: 08/2012

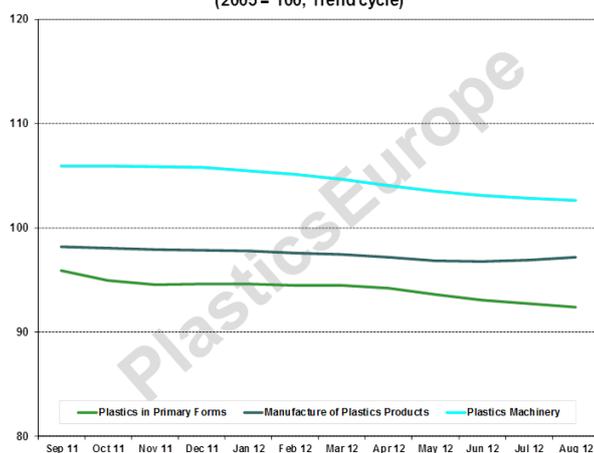
Plastics Industry Production by long term view (1992-2012):

- Long time series shows strong growth for production of Primary Plastics and Plastics Products during the 1990's and a more sideways development from 2000 to 2005. Plastics Machinery shows a more fluctuating development in long-term view.
- After strong growth in all the three segments in 2006 and more constant development in 2007, the effects of the economical crisis are clearly recognizable in 2008 and first half of 2009.
- Economic recovery in all three segments since mid 2009 lasted until the end of 2011. Since then, decreasing trends can be observed.

European Union (EU27) Plastics Industry Production



Index - Last 12 months
(2005 = 100, Trend cycle)



Source: Eurostat / PlasticsEurope Market Research Group (PEMRG)

Plastics Industry Production by short-term view (last 12 months):

- After months of strong growth, Plastics Machinery with a downward trend since the end of 2011.
- Also the Plastics Products segment shows a slight, but constantly declining production trend during the last months. However, first signs of recovery can be observed in July and August 2012.
- Plastics in Primary Forms shows a decreasing production trend in 2012.

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European Union (EU27) Plastics Industry Production

Production Index (working day adjusted)

Sectors	Aug 12 Index 2005 = 100	Jan - Aug 12	Aug 12 y-o-y (%)	Jan - Aug 12
Primary Plastics	91.0	96.1	-2.7	-4.9
Plastics Products	82.4	97.6	0.1	-2.0
Plastics Machinery	88.9	101.1	-7.0	1.3

Production Index (Trend cycle)

Sectors	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12	Aug 12
Change in % against previous month				
Primary Plastics	-0.7	-0.6	-0.3	-0.4
Plastics Products	-0.3	-0.1	0.2	0.2
Plastics Machinery	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2

- Plastics Machinery sector's production figures for the first eight months of 2012 are 1.3% higher compared to the same period in 2011.
- Production of Primary Plastics (-4.9%) and Plastics Products (-2.0%) show a year over year decrease.
- Production trends for Primary Plastics and Plastics Machinery showed decreasing tendencies in the last months. Especially the Primary Plastics sector had to record notable declines during the last four months. Plastics Products with first signs of recovery in July and August 2012.

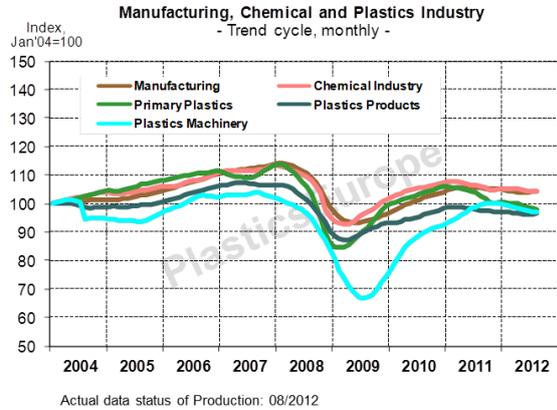
Source: Eurostat / PlasticsEurope Market Research Group (PEMRG)

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European Union (EU27) GDP, Chemical and Plastics Industry

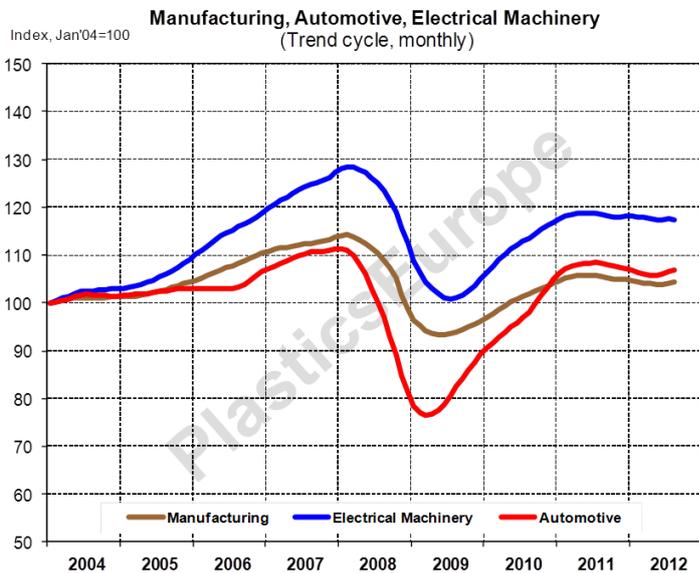


- Compared to 2010, EU27 GDP increased by 1.5% in 2011.
- In the second quarter of 2012 the GDP decreased by 0.16% compared to first quarter.
- Actual estimations of Eurostat for EU27 GDP growth rates (year on year):
2012: +/-0%, 2013: +1.3%



- Uptrend in the Total Manufacturing and Chemical industry has lasted until the first quarter of 2011. Since then, slightly decreasing tendencies were recorded.
- Primarily decreasing development for production of Primary Plastics and Plastics Machinery in the first half of 2012, but first signs of a possible growth trend in July and August 2012.

European Union (EU27) Plastics Customer Industries - Part I

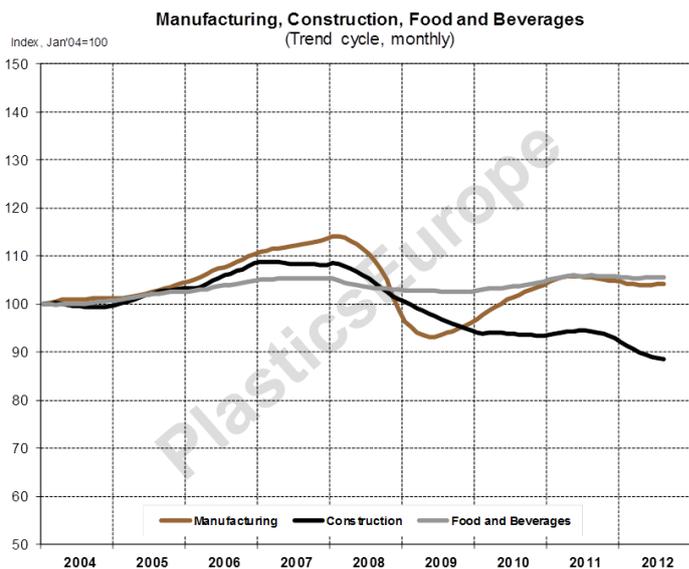


- Recovery in the EU27's Manufacturing Industry since 2009, but with slightly decreasing tendency since the second quarter of 2011.
- After strong growth especially in 2009 and 2010, production indices for the Automotive industry remain more or less stable in 2012.
- Also more or less sideways movement in the Electrical Machinery Industry since mid 2011.
- Industrial production activity in the EU27 is still below the pre-crisis level.

Source: Eurostat / PlasticsEurope Market Research Group (PEMRG)

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European Union (EU27) Plastics Customer Industries - Part II



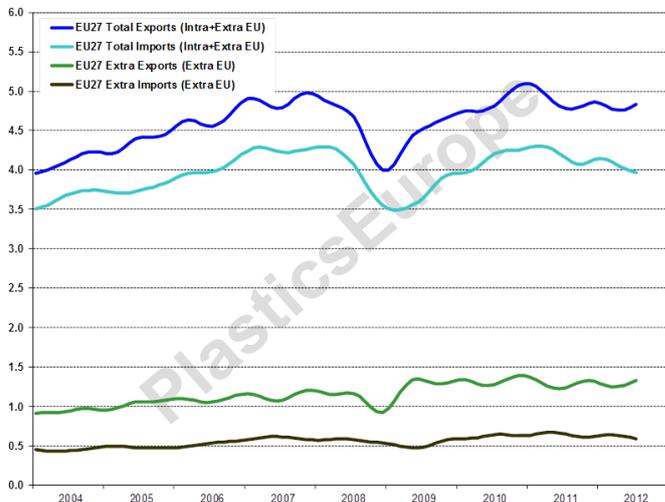
- Decreasing production trend in the Construction Industry since the third quarter of 2011.
- The Food and Beverages Industry was less hit by the recession than other industries.
- Slightly decreasing trend in production figures of the Manufacturing Industry since mid 2011.

Source: Eurostat / PlasticsEurope Market Research Group (PEMRG)

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European Union (EU27) Trade Primary Plastics

Trends in EU27 Trade with Primary Plastics
(Mio tons, Trend cycle, monthly)



Actual data status of EU27 Trade: 07/2012

Intra EU Trade: Trade between the Member States of the European Union

Extra EU Trade: Trade of the European Union with Non-Member Countries

- Total EU27 Export quantity of Primary Plastics has reached its peak at the end of 2010. The same applies to EU27 Extra Exports.
- Total Import quantities for Primary Plastics show a slightly decreasing trend in 2012. Imports from Extra EU27 with more or less sideways movement.
- During the last years the Extra EU Import share grew to 15.3% in 2011. The Extra EU Export share from January to July 2012 (26.5%) was about on the same level than in 2011 (26.4%).

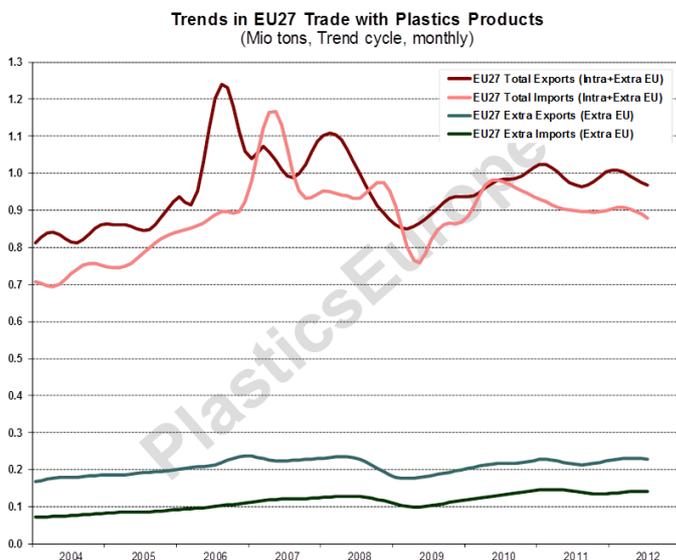
Extra EU Trade - Primary Plastics
Share in Total (%)

Year	Exports	Imports
2005	23.8	13.0
2006	23.5	13.2
2007	23.2	14.2
2008	24.1	14.2
2009	28.4	14.1
2010	27.3	15.1
2011	26.4	15.3
2012YTD 07	26.5	15.5

Source: Eurostat / PlasticsEurope Market Research Group (PEMRG)

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European Union (EU27) Trade Plastics Products



Actual data status of EU27 Trade: 07/2012
Intra EU Trade: Trade between the Member States of the European Union
Extra EU Trade: Trade of the European Union with Non-Member Countries

- Since mid 2010 Total Exports showed a more or less constant development. Total Imports also remain on a stable level since 2011.
- Extra EU Exports show a slight – but constantly growing trend since the end of 2011.
- The share of Extra EU Imports increased in recent years. In 2010 and 2011 the Extra EU Export share remained stable at a level of about 22%.

Extra EU Trade - Plastics Products Share in Total (%)

Year	Exports	Imports
2005	22.1	11.1
2006	20.0	11.4
2007	21.9	11.5
2008	22.0	12.9
2009	20.8	12.9
2010	22.0	13.7
2011	22.2	15.6
2012YTD 07	22.5	15.7

Source: Eurostat / PlasticsEurope Market Research Group (PEMRG)

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The above data are taken from the database of PEMRG (PlasticsEurope Market Research Group). This database provides key data from the plastics industry for all Member States of EU27, resorting to official European statistics (Eurostat).

Contact: Claus Simon (PED) and Frank Schnieders (Bayer MaterialScience)

SK: New Specialized Fair LABOR-TESTEXPO



The Association of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry of the Slovak Republic (ZCHFP SR) is one of the main partners of the specialized **LABOR-TESTEXPO** fair oriented on laboratory technology, testing and examinations that took place in INCHEBA Expo, Bratislava on 8th and 9th November 2012 for the first time ever. Its motto: "Laboratories for Solutions Development" represents the orientation of the fair on chemistry and world that surrounds us. The fair will be held in two-year cycles.

Partners of the fair:

- Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic
- Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava
- Faculty of Material Sciences and Technology, STU
- The chemistry department of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, the Comenius University
- Association of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry of the Slovak Republic
- Slovak Academy of Sciences
- Association of Chemistry Teachers
- Slovak Testing Laboratories Association and others



The Fair was opened by Mr. Dušan Čaplovič, the Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic).

Four member companies of ZCHFP SR, research and development institutes took part in the Exhibition in a **joint stand of ZCHFP SR**.

There was **specialized accompanying program** focused on pupils and students as well as on chemical specialists. Some samples of the titles of workshops and lectures:

- "Chemistry Laboratories Belong in Every School"; lecture by the Association of chemistry teachers of the Slovak Republic
- Support of nanotechnology development; presentation by Mrs. Silvia Surová, Secretary General of ZCHFP SR
- Chemical terminology in practical life; Mr. Martin Putala, Comenius University in Bratislava
- Safety in school chemistry laboratories; Mr. Mikuláš Bartal, Chemical comprehensive school, Bratislava
- New system of classification and labelling of chemicals; Mrs. Zuzana Zajacová, REACH Centrum Slovakia, Bratislava.

Contact: *Silvia Surová*

10. The Association

DE: Meeting of the Additive Committee of PlasticsEurope Deutschland (Fachgemeinschaft Additive)

The Additive producer of PlasticsEurope Deutschland met on their autumn meeting on the 23rd of October in Merseburg. Main items of the meeting were the additive specific questions and the actual political scope like Bisphenol A, Phthalate, plastics in building applications materials for drinking water pipes, Reach and PVC. The economic situation and the new social media concept were discussed too. The next meeting will take place at the 15th of May 2013.

Contact: *Claus Simon*

PL: Plastics industry versus economic slowdown

Polish plastics industry gathered during Plastics Congress organized every year. The industry representatives discussed mainly on economic aspects of the Polish and European economy and on current conditions for developing successfully plastics business in Poland. Various discussions and examples shown during the panel discussions prove that Polish plastics (processing) industry is highly differentiated; along with top technologies and outputs employed by the leaders there is still a large number of very small companies that don't have resources and ideas how to develop. Because of increasing competition the latter group is probably doomed to lose the ability to keep up in the market in a medium term.

Contact: *Kazimierz Borkowski*

11. Further topics

DE: PVC Workshop on 11 December 2012 in Frankfurt

The workshop "PVC and Environment" – jointly held and organised by the Working Group of PVC and Environment (AGPU) and PlasticsEurope Deutschland – has established itself over many years as the recognised expert forum in the PVC industry. During this year's winter workshop in Frankfurt/Main on 11 December 2012, participants can again expect to find a wealth of information, ranging from A as in Additive to Z as in Zero Landfill.

Reputable experts will present up-to-date topics relating to PVC, such as softeners made from renewable raw materials, soft PVC film or innovative PVC piping. A special focus will be PVC recycling, which will include an introduction to the latest state of the EcoLoop process as well as a presentation of plastic recycling in practice on the part of Dr Jens Lühr (Fischer GmbH, Cologne). In addition, there will be talks on the advantages, challenges and pitfalls of company wikis, and the SolVin Award for PVC innovations 2013 will be introduced.

Please note the details in your diary:

11 December 2012, VCI Building, Mainzer Landstrasse 55, Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

Contact: Sabine Lindner

DE: Commissioner Potočnik lays out his plans on resources forum in Berlin

From 12 to 14 November the German Environment Agency (UBA) hosted a resources forum with 400 participants in Berlin. In the international part of the conference EU environment commissioner Potočnik called resource efficiency the core and guiding principle of his mandate and started with a reply to the closing remark of Patrick Thomas, President of PlasticsEurope at the PolyTalk event: „Talk the talk“ and „walk the walk“. The working programme of the EU-Commission would be able to create 130 000 jobs in waste and water management in line with the resource efficiency flagship initiative. „Key resources“ in the value chain are going to be addressed by the COM in 2013 while boosting supply and demand of resource efficient goods in the single market, and in 2014 when tackling food, housing or water. The consultation process, i.e. the dialogue with industry would commence in early 2013. In the 21st century resource productivity is supposed to replace labour productivity, according to the commissioner. A round table of investors is going to be launched early 2013. On the way to a „closed loop economy“ the social media would be the „game changer“.

Contact: Michael Hillenbrand