



Polycarbonate in Germany: A major contributor to the country's economy and quality of life



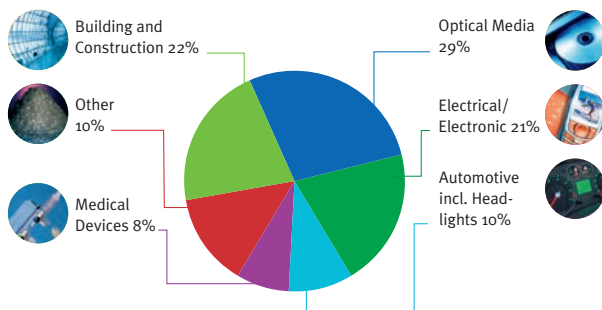
Polycarbonate is a lightweight, highly versatile, durable, heat and shatter resistant, formable and transparent thermoplastic. It is the material of choice for a wide range of end-user applications as diverse as DVDs, spectacles and optical lenses, car headlamps and parts, transparent roofs in construction, or medical devices.

Germany is the major producer of polycarbonate in Europe: about 40% of total European production is produced here, generating about 900 mio Euro of value added. A trade surplus of about 560 mio Euro is generated by net exports of polycarbonate. Due to its function as an enabling technology, **almost 120,000 jobs in Germany are related to the production and consumption of polycarbonate.**

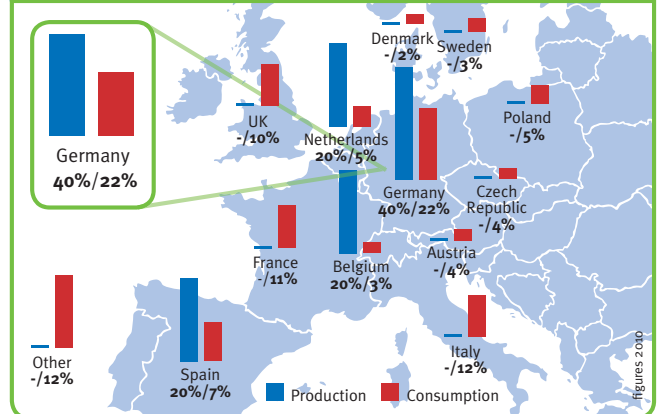
German national consumption of polycarbonate grew continuously by over 4% p.a. during the past years and reached about 22% of total EU consumption in 2010. **90% of the German consumption of polycarbonate is concentrated in five key economic sectors:** in the Optical Media, Building & Construction, Electrical & Electronics, Automotive and Medical Devices sector. It is estimated that **about 8.1 billion Euro of value added depend upon polycarbonate technology in Germany.**

In many of these applications polycarbonate is critical to transforming the functional characteristics of components

German consumption of polycarbonate by sectors



European production and consumption of polycarbonate by countries



or end uses. This means: Polycarbonate cannot be replaced by any other material if the same material performance characteristics are required. **Circa 85% of the German consumption of polycarbonate is used in these unique applications.**

In unique applications situations, outputs are dependent upon polycarbonate, and so are the working places of the people producing or processing them: 8,000 jobs in the production industry, 8,000 jobs in the processing, and 104,000 jobs related to the manufacturing and sale of end products are related directly and indirectly to polycarbonate in unique applications in Germany.

This is particularly the case in the medical applications sector, where robustness, biocompatibility and ease of sterilization over multiple re-uses as well as highest possible inertness and transparency is required.

* All figures in this document are based on the year 2010. The figures have been determined in a conservative approach ensuring that only the jobs and value added that could be uniquely attributed to polycarbonate should be counted in this value chain.

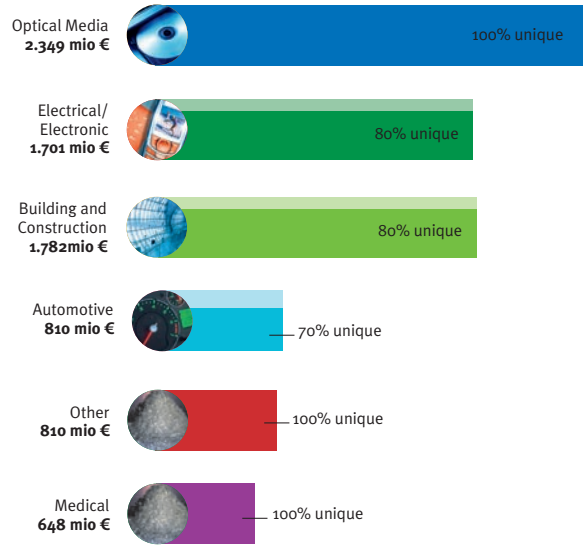


Germany’s world leading medical devices industry accounts for 30% of the output of medical and surgical equipment in the EU. This includes applications used in open heart surgery, blood processing devices and dialysis equipments.

Germany is also the largest centre of production of optical storage media and accounts for over 30% of European output. In the Automotive and Building&Construction industries in Germany, as an enabling technology, polycarbonate provides development designers with the basis for innovation in applications requiring long-term transparency, stability against wear and shatter-proof combined with light weight, thus providing for safety as well as energy saving. Use of polycarbonate in the German Automotive Parts industry includes for example advanced lighting systems, instrument panels, glazing, safety features and body panels.

Polycarbonate is a dynamic enabling platform technology for innovation, thus helping to sustain Germany’s manufacturing base. The competitive position of a significant number of leading German companies depends

Polycarbonate added value and unique applications in Germany



figures 2010

upon the continued exploitation of the many and unique properties of polycarbonate. It offers solutions to modern societies to meet the emerging needs for lower weight, greater safety and security, lower risks and improved well-being, while at the same time reducing costs and improving the product performance.

German polycarbonate consumption: industrial cluster regions



Contact

Jasmin Bird
 Manager Communications
 PC/BPA-Group PlasticsEurope
 Tel: +32 2 676 1738
 jasmin.bird@plasticseurope.org
 www.bisphenol-a-europe.org



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