

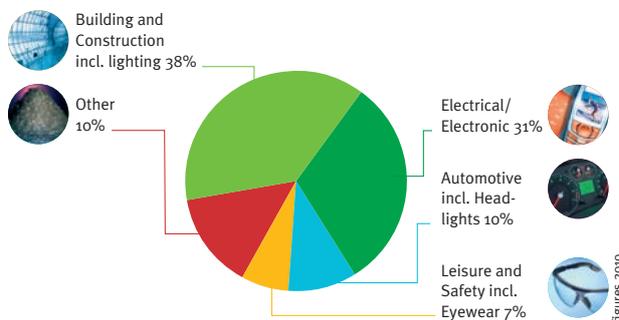
Polycarbonate in Italy: A major contributor to the country's economy and quality of life

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.

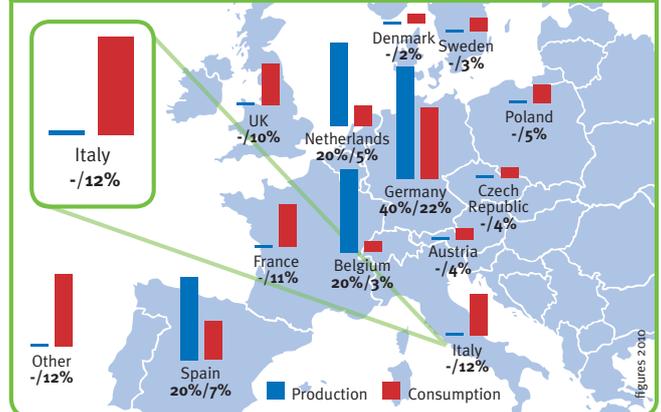
Italy has no own polycarbonate production and therefore depends on imports from other countries to supply its Italian industries' needs of this high performance plastics material. However, due to its function as enabling technology, **almost 46,000 jobs were related to the use of polycarbonate in Italy in 2010.** During the past two decades, Italy's polycarbonate consumption grew by nearly 4% on an annualized basis. **In 2010, Italy consumed about 12% of the EU production of polycarbonate, thereby generating ca. 2.9 billion Euro of value added.**

Over 85% of Italy's consumption of polycarbonate is concentrated in four key economic sectors: the Building & Construction, Electrical & Electronics, the Automotive and Leisure and Safety industries.

Italian consumption of polycarbonate by sectors



European production and consumption of polycarbonate by countries



In many of these applications polycarbonate is critical to transforming the functional characteristics of components or end uses. This means: Polycarbonate cannot be replaced by any other material if the same material performance characteristics are required. Over 80% of Italy's consumption of polycarbonate is used in these unique applications, creating about 2.3 billion Euro of value added.

In these unique applications, outputs are dependent upon polycarbonate, and so are the working places of the people producing them: **3,000 jobs in the processing, and 43,000 jobs related to the manufacturing and sale of end products are related directly and indirectly to polycarbonate in unique applications in Italy.**

* 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.

