



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

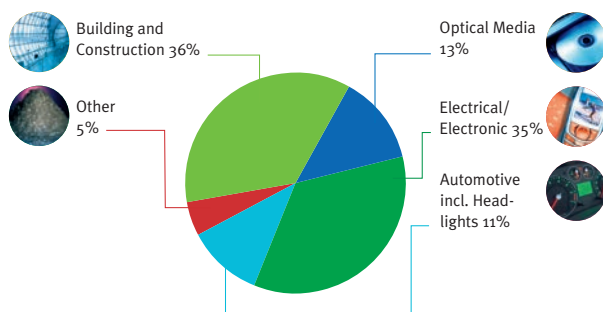
Polycarbonate is a lightweight, highly versatile, durable, heat and shatter resistant, formable and transparent thermoplastic. It is the material of choice for a wide range of end-user applications as diverse as DVDs, spectacles and optical lenses, car headlamps and parts, transparent roofs in construction,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



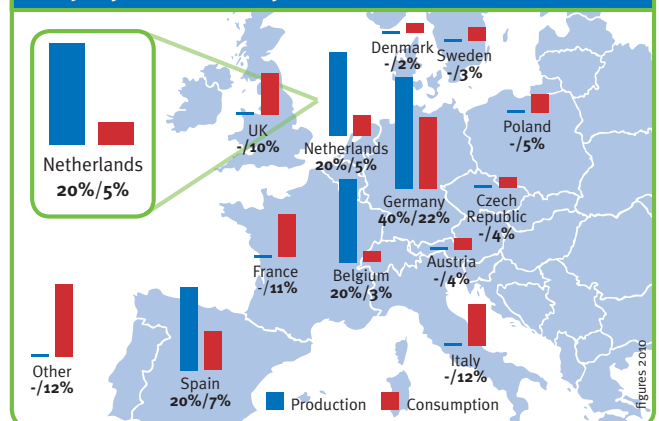
The Netherlands is a major producer of polycarbonate: about 20% of total European production is produced here, generating about 490 mio Euro of value added. A trade surplus of about 410 mio Euro is generated by net exports of polycarbonate. Due to its function as an enabling technology, **over 21,000 jobs in the Netherlands are related to the production and consumption of polycarbonate.**

Dutch national consumption of polycarbonate grew continuously by about 5% p.a. during the past years and reached about 5% of total EU consumption in 2010. **85% of the Dutch consumption of polycarbonate is concentrated in three key economic sectors:** in Building & Construction, in the Electrical & Electronics industries and the Optical Media sector. It is estimated that **about 1.4 billion Euro of value added depend upon polycarbonate technology in the Netherlands.**

Dutch 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 the Dutch consumption of polycarbonate is used in these unique applications.**

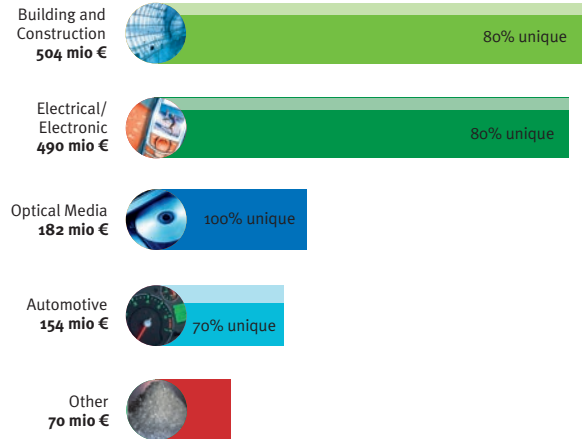
In unique applications situations, outputs are dependent upon polycarbonate, and so are the working places of the people producing or processing them: 4,200 jobs in the production industry, 1,200 jobs in the processing, and 15,800 jobs related to the manufacturing and sale of end products are related directly and indirectly to polycarbonate in unique applications in the Netherlands.

* 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.



Polycarbonate is a dynamic enabling platform technology for innovation, thus helping to sustain the Netherlands' manufacturing base. The competitive position of a significant number of leading Dutch companies depends 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.

Polycarbonate added value and unique applications in the Netherlands



figures 2010

Dutch polycarbonate consumption: industrial cluster regions



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