



Market Monitoring Newsletter

ARMO'S ROTATIONAL MOLDING NEWSLETTER

jeudi 17 février 2022

Polymers

China standard thermoplastics January 2022: Prices broadly higher except for PVC and PS / Slack demand amid Chinese New Year holidays and Olympics / Prices seen lower in February



Prices for standard thermoplastics on the Chinese market were mostly higher in January 2022, as crude oil quotations firmed. Only the PVC and PS markets saw reductions. Demand was generally slow ahead of the Chinese New Year holidays and Winter Olympics. HIPS demand was reasonably stable, as it is used in the packaging box of Covid-19 RNA test reagents. Nevertheless, by the end of the month, the material was in the red. Despite low demand, LDPE quotations saw an upward trend due to higher crude oil prices. Most downstream plants had stopped production in the second half of January amid the Chinese New Year holidays. Hence, very few deals were done. Middle Eastern distributors asked for USD 1,485-1,530/t, which is USD 50-55/t more than the previous month. Prices for all grades of HDPE were up in tandem with the firmer crude oil market, despite weak demand. The offer price for extrusion grade HDPE from South Korea for February was USD 1,210/t, USD 20/t lower compared to the previous month. The average price of PVC decreased on the back of weak demand. However, prices started to rebound in the last week of the month.

Click here to read more : piweb.plasteurope.com

North America January 2022: Rollover predominates / Shortage of additives

is a problem for compounders / Start of the maintenance season / February likely to see widespread price increases



On the North American polymer markets, prices in January moved predominantly sideways. Only the polypropylene segment reported occasional falls. Polycarbonate and polyamide 6.6 ended the month firmer, but the situation across the country remains tense. Logistical issues, unscheduled outages, high energy costs and irregularities in the key export market of China made things difficult generally for the standard thermoplastics markets. Alongside these problems, engineering thermoplastics are also being affected by the continual shortage of additives. PE producers were unable to push through their calls for increases of USD 88/t in view of the sluggish demand, and January contracts were predominantly fixed at a rollover. Stocks are overflowing, particularly as the export volumes on the Gulf of Mexico cannot be processed to the desired extent due to continual lack of truck drivers and containers. Covid-19 outbreaks are additionally slowing down business. PVC prices trended unchanged in January compared to the previous month, but in some cases, reductions were also agreed upon. The ethylene price, which picked up in view of production outages and a strong export market, helped drive up prices. On the other hand, everything is running smoothly in PVC production, with demand fairly subdued. Stocks are overflowing. The export market was also significantly calmer with prices softening as demand from Asia declined.

Click here to read more : pieweb.plasteurope.com

Standard thermoplastics trend January 2022 for Europe: Only styrenics see significant premiums / Polyolefins mostly roll over / Low demand slows energy cost pass-through



The polyolefins market has been rather quiet, and by the end of the first third of January, many processors were slow to return from their winter dormancy and had ordered only small amounts. The fact that key feedstocks ethylene and propylene both recorded a rollover at the start of the year also did not help. Initial agreements indicate that the prices of most PE and PP grades are holding at the previous month's levels. Only the C6 and C8 grades of LLDPE have seen a minimal increase, while merely HDPE blow moulding and blown film grades have seen slight reductions due to low demand. Even PVC prices, which had been trending upward for some time, moved sideways at the beginning of January.

Click here to read more : pieweb.plasteurope.com

Research & Patents

DURABLE ARTICULATED JOINTS AND MANNEQUINS MADE THEREWITH



The disclosure includes descriptions of articulated joints for mannequins, specifically, for positioning and posing mannequins in one or more positions. The disclosure also includes descriptions of retail mannequins and target or tactical mannequins incorporating one or more articulated joints. Another aspect of the present disclosure describes methods of manufacturing mannequins incorporating one or more articulated joints, such as, for example, in a cold rotational molding process.

Click here to read more : worldwide.espacenet.com

METAL-BUSHING-INTEGRATED NYLON WHEEL CASTING METHOD



A metal-bushing-integrated nylon wheel casting method, the method comprising: taking caprolactam and heating same to a liquid state; adding an alkaline catalyst and an organic powder thereto, mixing same until uniform, and subjecting same to dehydration treatment; adding a curing agent to the liquid caprolactam after the dehydration treatment and stirring and mixing same to form a mixture ; taking 50%-80% of the total amount of the mixture and adding same into a pre-heated mold for centrifugal rotational molding

Click here to read more : worldwide.espacenet.com

Rotomolding Market News - Europe

Sheffield manufacturer PolyProducts to create 20 new jobs after grant funding



A plastic products producer is hoping to create at least 20 new jobs over the next five years after securing funds to improve its manufacturing process. Sheffield-based PolyProducts manufactures plastic products ranging from aquatics and garden products to defibrillator cases and even radar components, which are made using vacuum forming and rotational moulding.

Click here to read more : www.yorkshirepost.co.uk

The Arbre à Fondue : a design piece manufactured by Groupe Maillard Industrie

03/02/2022



Marketed by the company STAAF, the “Arbre à Fondue” (Fondue Tree) is an original standing table that offers the possibility of enjoying a fondue in a very convivial way in places that are as unusual as they are improbable. Straight out of the Maillard Industrie Group's production workshops, this all-plastic furniture takes shape in Autechaux, in the Doubs region of France, and its manufacture by rotational molding is still impressive. (Translated from French)

Click here to read more : www.groupgmi.com

AGCO Beauvais towards a new dimension



AGCO's first new generation tractor (the MF8S launched in 2020), with the first tank manufactured on site, has just left the workshops of the manufacturer's Beauvais plant, in France. In total, AGCO Beauvais has the capacity to manufacture one million tubes per year. On the tank manufacturing side, 100,000 units will be produced per year. According to a company official, the goal is to become the European center for rotational molding. (Translated from French)

Click here to read more : www.gazetteoise.fr
