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# Global EPS



A new global market study on

EPS published by Ceresana Research presents the most important information regarding the various grades, their advantages, application possibilities, as well as legal situations and certifications, innovations and trends and recycling. Individual EPS markets are analyzed in detail for 64 countries, with information on prices, imports and exports - including prognoses until 2016.

Roughly two-thirds of EPS demand is accounted for by blocks and panels in the construction industry, the largest application area. The importance of construction industry will continue to grow: many governments, particularly in Europe, are promoting measures to increase energy efficiency. Therefore continued growth in EPS consumption is expected starting in 2010, despite declining building sectors in many locations.

After worldwide EPS revenue had increased at an average rate of 7.3% per year between 2000 and 2008, it fell to approximately 4.3 billion euro in 2009. Due to substantial price decreases, revenue fell by up to a third in some world regions. However, prices are already starting to rise again. The market value is expected to reach the level from 2008 again in 2012.

EPS production is particularly dynamic in Eastern Europe and Asia-Pacific. Ceresana expects to see growth there until 2016, in the amount of 7.1 and 5.9% per year, respectively. China alone, which is already the world's largest EPS manufacturer, should see capacities increase by more than 750,000 tons, while East European countries should see a growth of just less than 350,000 tons. In contrast, EPS production in Japan and South Korea will most likely fall.

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