



EATP is the European Association promoting and developing the interests of manufacturers of Textile Polyolefins

Brussels, December 7, 2007

PRESS RELEASE

Polyolefin Textiles In The Greater European Market

Unique Data Source From EATP

EATP – the European Association for Textile Polyolefins – has released its annual market study (**Polyolefin Textiles in the Greater European Area**) to its member companies.

This study is a unique analysis of the **situation and the evolution of polyolefin fibres and textiles in Europe**. It covers market developments in all kinds of polyolefin textile products in Western and Central Europe and Turkey. These cover a huge range of technologies and end-uses: fibres, yarns, fabrics, nonwovens, ropes and twine, carpets and rugs, FIBCs, agrotextiles, geotextiles, other technical textiles and much else.

The main trends and conclusions of the Report include:

- The **leading share** of polyolefins – polypropylene (PP) and polyethylene (PE) - in the total European textiles market is still increasing. In 2006, they accounted for **43%** of all man-made materials used for textiles.
- **Consumption** of polyolefin textiles was almost **2.5 million tonnes**.
- **Tapes and slit film** are the largest sector product, followed closely by **staple fibres, spunbond nonwovens** and **filament yarn**. Spunbond and meltblown technologies are growing rapidly (up by 6% in 2006)
- The largest end-use market is **technical textiles**, consuming 950.000 tonnes of polyolefins, in articles such as agrotextiles, geotextiles, strapping, packaging, construction and a wide range of other technical applications
- **Carpet** markets, the second largest end-use, recovered in 2006, with PP usage rising by 1% to 635.000 tonnes
- **Hygiene and medical applications** grew by 6% in 2006, reaching over 500.000 tonnes
- **Polyethylene** usage grew, particularly in synthetic turf, but is less than 10% of the total polyolefin textiles market
- **Western Europe** still accounts for most polyolefin textiles production, but the combined share of Turkey and Central Europe has risen to 26%.

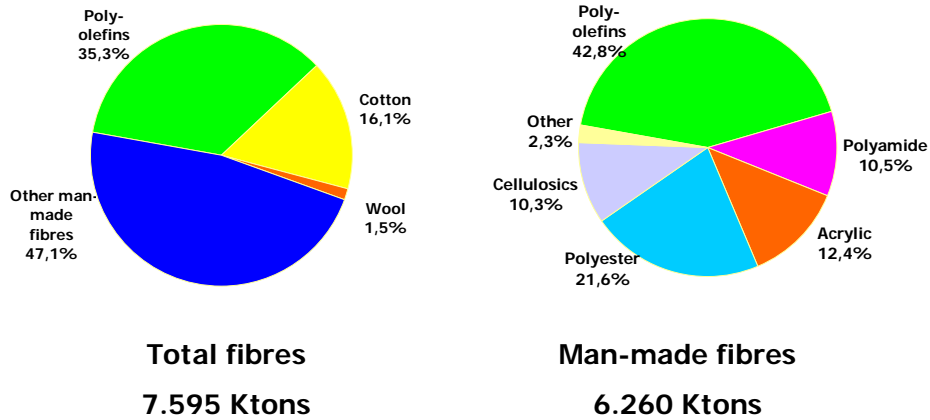
The EATP executive responsible for the Market Study, Secretary General **Albert Prisse**, commented:

“The EATP Market Study is the only research report which gives a complete and authoritative picture of the polyolefin textiles market in Europe. This is a dynamic but challenging sector, where real market knowledge is one of the keys to competitive advantage.

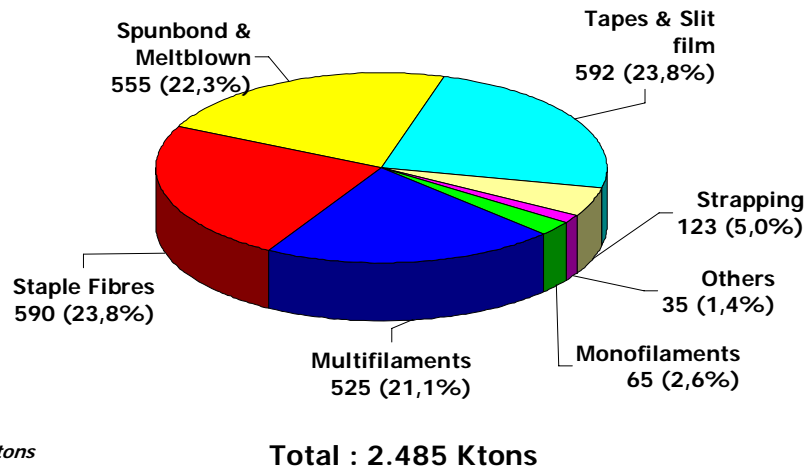
“As the spokesman for the polyolefin textiles industry in Europe, EATP is proud to be able to provide its member companies with such a detailed and valuable data source.”



Share of Polyolefin Fibres vs total fibre industry Greater Europe - 2006



Segmentation of PP textile intermediate products & consumption in 2006 (Greater Europe)



Notes to Editors

1. EATP, the European Association for Textile Polyolefins, is the representative body for companies producing polymers, fibres and textiles made from polypropylene and polyethylene. The main products of the industry are floor coverings (carpets, rugs, carpet backing), bulk containers and sacks for transporting a huge variety of products, a vast range of technical fabrics for industrial use (filters, geotextiles, agrotextiles etc) and fibres used in making nonwovens for hygiene and other uses. European output of polyolefin textiles exceeds €3 billion per year.
2. The full study is restricted to member companies of EATP.
3. For further information, please contact Colin Purvis on :
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