

Nitrile Elastomers

15 November 2019

Abstract

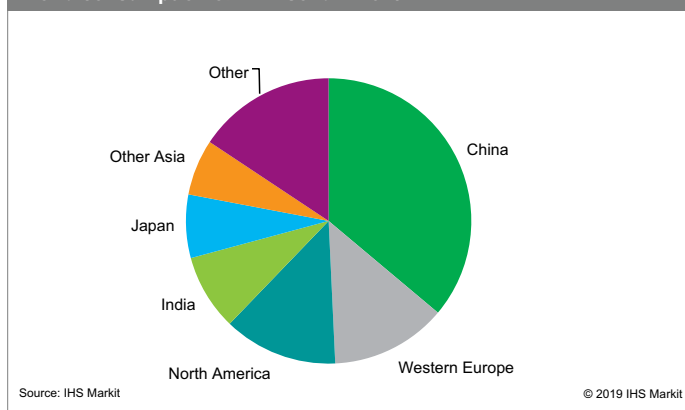
This report focuses on the global market for the major nitrile elastomers. It discusses the following three nitrile elastomers:

- Nitrile butadiene rubber (solid NBR rubber)
- Nitrile butadiene latex (NBR latex)
- Hydrogenated NBR (HNBR)

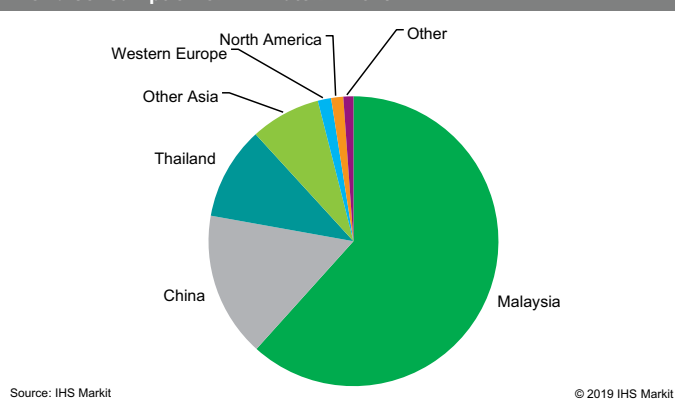
In their simplest form, nitrile elastomers are copolymers of an unsaturated nitrile (acrylonitrile) and a conjugated diene (usually butadiene). Nitrile rubber has the distinctive feature of high resistance to oils (aliphatic hydrocarbons) over a wide temperature range. Nitrile butadiene rubber (NBR) is also noted for high strength and excellent resistance to abrasion, water, alcohols, and heat. Disadvantages include poor dielectric properties and poor resistance to ozone and strong oxidants.

The following pie charts show world consumption of NBR solid and NBR latex.

World consumption of NBR solid —2019



World consumption of NBR latex —2019



Solid NBR is mainly used to make oil-resistant industrial goods, such as hoses, tubing, and seals, which are mainly used in the automotive industry in China.

The largest consumer of solid NBR in 2018 was China. The market for HNBR is still concentrated mainly in the most industrialized countries of North America, Western Europe, and Japan. With regard to NBR latex consumption, the most dramatic growth has been seen in Malaysia and other East Asian countries. During the last 10 years, Malaysia has

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continued as the global leader/center of the latex dipping/glove manufacturing industry. It is the world's largest producer of nitrile rubber gloves, with a two-thirds share of the global market in recent years.

Chinese industries, especially the automotive industry, have developed very rapidly in recent years. The production of vehicles in China has grown strongly in the past five years, and production is forecast to continue to grow.

Since Malaysia is the world's largest supplier of nitrile rubber gloves, most of the supply of NBR latex is consumed in the production of protective gloves and other rubber products. Malaysian consumption of NBR latexes has increased rapidly in the past several years. Malaysia has been the world's largest importer of NBR latexes. Malaysian demand for NBR latexes is expected to continue to increase strongly during the next five years.

Global consumption of solid NBR and NBR latex are both forecast to continue increasing during the next five years.

For more detailed information, see the table of contents, shown below.

IHS Markit's Chemical Economics Handbook – Nitrile Elastomers is the comprehensive and trusted guide for anyone seeking information on this industry. This latest report details global and regional information, including



Global summary;
regional coverage



Producers with
annual capacities
and plant sites



Production figures
and trends



Consumption and
forecasts by end use
application



Manufacturing
processes and
environmental issues



Trade – imports
and exports

Key Benefits

IHS Markit's Chemical Economics Handbook – Nitrile Elastomers has been compiled using primary interviews with key suppliers, organizations and leading representatives from the industry in combination with IHS Markit's unparalleled access to upstream and downstream market intelligence, expert insights into industry dynamics, trade and economics.

This report can help you:

- Identify trends and driving forces influencing chemical markets
- Forecast and plan for future demand
- Understand the impact of competing materials
- Identify and evaluate potential customers and competitors
- Evaluate producers
- Track changing prices and trade movements
- Analyze the impact of feedstocks, regulations, and other factors on chemical profitability

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