

News Release

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Authoritative report on the demand for natural rubber and selected types of synthetic rubber utilized across the tire and non-tire sectors now available

The International Rubber Study Group (IRSG) and the International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Producers (IISRP) Inc. are pleased to announce the release of the 2008 version of the study, entitled, “*Demand for Natural Rubber (NR) and various forms of Synthetic Rubber (SR)*”. The document is the result of another period of close cooperation between the IRSG and the IISRP aimed at developing projections of demand for major types of SR for key consuming regions over a five year period.

The study provides an authoritative approach in developing forecasts. Firstly, views on likely economic developments in nine key regions are considered over the period 2008-2012, while detailed vehicle and tire production trends are also provided. Using a solid platform of economic and end-use sector trends, aggregate rubber consumption projections are developed split between the major consuming arenas – tire and non-tire sectors. From here, forecasts of rubber usage are split between NR and SR in both segments of the market. The next component of the study disaggregates projections of total SR use into demand by major type. This step is achieved using historic data on elastomer usage by type and an econometric approach. In each part of the methodology described, detailed data-sets, in both chart and table format, along with commentary, are provided.

In all of the above steps, a sophisticated model of the world rubber economy is utilized. The model is traditionally used to develop long range projections – typically out to 2020. To be effective in this study, the model has been somewhat adapted in order to develop forecasts of demand for NR and for various forms of SR over the short- to medium-term.

Elastomers considered in the study are the following five solid forms: *styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR)*, *polybutadiene rubber (BR)*, *ethylene-propylene diene rubber (EPDM)*, *nitrile rubber (NBR)* and *polychloroprene rubber (CR)*; the key regions covered in this publication, for which detailed projections out to 2012 are available, are as follows: *North America, Latin America, Europe (excl. Russia), Russia, China, India, Japan, Other-Asia and Oceania, Middle East & Africa.*

The study, its approach and findings will be of real value to all associated with the rubber sector. The report is only available to members of the IRSG and the IISRP, from whom further details can be obtained. Contact details are given below:

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