



# Polycarbonate in the Czech Republic: A major contributor to the country's economy and quality of life



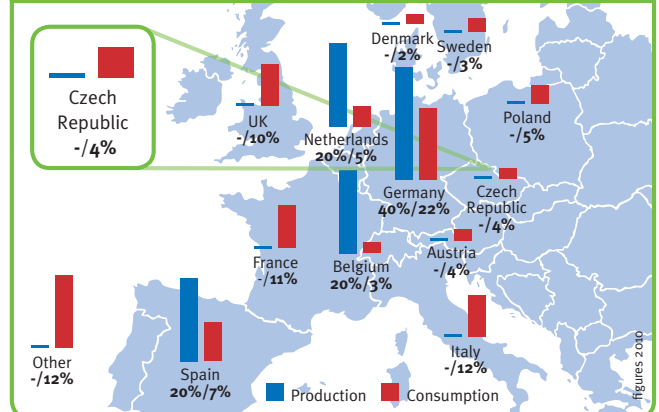
Polycarbonate is a lightweight, highly versatile, durable, heat and shatter resistant, formable and transparent thermoplastic. It is the material of choice for a wide range of end-user applications as diverse as DVDs, spectacles and optical lenses, car headlamps and parts, transparent roofs in construction, or medical devices.

**The Czech Republic has no own polycarbonate production** and therefore depends on imports from other countries to supply its Czech industries' needs of this high performance plastics material. However, due to its function as enabling technology, **nearly 13,000 jobs were related to the use of polycarbonate in the Czech Republic.** In 2010, the Czech Republic consumed about 4% of the EU production of polycarbonate, thereby generating ca. 1,4 billion of value added.

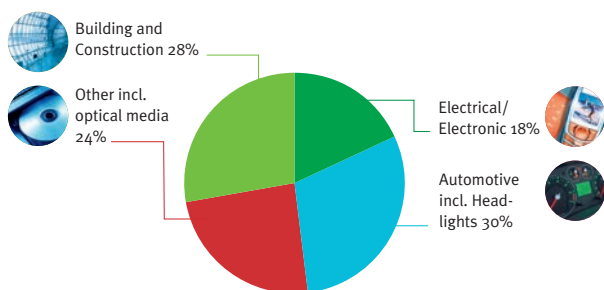
Over 75% of the Czech consumption of polycarbonate is concentrated in three key economic sectors: the Automotive, Building & Construction and the Electrical & Electronics industries.

Production of motor vehicles, parts and components is one of the most important parts of the Czech economy. More than 850 companies generate over 30 billion of output and support more than 260,000 jobs. This is equivalent to

## European production and consumption of polycarbonate by countries



## Czech Republic consumption of polycarbonate by sectors



more than 20% of the Czech industrial output. Lightweight, transparent and shatter-proof polycarbonate is used as a critical component in many automotive parts and provides product designers with innovative solutions used for example in headlights, glazing, interior and exterior trim, and safety features.

**In the Electrical & Electronics sector, polycarbonate is used as a critical component in many technically complex and safety related applications,** such as fire retardant computer housing, electrical installations or domestic appliances.

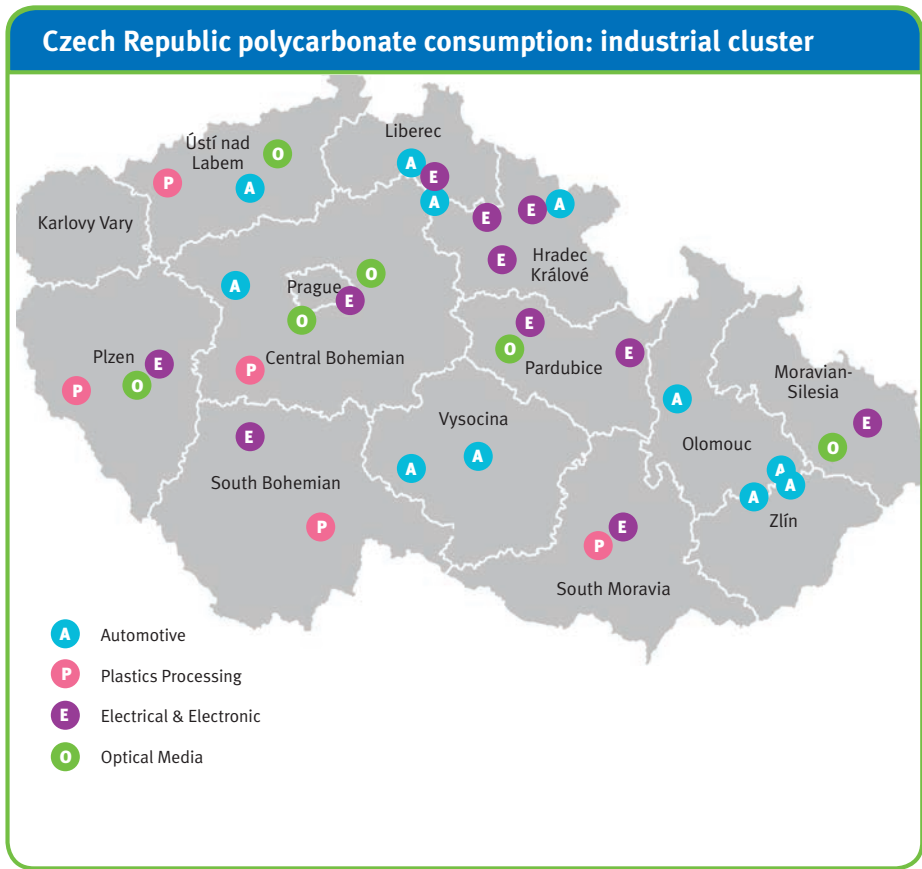
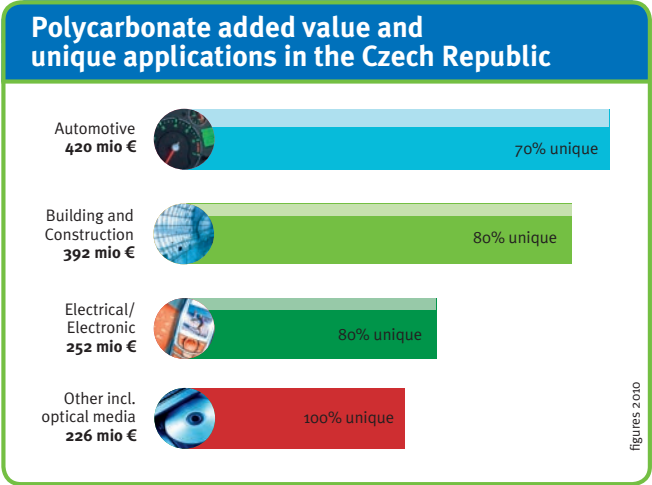
**In 2010,** the Czech Electrical & Electronics sector generated more than 15% of Czech industrial output, supporting more than 115,000 jobs.

\* All figures in this document are based on the year 2010. The figures have been determined in a conservative approach ensuring that only the jobs and value added that could be uniquely attributed to polycarbonate should be counted in this value chain.



**In many of these applications polycarbonate is critical to transforming the functional characteristics** of components or end uses. This means: Polycarbonate cannot be replaced by any other material if the same material performance characteristics are required.

Polycarbonate is a dynamic enabling platform technology for innovation, thus helping to sustain the Czech Republic’s manufacturing base. The competitive position of a significant number of leading Czech companies depends upon the continued exploitation of the many and unique properties of polycarbonate. It offers solutions to modern societies to meet the emerging needs for lower weight, greater safety and security, lower risks and improved well-being, while at the same time reducing costs and improving the product performance.



### Contact

Jasmin Bird  
 Manager Communications  
 PC/BPA-Group PlasticsEurope  
 Tel: +32 2 676 1738  
[jasmin.bird@plasticseurope.org](mailto:jasmin.bird@plasticseurope.org)  
[www.bisphenol-a-europe.org](http://www.bisphenol-a-europe.org)

