



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

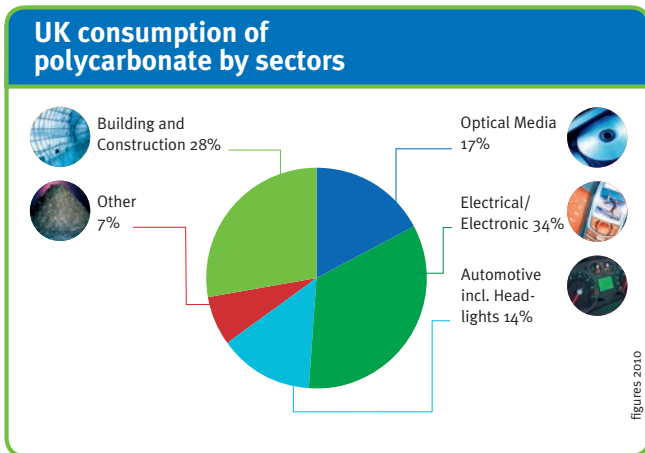
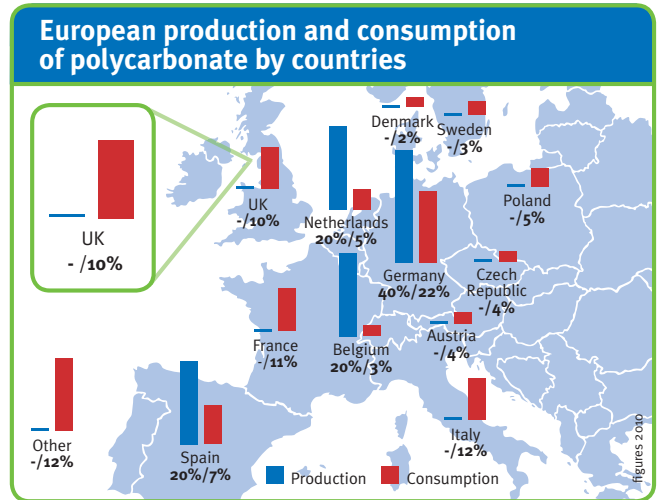


Polycarbonate is a lightweight, highly versatile, durable, heat and shatter resistant, formable and transparent thermoplastic. It is the material of choice for a wide range of end-user applications as diverse as DVDs, spectacles and optical lenses, car headlamps and parts, transparent roofs in construction,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

The UK has no own polycarbonate production and therefore depends on imports from other countries to supply its UK industries' needs of this high performance plastics material. However, due to its function as enabling technology, **almost 98,000 jobs were related to the use of polycarbonate in the UK in 2010.** During the past two decades, the UK's polycarbonate consumption grew by about 4% on an annualized basis. **In 2010, the UK consumed about 10% of the EU production of polycarbonate, thereby generating ca. 5 billion Euro of value added.**

Over 90% of the UK's consumption of polycarbonate is concentrated in four key economic sectors: the Electrical & Electronics, Building & Construction, Optical Media and the Automotive industries.

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. Over 80% of the UK's consumption of polycarbonate is used in these unique applications, creating about 4 billion Euro of value added.

In these unique applications, outputs are dependent upon polycarbonate, and so are the working places of the people producing them: **3,000 jobs in the processing, and 95,000 jobs related to the manufacturing and sale of end products are related directly and indirectly to polycarbonate in unique applications in the UK.**

The UK is the principal center of excellence for the European optical media, music and movies industries, overall accounting for over 40% of employment. For this market, **optical media** such as CD, DVD, Blu-Ray discs **is one of the core enabling technologies. More than 400 companies** are engaged in the design of semi-conductors,

* 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.





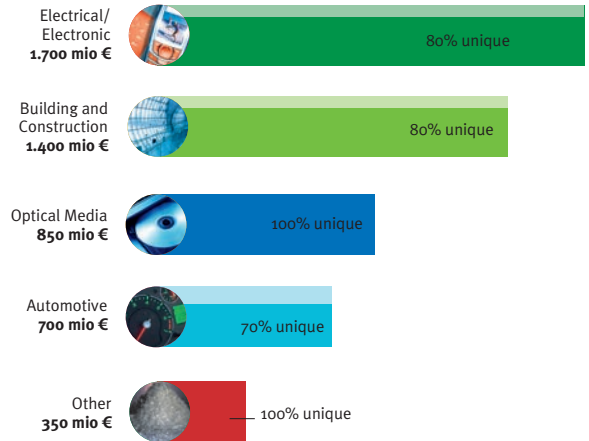
game consoles and other home entertainment systems, and in the development of computer games and further advanced electronic media design.

Production of **Electrical & Electronic products** is an important part of the manufacturing sector in the UK. It supports more than 240,000 jobs and generates an output of more than 44 billion Euro. Key applications in this sector using polycarbonate include housings, electrical infrastructure installations, components and innovative lighting systems. In the **Automotive and Building & Construction industries** in the UK, as an enabling technology, polycarbonate provides development designers with the basis for innovation in applications requiring long-term transparency, stability against wear and shatter-proof combined with light weight, thus providing for safety as well as energy saving.

In the medical devices area, where the use of polycarbonate is unique, more than 3,000 small and medium sized companies generate an output of 18 million Euro.

Polycarbonate is a dynamic enabling platform technology for innovation, thus helping to sustain the UK's manufacturing

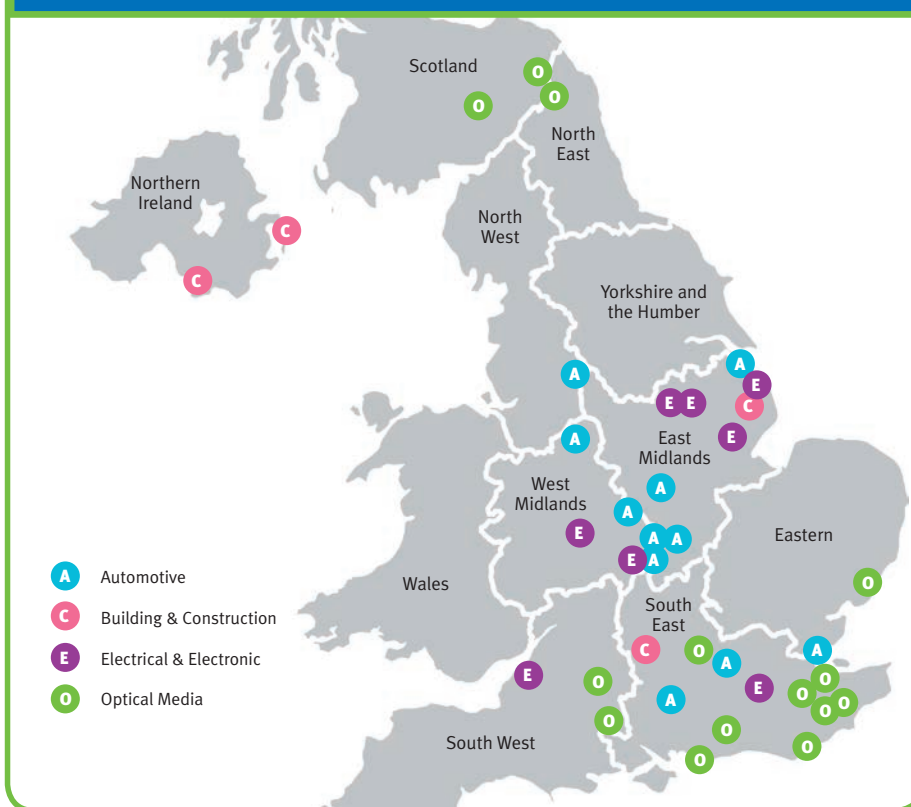
Polycarbonate added value and unique applications in the UK



figures 2010

base. The competitive position of a significant number of leading UK 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.

UK polycarbonate consumption: industrial cluster regions



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