

Global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market - Products and Applications

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Abstracts

Cellulose-based hydrocolloids are multifunctional polymeric ingredients derived from cellulose and widely utilized as thickeners, stabilizers, binders, emulsifiers, rheology modifiers, and film-forming agents across food & beverages, pharmaceuticals, construction, personal care, oilfield, and industrial applications. Major product categories include Carboxymethyl Cellulose (CMC), Methyl Cellulose & Hydroxypropylmethyl Cellulose (MC & HPMC), and Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC), each offering unique functional benefits such as viscosity control, moisture retention, suspension stability, and controlled-release performance. Growing demand for clean-label ingredients, functional excipients, high-performance construction additives, and specialty industrial formulations continues to strengthen the global market outlook for cellulose-based hydrocolloids.

The global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids market reached approximately US\$5.4 billion in 2025 and is projected to attain nearly 1.2 million metric tons and US\$7 billion by 2032, expanding at CAGRs of 3.8% in value during the forecast period. Market growth is being supported by increasing processed food consumption, rising pharmaceutical production, accelerating infrastructure development, and expanding demand for specialty hydrocolloid systems in emerging economies. Construction remained the leading application segment in value terms due to extensive utilization of cellulose ethers in dry-mix mortars, tile adhesives, and cement systems, while Food & Beverages accounted for a major share of global volume demand owing to widespread use in bakery, dairy, beverage, and convenience food formulations.

Asia-Pacific dominated the global market, supported by strong industrial manufacturing capabilities, rising urbanization, expanding pharmaceutical production, and rapid infrastructure investments across China, India, Japan, and Southeast Asia. Pharma &

Nutraceuticals emerged as one of the fastest-growing application areas due to increasing demand for tablet binders, controlled-release excipients, and nutraceutical formulations. Continuous innovation in functional cellulose derivatives, sustainable ingredient systems, plant-based food formulations, and specialty construction chemicals is expected to further strengthen long-term market expansion. Increasing focus on premium-grade hydrocolloids, advanced rheology modifiers, and high-purity pharmaceutical excipients is also anticipated to support higher-value market growth globally.

Who are the top players/companies in this industry?

The global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids market is characterized by the presence of several multinational chemical and specialty ingredient manufacturers focusing on product innovation, production expansion, and high-performance cellulose derivative solutions. Key companies operating in the market include Asahi Kasei Corporation, Ashland Global Holdings Inc., IFF (International Flavors & Fragrances), JRS Pharma, Lamberti SpA, Nouryon Specialty Chemicals B.V., Roquette Freres, Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd., Sigachi Industries Pvt. Ltd., Tate & Lyle Plc (CP Kelco), and The Dow Chemical Company.

Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Regional Market Analysis

Asia-Pacific dominated the global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids market in 2025, accounting for approximately 38%, supported by strong manufacturing activity, expanding processed food consumption, pharmaceutical production growth, and rising construction investments across China, India, Japan, and Southeast Asia. Europe followed as the second-largest regional market, driven by established food processing, personal care, and specialty industrial sectors. Asia-Pacific also emerged as the fastest-growing region, projected to register a CAGR of 4.1% through 2032 and reach approximately 480,000 metric tons, fueled by rapid urbanization, industrialization, infrastructure development, and increasing adoption of functional food and pharmaceutical products.

Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market Analysis by Type

Carboxymethyl Cellulose (CMC) represented the largest product type in the global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids market in 2025, accounting for approximately 52.6% share of total market volume, supported by its widespread use across food processing, detergents, pharmaceuticals, oil drilling fluids, and industrial formulations due to its

strong thickening and stabilizing properties. Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC) emerged as the fastest-growing product segment, projected to expand at a CAGR of 4% through 2032 to reach nearly 195 thousand metric tons, fueled by increasing demand from pharmaceutical excipients, nutraceutical tablets, and functional food applications.

Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market Analysis by Application

Construction dominated the global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids market in 2025 in both volume and value terms, accounting for approximately US\$1.6 billion, representing shares of 29.3%, supported by strong consumption of cellulose ethers in dry-mix mortars, tile adhesives, cement renders, and infrastructure materials. Food & Beverages remained another major application area with demand reaching 191 thousand metric tons valued at about US\$1.2 billion, driven by increasing use of CMC and HPMC in processed foods, bakery products, dairy formulations, and beverage stabilization systems. Pharma & Nutraceuticals emerged as the fastest-growing application segment, projected to expand at a CAGR of 4.1% in both volume and value terms through 2032, reaching nearly over US\$1.5 billion, fueled by rising pharmaceutical excipient demand, controlled-release formulations, and nutraceutical product innovation. Construction is also anticipated to witness robust expansion at a similar 4.1% value CAGR owing to continued global urbanization and infrastructure investments.

Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market Report Scope

This global report on Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids analyzes the market based on type and Application for the period 2022-2032 with projections from 2025 to 2032 in terms of volume in metric tons and value in US\$. In addition to providing profiles of major companies operating in the Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids industry, the latest corporate, product, production capacity and industrial developments have been covered to offer a clear panorama of Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids industry.

Key Metrics

Historical Period: 2022-2025

Base Year: 2025

Forecast Period: 2025-2032

Units: Volume consumption in metric tons and Value market in US\$

Companies Mentioned: 15+

Global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market by Geographic Region

North America (The United States, Canada and Mexico)

Europe (France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Spain, The United Kingdom and Rest of Europe)

Asia-Pacific (China, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand and Rest of Asia-Pacific)

South America (Brazil, Argentina and Rest of South America)

Rest of World (Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Other Rest of World)

Global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market by Type

Carboxymethyl Cellulose (CMC)

Methyl Cellulose & Hydroxypropylmethyl Cellulose (MC & HPMC)

Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

Global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market by Application

Food & Beverages

Cosmetics & Personal Care

Pharma & Nutraceuticals

Oil & Gas

Industrial/Technical

Construction

Others

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Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids

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Hydroxypropyl Methyl Cellulose (HPMC)

Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

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Gellan Gum

Dextran

Curdlan

Pullulan

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Gum Tragacanth

Karaya Gum

Gum Ghatti

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Locust Bean Gum (LBG)

Cassia gum

Tara Gum

Other Seed Extracts

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Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids

Types and Applications of Seaweed Hydrocolloids

Carboxymethylcellulose (CMC)

Production Process
Applications
Hydroxypropyl Methyl Cellulose (HPMC)
Production Process
Applications
Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)
Production Process
Applications

2. KEY GLOBAL PLAYERS

Asahi Kasei Corporation
Ashland Global Holdings Inc.
IFF (International Flavors & Fragrances)
JRS Pharma
Lamberti SpA
Nouryon Specialty Chemicals B.V.
Quimica Amtex S.A.
Roquette Freres
Shandong Head Co., Ltd.
Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.
Sigachi Industries Pvt. Ltd.
Tate & Lyle Plc (CP Kelco)
The Dow Chemical Company

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Industrial/Technical
Construction
Others
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Food & Beverages
Cosmetics & Personal Care
Pharma & Nutraceuticals
Oil & Gas
Industrial/Technical
Construction
Others

Global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market Overview by Product Type

Global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Product Type Market Overview by Applications

Carboxymethyl Cellulose (CMC)

Methyl Cellulose & Hydroxypropylmethyl Cellulose (MC & HPMC)

Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Product Type Market Overview by Global Region

Carboxymethyl Cellulose (CMC)

Methyl Cellulose & Hydroxypropylmethyl Cellulose (MC & HPMC)

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Global Cellulose-based Hydrocolloids Market Overview by Geographic Region

REGIONAL MARKET OVERVIEW

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Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

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Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

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Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

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Methyl Cellulose & Hydroxypropylmethyl Cellulose (MC & HPMC)

Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

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Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

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Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC)

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