

Composite Materials Price Trends, Forecasts and Analysis, December 2008

<https://marketpublishers.com/r/C77836225CAEN.html>

Date: December 2008

Pages: 0

Price: US\$ 699.00 (Single User License)

ID: C77836225CAEN

Abstracts

Introduction

There is a little doubt that composite materials are rapidly becoming a mainstream technology within many industries, from aerospace to wind energy. And as demand for more composite applications increases in the coming years, composite materials price movements will experience fluctuations due to changes in supply and demand, energy costs, and production capacity. Knowledge of price changes and the underlying reasons for these changes will produce advantages for those that have greater insights into price movements. Similarly, those that do not have these insights will be placed at a disadvantage according to, "Composite Materials Price Trends, Forecast, and Analysis" an informative new research report from Lucintel.

This critical information offers readers an enormous amount of actionable content by comparing prices of various types of raw materials used in the composites industry as well as prices of competing materials such as aluminum, steel, lumber and thermoplastics. The price data were collected from material suppliers as well as fabricators / molders, including boat builders, pultruders, sporting goods manufacturers, pipe and tank manufacturers, aerospace companies and many others.

Created through rigorous quantitative and qualitative research and analysis, Lucintel accurately provides historical movement in prices and points to possible future price direction. In summary, no other research organization has collected and analyzed such a vast array of content on the subject of pricing behavior, which remains one of the most important factors affecting operating profits in the composites industry.

Features of This Report

This analysis can help parts fabricators as well as material suppliers to understand the direction in which industry trends are pointing. Composite materials users / molders can benefit by learning whether they are receiving competitive pricing on the materials they are using and uncovering what other competitive options are available to them for making their products. It also provides insights on how to cope with fluctuating prices. Gaining insights into price movements provides a significant competitive edge to material suppliers as well as fabricators. This report is designed to provide these insights with the following key features:

Current market price and lead time analysis for four resins (polyester resin, vinyl ester, epoxy, and polyurethane), two reinforcements (glass fiber, carbon fiber), and four competing materials (aluminum, steel, wood and polypropylene).

Price trend analysis for the last 5 years (2003-2008) and by quarter for resins, fibers and competing materials from 2001.

A four-quarter forecast of resin and fiber prices to understand industry direction.

Contributing factors in price changes such as changes in supply and demand, energy prices.

Strategy for coping with price movements.

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