

# Assessment of the South East Asia Rubber Market

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## Abstracts

### Executive Summary

The global market is currently in its fourth year of surplus of natural rubber. The excess supply situation has caused stocks to pile high and prices are falling steadily. It is expected that global surplus by the year 2020 will be approximately 1 million tons of natural rubber and 3 million tons of synthetic rubber. World demand for natural rubber, which is primarily used to manufacture tires, is cooling down due to the economic downturn in China. Asia accounts for 93% of the world natural rubber production with Thailand being the largest producer followed by Indonesia and Vietnam. Other large rubber producers in the region include India, China and Malaysia.

China is the world's largest consumer of natural rubber followed by India and the United States. Increasing consumption of tyres and industrial rubber products is expected to boost the global demand for natural rubbers. Indonesia is the second largest rubber producer globally behind Thailand. While the industry is faced with challenges such as low production and poor infrastructure, growing rubber demand from developing economies is expected to boost the market in 2015.

Indonesia is the second largest natural rubber producer globally. The industry is currently experiencing oversupply with demand having slowed down particularly from China which is the largest buyer of rubber in the world. Actively supporting the sector, the International Rubber Consortium, which is a body representing rubber producers Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia, has recently recommended the commodity not be sold at the current low prices.

Natural rubber production in Malaysia has been falling for the past few years. Many factors such as extreme weather and smallholders shifting to palm oil production are responsible for this. More than 60% of the natural rubber in the country is produced by

smallholders who have not been finding the sector lucrative due to the falling prices.

Thailand is the world's largest producer and exporter of natural rubber. The sector is currently faced with lack of demand and large stock piles. This is primarily due to a fall in demand from China which is the world's largest rubber consumer. Rubber prices have fallen approximately 30% in 2014 and rubber producers are seeing a fall in revenue. Globally Vietnam ranks third in natural rubber production behind Thailand and Indonesia. Vietnam rubber production accounts for approximately 8% of the global output and more than 80% of the production is exported to 86 countries. China is the largest market for Vietnam's rubber exports

### **Why should the report be purchased?**

The report 'Assessment of the South East Asia Rubber Market' highlights key dynamics of the global, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand's rubber sector. The potential of the sector has been investigated along with key challenges. The current market scenario and future prospects of the sector has also been studied. The report contains profiles of key players including Bridgestone Corp, Michelin, Goodyear, Continental A.G. and Sumitomo Rubber Industries Ltd. The report contains latest verbatim of industry experts.

### **Research methodology and delivery time**

Smart Research Insights has conducted in depth secondary research to arrive at key insights. Data collected from key public industry sources and publications has been scanned and analyzed impartially to present a clear picture of the industry. All recent developments which impact the sector dynamics have been captured and used to support the research hypothesis.

The report is available as single-site single-user license and the delivery time for the electronic version of the report is 3 business days. The dispatch time for hard copies is 4 business days, as each hard copy is custom printed for the client.

### **About Smart Research Insights (SRI)**

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research, we arrive at key insights, which are supported by data that has been analyzed impartially to present a clear picture of the industry. All recent developments and industry opinions which impact the sector dynamics are captured and used to support the research hypothesis.

## Contents

### **1. GLOBAL RUBBER INDUSTRY**

- 1.1 Overview
- 1.2 Market Statistics & Performance
- 1.3 Drivers
- 1.4 Challenges
- 1.5 Outlook

### **2. INDONESIA RUBBER INDUSTRY**

- 2.1 Overview
- 2.2 Market Statistics
  - 2.2.1 Production
  - 2.2.2 Consumption
  - 2.2.3 Export
- 2.3 Indonesia Rubber Gloves Industry
- 2.4 Drivers
- 2.5 Challenges
- 2.6 Outlook

### **3. THAILAND RUBBER INDUSTRY**

- 3.1 Overview
- 3.2 Market Statistics
  - 3.2.1 Production
  - 3.2.2 Consumption
  - 3.2.3 Export
- 3.3 Drivers
- 3.4 Thailand Tire Industry
- 3.5 Challenges
- 3.6 Outlook

### **4. MALAYSIA RUBBER INDUSTRY**

- 4.1 Overview
- 4.2 Market Statistics
  - 4.2.1 Production

- 4.2.2 Consumption
- 4.2.3 Import
- 4.2.4 Export
- 4.3 Drivers
- 4.4 Malaysia Rubber Gloves Industry
- 4.5 Challenges
- 4.6 Outlook

## **5. VIETNAM RUBBER INDUSTRY**

- 5.1 Overview
- 5.2 Market Statistics
- 5.3 Drivers
- 5.4 Challenges
- 5.5 Outlook

## **6. COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE**

- 6.1 Bridgestone Corp
- 6.2 Michelin
- 6.3 Goodyear
- 6.4 Continental A.G.
- 6.5 Sumitomo Rubber Industries Ltd.
- 6.6 Thai Rubber Latex Corporation Public Company Ltd (ThaiteX)
- 6.7 Fenner plc

## **7. LIST OF CHARTS AND GRAPHS**

- 7.1 World Rubber Production (2004-2014, '000 tonnes)
- 7.2 World Rubber Consumption (2004-2014, '000 tonnes)
- 7.3 Country Wise Largest Natural Rubber Consumers (2013, '000 tonnes)
- 7.4 Country Wise Largest Natural Rubber Consumers (2014, '000 tonnes)
- 7.5 World's Largest Exporters of Natural Rubber 2014
- 7.6 Global Natural Rubber Existing Inventory (2005-2013, thousand tonnes)
- 7.7 Indonesia Natural Rubber Production (2009-2014, 000 tonnes)
- 7.8 Indonesia Rubber Export (2010-2015E, million tonnes)
- 7.9 Thailand Natural Rubber Production (2008-2014, million tonnes)
- 7.10 Thailand Rubber Export by Destination (% , 2013)
- 7.11 Thailand Rubber Export by Destination (% , 2014)

- 7.12 Malaysia Planned Hectarage (2002-2015F, '000 ha)
- 7.13 Malaysia Natural Rubber Production (2002-2015 Jan-Sept, tonnes)
- 7.14 Malaysia Natural Rubber Consumption (2002-2015 Jan-Sept, tonnes)
- 7.15 Malaysia Natural Rubber Import by Country of origin (%, 2013)
- 7.16 Malaysia Natural Rubber Import (2002-2015 Jan Sept, tonnes)
- 7.17 Malaysia Natural Rubber Export by Country of origin (%, 2013)
- 7.18 Malaysia Natural Rubber Export (2002-2015 Jan Sept, tonnes)

## **8. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

## **9. ABOUT SMART RESEARCH INSIGHTS**

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