

Plastics Processing Machinery Market - Global Industry Size, Share, Trends, Opportunity, and Forecast, Segmented By Machine Type (Injection Molding Machines, Extrusion Machines, Blow Molding Machines, Thermoforming Machines, Others), By Plastic Type (Thermoplastics, Thermosets, Elastomers, Bioplastics), By Application (Packaging, Automotive, Consumer Goods, Construction, Electrical & Electronics, Medical Devices, Others), By Region & Competition, 2021-2031F

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Abstracts

The global market for plastics processing machinery is projected to expand from USD 29.21 billion in 2025 to USD 37.26 billion by 2031, achieving a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 4.14%. This sector involves industrial equipment used to transform raw plastics into finished or intermediate goods through methods like injection molding, extrusion, and blow molding. Key growth drivers include the rising demand for lightweight automotive components to improve fuel efficiency and the consistent need for robust packaging in the food and beverage industry. Furthermore, the construction sector contributes to market expansion with the growing use of long-lasting and cost-effective plastic pipes and insulation materials, which offer advantages over traditional options. Despite this growth, the market faces a considerable challenge from strict regulations concerning plastic waste and sustainability. These mandates necessitate substantial investments from manufacturers in modifying machinery to process recycled materials. However, the sector demonstrates resilience; for instance, primary plastics machinery shipments in North America saw a 3.5 percent increase in the first half of

2025 compared to the previous year, according to the Plastics Industry Association. This indicates the industry's ability to maintain a positive trajectory even amid hurdles like volatile raw material costs and evolving environmental policies.

Market Driver

The global plastics processing machinery sector is experiencing a significant shift in its technological requirements due to the rapid growth of electric vehicle (EV) production and the concurrent trend of replacing metal components with plastics. This has led manufacturers to increasingly focus on high-tonnage, two-platen injection molding machines, which are essential for producing large, lightweight structural parts like battery housings and tailgates to counteract the weight of EV batteries. Consequently, the automotive segment has become a vital source of revenue for equipment suppliers adapting to the demands of vehicle electrification, as evidenced by Haitian International's 2024 annual report, which noted the strong performance of their Jupiter series two-platen solutions supported by new energy vehicle production. Simultaneously, the expanding packaging sector, driven by sustainability directives, is fueling demand for specialized high-speed machinery tailored for circular economy principles. Converters now require advanced equipment that can precisely process recycled polymers and bio-based materials, maintaining efficient cycles while minimizing energy usage. This packaging segment has proven resilient during economic downturns; Engel Global reported in May 2025 that its Packaging division saw increased demand despite overall revenue challenges. Further illustrating this momentum, U.S. shipments of injection molding machinery increased by 30.0 percent in the third quarter of 2025 compared to the previous quarter, according to the Plastics Industry Association.

Market Challenge

A significant hindrance to the expansion of the Global Plastics Processing Machinery Market is the rigorous regulatory landscape surrounding plastic waste and sustainability. The enforcement of stricter circular economy mandates by governments compels machinery manufacturers to invest considerable capital into research and development. This investment is crucial for engineering equipment that can efficiently process recycled materials. Such extensive technical modifications not only increase production costs and technical complexity but also elevate the capital expenditure required for acquiring new machinery. As a result, many plastic processors are deferring equipment upgrades or capacity expansions due to higher initial investment costs and the unpredictability of evolving compliance standards. This reluctance among processors is

reflected in recent industrial performance data, which reveals a constrained market despite some regional recoveries. The financial pressure of adhering to these mandates has curbed global demand for equipment. For example, VDMA reported a 17 percent decline in sales figures for the first half of 2025 compared to prior sustained levels, highlighting the ongoing struggle to regain market momentum. These figures demonstrate that while the industry possesses inherent resilience, the financial and technical obligations stemming from regulatory pressures are directly impeding overall market acceleration and sales volumes.

Market Trends

A prominent market trend is the widespread adoption of all-electric and hybrid injection molding machines, a movement distinct from the high-tonnage needs of the automotive industry. This shift involves moving away from traditional hydraulic systems to electric alternatives, which provide enhanced precision, cleanliness, and energy efficiency crucial for producing complex components in sectors such as consumer electronics and medical devices. With processors confronting escalating energy costs and more stringent noise regulations, the uptake of servo-electric technology has accelerated, leading to greater repeatability and reduced operational expenses. This technological transition is quantitatively supported by significant manufacturing figures; Haitian International's 2024 annual report from March 2025 showed over 53,000 units delivered in 2024, a 35.5 percent increase, largely fueled by strong demand for their electrical Zhafir series in consumer goods and electronics. In parallel, there is a fundamental transformation occurring in the upstream compounding and extrusion sectors through the development of machinery optimized for processing recycled and bio-based materials. This trend targets the essential initial phase of material preparation, distinct from downstream injection molding. It necessitates advanced twin-screw extruders to effectively homogenize inconsistent recycled feedstocks with additives, creating industrial-grade pellets. Manufacturers are making substantial investments in compounding equipment equipped with specialized screw geometries and degassing systems to manage the diverse properties of post-consumer resin (PCR), thereby ensuring raw materials meet the quality standards for subsequent processing. The vigor of this infrastructure development is underscored by recent trade data; the Plastics Industry Association's August 2025 report indicated that shipments of twin-screw extruders more than doubled, showing a remarkable 115.4 percent increase in the second quarter of 2025 compared to the same period in the prior year.

Key Market Players

Husky Injection Molding Systems Ltd.

Milacron LLC

ENGEL Austria GmbH

Haitian International Holdings Limited

ARBURG GmbH + Co KG

Sumitomo Heavy Industries, Ltd.

The Japan Steel Works, Ltd.

Chen Hsong Holdings Limited

KraussMaffei Group

Nissei Plastic Industrial Co., Ltd.

Report Scope

In this report, the Global Plastics Processing Machinery Market has been segmented into the following categories, in addition to the industry trends which have also been detailed below:

Plastics Processing Machinery Market, By Machine Type

Injection Molding Machines

Extrusion Machines

Blow Molding Machines

Thermoforming Machines

Others

Plastics Processing Machinery Market, By Plastic Type

Thermoplastics

Thermosets

Elastomers

Bioplastics

Plastics Processing Machinery Market, By Application

Packaging

Automotive

Consumer Goods

Construction

Electrical & Electronics

Medical Devices

Others

Plastics Processing Machinery Market, By Region

North America

United States

Canada

Mexico

Europe

France

United Kingdom

Italy

Germany

Spain

Asia Pacific

China

India

Japan

Australia

South Korea

South America

Brazil

Argentina

Colombia

Middle East & Africa

South Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Competitive Landscape

Plastics Processing Machinery Market - Global Industry Size, Share, Trends, Opportunity, and Forecast, Segment...

Company Profiles: Detailed analysis of the major companies present in the Global Plastics Processing Machinery Market.

Available Customizations:

Global Plastics Processing Machinery Market report with the given market data, TechSci Research offers customizations according to a company's specific needs. The following customization options are available for the report:

Company Information

Detailed analysis and profiling of additional market players (up to five).

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