



The Contact Patch

A Quarterly Carbon Black Newsletter

PO Box 1243
Amherst, MA 01004-1243
413-253-3371
Email: info@notchconsulting.com
Web: www.notchconsulting.com

Contents & Overview

Contents	Page
1. Introduction	1
2. Summary Figures	1
3. Supply & Demand Update	2
4. Markets Update	9
5. Projects Update (details on expansions 2008-2011)	13
6. Industry News	20
7. Regional Tables	22
Rubber Consumption	23
North America	25
South America	27
European Union	29
Eastern Europe	33
Asia	35
Africa/Mideast	39
8. Sources & Methodology	40

Note: These contents refer to the 4Q 2009 issue; contents of subsequent issues may vary. The pricing report consists of a separate Excel spreadsheet.

Overview

The Contact Patch is a new quarterly report on the carbon black industry. It includes two components.

Pricing Report: Provides quarterly and monthly contract prices for major rubber grades for the United States and the European Union, and monthly spot prices for China. Coverage from January 2007 through the most recent quarter.

Supply & Demand Update: Provides year-to-date figures based on the latest quarterly data and full-year forecasts for the current year, with a comparison to the previous year's performance during the same period. Data cover all major countries as well as regional and global totals, and include carbon black capacity, utilization, production, and apparent consumption. Each issue also includes revised forecasts, demand by market (tires, non-tire rubber, specialty), capacity developments, status of pending projects, and industry news.

Cost: Single issue: US\$1,250. Four issues (one year): US\$3,950. Contact Notch Consulting at info@notchconsulting.com for details or to order.