

## 600 bookings for Plast 2018

Italy - As of the first deadline for applications, more than 600 companies have confirmed their participation in Plast 2018, translating into an area about two-thirds as big as that occupied by the 2015 trade fair. The international exhibition for the plastics and rubber industries will take



Source: Plast

A high number of registrations raises expectations for Plast 2018.

place in Milan from 29 May - 1 June 2018.

Among them are many Italian and foreign exhibitors reaffirming their intention to display plants and systems in operation, thus providing an up-to-date technology showcase. The upcoming edition of Plast will feature three satellite shows dedicated to three industrial areas: Rubber (in its third edition, with content true to its name), 3D Plast (second edition, focusing on 3D printing and related technologies), and Plast-Mat (debuting in 2018, dedicated to innovative plastic materials solutions). Companies may still apply to take part until the final deadline on 30 April 2017. [plastonline.org](http://plastonline.org)

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INDUSTRY

NEWS

### Polypropylene outperforms polymer demand in Europe

Source - According to a recently published study by industry associations, Applied Market Information (AMI), the last five years have seen demand growth for polypropylene (PP) surpass the polymer market in Europe.

Over the period, PP demand has grown by almost 10%, however as PP was not immune to the weak economic

circumstances in 2011 and therefore most of its growth has occurred within the last three years. In comparison the next five years remain buoyant due to new uses.

The packaging sector remains the largest demand for PP in Europe. PP is used in a wide range of rigid and flexible packaging applications - from single-use films, bottles and

food containers to large multi-use crates and boxes. Demand for PP in most of these applications has grown, although slowed by growing real activity and increasing penetration of PP in some applications where it is in competition with other plastic polymers but also paper, metal and glass alternatives. However, heavily recycled poly-

propylene film (RPPF) inputs have been increasing, which has dampened PP growth in Europe. Recent and planned investments in new capacity for RPPF will see this market overtake in the next five years, AMI says. Additionally, PP has increased its share of plastics used in the automotive sector. [www.ami.com](http://www.ami.com)

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