

By value, imports of plastic resins amounted to US \$483.7 million in 1990, representing 37.6 percent of total consumption. By 1992, total imports had grown to US \$638.5 million, which was 40.3 percent of consumption. By 1996, imports are expected to reach approximately US \$782 million, reflecting a seven percent average annual growth rate.

Shifts in the product mix of imported resins reflect both changing demand and new production capabilities installed by *Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX)*, the state-owned oil company. Imports of low density polyethylene for example, fell from 170,000 tons in 1981 to 70,200 tons in 1992, and polypropylene imports also decreased sharply. *PEMEX* started producing these two resins in Mexico during this period. In 1989, *PEMEX* opened a new HDPE production plant which slightly reduced the flow of imports of this resin in 1990 and 1991. In the long run, imports will continue to grow since installed capacity is not sufficient to provide for growing local demand.

MAJOR SUPPLIERS OF PLASTIC RESINS IN MEXICO

Altarexin	Kimex
Amoco	K.J. Quinn
BASF	Mobil Polymers
Bayer	Monsanto Chemical Co.
BF Goodrich	Nacional de Resinas
Borden	PEMEX
Borg-Warner Chemicals	Phillips Petroleum
Celanese	Plastiglas
Chevron Chemical	Plexchem International
Ciba Geigy	Polycyd
Cyanamid	Polidesa
Dayton Chemicals	Polimar
Dow Chemicals	Polímeros de México
Du Pont de Nemours	Polioles
EGC Corp.	Poliresinas Huettene Albertus
Egon Meyer	Química Hércules
Fenoquimia	Rebesa Química
Fuller	Reichhold Chemicals
Grupo Primex	Resinas de México
Himont	Resinas Sintéticas
Indelpro	Rohm & Haas
Industria Química Delgar	Shell
Industrias Resistol	Simon

Source: C. Verut, *Market Study for the Mexican Market for Plastics Production, Machinery, Equipment and Resins*, Canadian Embassy in Mexico, 1993.

