

Nylon

Email flash

12 July 2018: Issue 165

Overview

Ascend - Force Majeure on PA66 Polymer, Compounds and Fibres

Details:

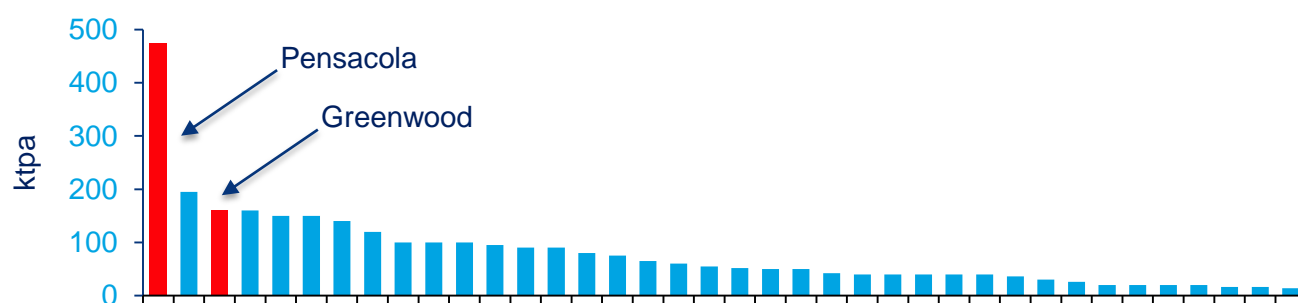
Ascend Performance Materials ("Ascend") suffered a fire at its Pensacola facility, FL (USA) on 10 July 2018. Fortunately the fire was extinguished quickly and without injury.

The fire forced the stoppage of the PA66 polymerisation units at the site. This has led directly to Ascend formally declaring Force Majeure in PA66 polymer and all products downstream of this, i.e., PA66-based compounded products and fibres.

There are currently no further details on the extent of the damage, nor when the PA66 polymer units at Pensacola are likely to restart. There are also no details yet of any resultant sales curtailment plan.

According to the Wood Mackenzie's new 2018 Yellowbook, Pensacola represents 75% of Ascend's total PA66 polymer capacity, the rest being Greenwood, 160 ktpa. It is also the largest PA66 polymer plant in the world (475 ktpa, or 15% of global capacity) and is more than twice as large as the next largest, (see graph below):

Global PA66 polymer capacity, by plant



This is the ninth Force Majeure event in the global PA66 chain in the last 10 months and will inevitably add further unhappiness to an already desperate PA66 supply situation.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any assistance.

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