

Plastics Newsletter

Always a better solution.



Greetings!

In this month's newsletter, we discuss changes in the market; the SPE Polyolefin Conference; Addipel's Custom Compacted Pellet Solutions; and Silike's Polysiloxane Solutions to Enhance Thermoplastics Surfaces and Processing.

Also featured in this newsletter:

[Download Supply Chain and Logistics Report](#)

The report provides current market information as well as Peak Season commentary



[Download Monthly Commodities Report](#)

The report tracks select raw materials and currencies allowing you to gain a better understanding of some of the key cost drivers in our industry.



Market Updates

- U.S. manufacturing output **fell 1.3%** last month, the steepest drop in 22 months, suggesting the sector was rapidly losing momentum amid weakened demand for goods.
- U.S. container imports settled around **1.9 million TEUs** in December, down 19% from a year earlier and nearly the same as pre-pandemic levels. Analysts say **steeper declines in import volumes are on the horizon**.
- Trucking and logistics giant J.B. Hunt reported a **17% decline** in profit and lower-than-expected revenue growth in the latest quarter after shipping demand slowed during the holidays.
- JPMorgan's chief executive says U.S. consumer health is in "good shape" with **spending still up around 10% over pre-pandemic levels**.
- Experts predict some **2.77 million vehicles** could be lost from global production plans this year due to computer chip shortages, down sharply from the estimated 4.38 million vehicles lost in 2022.
- About **\$33 billion** in new auto-factory investment was pledged across the U.S. in the first 11 months of 2022, adding to the \$37 billion announced in 2021 for one of the biggest factory-building booms in decades.
- Electrolux, Europe's biggest appliance maker, **reported a fourth-quarter loss**, citing high costs and weak demand from both consumers and retailers, especially in North America.
- **Microsoft** said it will take a \$1.2 billion charge related to the elimination of 10,000 jobs announced yesterday as cloud customers reassess spending and the company braces for a potential recession. **Amazon**, meanwhile, began the first of 18,000 job cuts Wednesday.
- Companies in the S&P 500 are projected to **boost capital spending by an estimated 6%** this year compared to 20% in 2022, a response to higher financing costs and rising economic uncertainty, according to Ernst & Young.

- United Airlines and Delta Air Lines reported **higher-than-expected quarterly earnings** on resilient consumer demand, while American Airlines lifted its profit outlook for the year.

Plastics Product Spotlight

Barentz is Connecting with Customers at the International Polyolefins Conference March 6-8 , 2023

The Barentz team will be attending the International Polyolefin Conference, In-Person! This annual conference is a great opportunity to meet customers and gain insight through an extensive agenda of plenary talks and 80+ technical papers. The conference will go from Sunday afternoon to Wednesday noon in Galveston, Texas. Stop by the Barentz booth (#403) to meet our team and discover how we can help you succeed in 2023.

Visit <https://spe-stx.org/international-polyolefins-conference-2> to learn more about the conference and register.



2023 SPE International Polyolefins Conference March 6-8, 2023

Corporate Sustainability Report 2022

We're excited to announce we've released our Corporate Sustainability Report. ESG is a core part of who we are and what we do at Barentz. Our Sustainability Report highlights the activities we've completed globally during 2022 to improve our ESG performance. Read more and download: <https://www.barentz-na.com/en/ESG>



Corporate Sustainability Report 2022

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"Pass the Risk" With Custom Compacted Pellet Solutions

Addipel, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Barentz, specializes in safely handling powdered polymer additives and other chemicals in the production of custom low-dusting compacted pellets in Elyria, OH. These highly-loaded pellets survive shipping, handling, and feeding, but readily disperse during processing. "Passing the risk" to Addipel can provide a number of operational and end-use performance benefits, including:

- Pellets are easy to feed and handle
- Mitigate dust explosivity hazards
- Minimize airborne chemical exposure for production employees
- Improve manufacturing plant cleanliness
- Save time on weigh-up and ensure additive dosage uniformity
- Ease of ordering/inventory management – only one product instead of several
- Not a melt process – no heat history



For more information or [visit our website](#).

Polysiloxane Solutions to Enhance Thermoplastics Surfaces and Processing

Polysiloxanes are utilized as multifunctional additives within thermoplastic formulations, imparting a number of desirable properties, including:

- Anti-Scratch/Anti-Wear/Anti-Friction, especially for automotive interior applications
- Release Agent/Lubricant – easier mold filling, easier mold release, reduced cycle times
- Improve processability and modify surface properties in polyolefin cable compounds, especially in highly-filled FR systems
- Flame Retardant Cosynergist

Compared to non-silicone-based additives, these materials offer higher thermal stability, lower VOCs, very good compatibility/low migration, and less deleterious effect on physical properties (hardness, tensile strength, HDT...).



Barentz offers polydimethylsiloxane powders with silica, as well as 50% active concentrates in various resins including PP, PE, EVA, ABS, HIPS, PA-6, and others. A data package is available upon request.

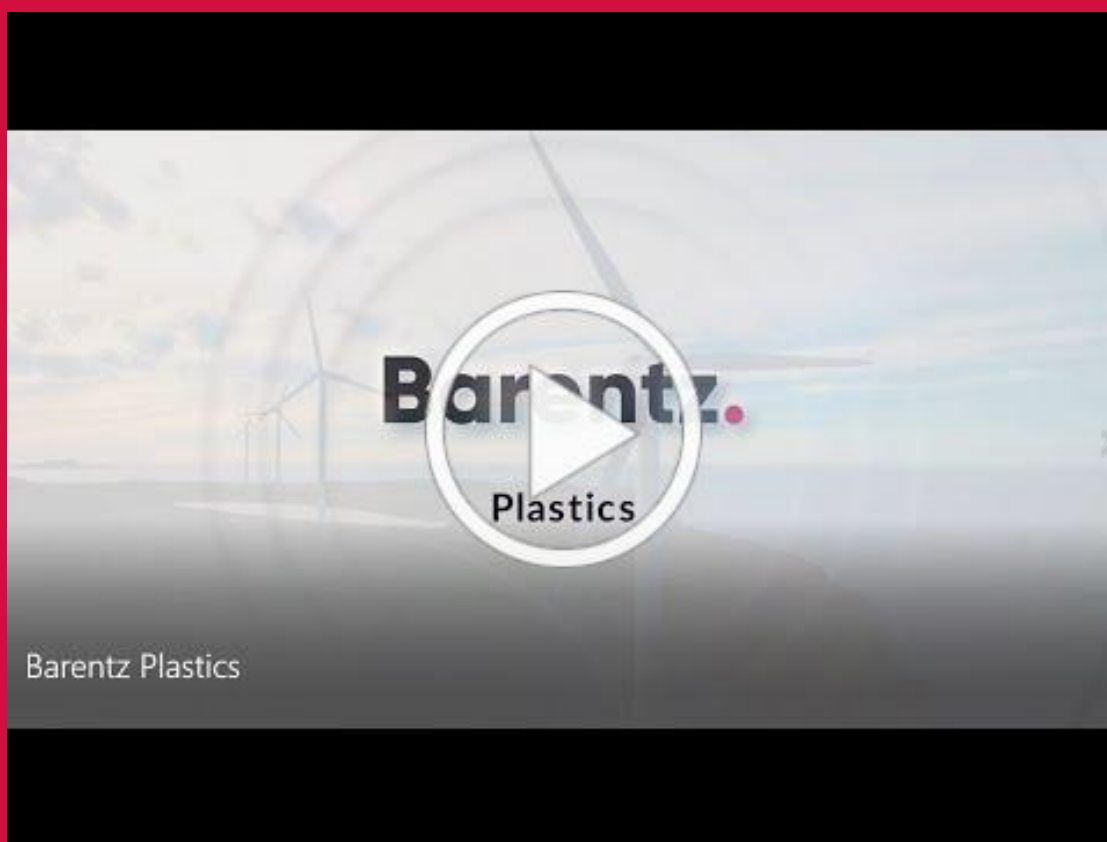
SILIKE is a manufacturer and global supplier of silicone additives, headquartered in Chengdu, China. Combining over 20 years of experience delivering high quality, innovative products and services with Barentz sales, technical service and supply chain expertise offers new solutions to North American compound and masterbatch manufacturers.

Please contact your Barentz Account Manager for more information at 440-937-1000 or [**visit our website.**](#)

Meet Barentz Plastics

Watch this video to learn why Barentz is a world-class leader in the Plastics industry.

Bring your challenges to us and see if we can truly find a better solution for you. [**https://youtu.be/hyVdggwjyoo**](https://youtu.be/hyVdggwjyoo)



Follow Barentz CASE & Plastics on LinkedIn!

Follow us on LinkedIn to learn more about our full portfolio of specialty chemicals for the coatings, adhesives, sealants, elastomers, and plastics markets.

[**+ Follow**](#)

Trade Show Calendar - Meet with Barentz Plastics

- **PlasIndia** - February 1-5, 2023 - New Delhi, India
- **SPE Polyolefins** - March 5-8, 2023 - Galveston, Texas



Plastics Product Guide

Specialty additives and pigments for Plastics

[Download our Plastics Product Guide](#)



"Pass the Risk"

Multiple component, fully dispersed premixes that are engineered to meet your needs

[Download Addipel Brochure](#)



Supply Chain and Logistics Report

We are pleased to share attached Barentz Supply Chain and Logistics Report. The report provides current market information as well as Peak Season commentary. We hope you'll find the report a benefit to pulse the supply chain /logistics market for overall awareness as we move to finish 2022.

[Download our Supply Chain Report](#)



Commodities Report

The monthly Commodities Report tracks select raw materials and currencies allowing you to gain a better understanding of some of the key cost drivers in our industry.

[Download our current Commodities Report](#)

Sustainability Report 2022



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[Download our Sustainability Report](#)

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At Barentz we have a passion to deliver better life science ingredients and specialty chemical solutions to our customers around the world. Driven by the powerful blend of knowledge, entrepreneurship and partnership we anticipate and act on future challenges and developments.

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