
The World Market for Low Voltage Connection Components

2004

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October 2004

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

The objective of this report is to provide a concise view of the world market for Low Voltage Connection Components. The report gives an estimate of the value of consumption in each national market. The figures represent market values (consumption) for 1999-2002 based on the latest data available, and forecasts for 2003 and 2004. Trade data are given for the latest available year, 2002.

For the purpose of this report, Low Voltage Connection Components are defined as follows :-

- **Relays**

Relays (including contactors) for a voltage not exceeding 1000V

- **Switches >60V**

Comprising lighting, cooker, isolating and safety switches; separate switch units for incorporation into sockets etc. (rocker, rotary, push-button, toggle and knife) for domestic and industrial applications of single and three phase, rated up to 1,000V.

- **Plugs and Sockets**

Including panel and surface mounting sockets, in-line connectors, switched sockets and plugs for connection to coaxial cable for domestic and industrial applications of single and three phase, rated up to 1,000V.

- **Lampholders**

Including Edison screw and bayonet type, ceiling rose, pendant, batten and base fitting for domestic and industrial applications, rated up to 250V.

- **Other Connection Devices**

Including contacts; junction boxes, mounting boxes and connector blocks for domestic and industrial applications, rated up to 1,000V.

This report has two sister publications - '**The World Market for Low Voltage Protection Components 2004**', which gives similar information on the world's low voltage protection component market, and '**Directory of Manufacturers of Low Voltage Connection and Protection Components 2004**' which provides contact details for all manufacturers of these products throughout the world, and includes product details for each company where available. Two complementary reports, '**The World Market for Distribution and Control Panels 2004**' and '**Directory of Manufacturers of Distribution and Control Panels 2004**', are also available.

The scope of this report is global - that is, every country having a significant Low Voltage Connection Component customer base. The report is designed to be used as a first line planning tool by companies interested in the global market for Low Voltage Connection Components and as a screen to identify national markets worthy of further investigation.

1.2 METHODOLOGY

Data in the Market report are presented in US dollars.

The survey was based primarily on desk research, including a review of available published production and trade statistics. Import and export figures are calculated from national and United Nations' figures for 1998 to 2002 - the most comprehensive and up-to-date statistics available. Market values are assumed to be equal to Production + (Imports - Exports). National production estimates are based on statistics provided by national governments and trade associations. They are also derived from an analysis of the size and location of known production plants.

Market values are at factory gate prices - they reflect the prices for the products by the importer and do not include trade mark-ups and installation costs. It should be noted that published classifications of products, especially with respect to trade statistics, are sometimes inaccurate, as products may be shipped under generic titles. It should also be noted that Goulden Reports chronicles shipments rather than contracts. A contract to supply goods over a number of years will not appear as a one-off event in a Goulden Report, but rather will be recorded from the trade statistics. The nature of the market means that demand within countries, especially developing ones, can fluctuate greatly from year to year as purchases are often made on a one-off basis rather than spread evenly over a number of years.

Within national markets, where published figures were unavailable to us, the breakdown between different product categories uses intelligence based on the pattern of consumption in the country concerned. In these cases the breakdown is made from an estimate of the total market size rather than the value of the entire market being calculated from the individual product categories.

Figures for non-UN countries are based on data obtained from individual countries and are consequently not necessarily comparable with UN-derived information. Clearly the report is only as accurate as the information upon which it draws - the sources are regarded as being the best and most comprehensive available.

Data in this report will vary from those printed in previous issues. These differences are due principally to improvements in the quality of official data sources in addition to the fact that significantly more data is available now than was previously the case.

Columns may not always add to the absolute totals given in the tables - this is due to rounding.

2. SUMMARY

- The global market for Low Voltage Connection Components is estimated to be valued at US\$43,396 million in 2004.
- The largest national market in 2004 is estimated to be that of the USA, which was valued at US\$7,676 million and which accounted for over 17% of the overall world market.
- The second largest national market is that of China (US\$4,674 million) followed by Germany (US\$3,614 million).
- The largest regional market for Low Voltage Connection Components in 2004 is Western Europe (US\$15,814 million) followed by North America (US\$10,936 million) and the Far East (US\$9,110 million).
- World production of Low Voltage Connection Components was estimated at US\$43,065 million in 2003.
- The largest producer in 2003 was the USA, with production totalling US\$7,239 million.
- Reported exports of Low Voltage Connection Components totalled US\$30,343 million in 2002.
- The largest exporter in 2002 was Germany (US\$4,606 million) followed by the USA (US\$4,586 million) and Japan (US\$3,587 million).
- Reported imports of Low Voltage Connection Components in 2003 totalled US\$31,755 million.
- The largest importer was the USA (US\$4,165 million) followed by Mexico (US\$3,328 million) and Germany (US\$2,694 million)