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KWD-globalpipe, 2007-11-27, No.264. (PE-Xc Pipes, Multilayer pipes, System panels) KunststoffWochendienst (KWD) predicts excellent market leadership chances in Germany this year in the area of multilayer pipes for the drinking water installation segment. **By the end of the year, the market share of multilayer pipes is expected to increase to 34.6% (48 million metres),** and the share of copper pipes to decrease to 32.5% (45 million metres).

Herbert Oßendorf, Sales Manager at Hewing GmbH, sees several reasons for this development: “A clear benefit is obviously the quality of the material. **Multilayer pipes combine the best product properties** of plastics and aluminium. Therefore, MT multilayer pipes not only offer durability, oxygen 16x2 50 or 100 18x2 50 or 100 26x3 50 or 100 32x3 50 impermeability and corrosion resistance, but also dimensional stability and high flexibility. Thanks to these properties, the MT multilayer pipe is a suitable alternative to copper processors used in the past.”
High raw material prices for copper are a further reason for the use of this pipe type made of high quality and cost-efficient material.

Expansion of production capacities

Owing to continued high demand for multilayer pipes, also in larger dimensions, for example for pipes used in risers **Hewing GmbH has expanded its production capacities.** Consequently, Hewing launched the production of **a new extrusion line already last June;** a further “MT line” is set to follow by the end of 2007.

Further potentials in export

Hewing GmbH expects **further growth** not to be restricted to the predicted market leadership in the German multilayer pipe market. “Close cooperation with our system partners will result in **further market shares, especially in exports** to European countries including **France and Great Britain, and the Benelux and Scandinavian countries,**” explains Herbert Oßendorf with regard to the international market situation. In addition, the **Eastern European markets are indicating a trend away from steel pipes** to the use of plastic pipes, such as multilayer pipes. Furthermore, the European market is exhibiting a further large utilisation potential for stable and robust crosslinked polyethylene pipes (PE-X pipes). Hewing deploys this type of pipe as a **physically crosslinked PEXc pipe in MT production,** among other things as a

medium carrying pipe. The positive market perspectives are also backed by high-performance Hewing GmbH services. In line with the company's claim "Designed for you", the special range of services will continue to focus on the supplier business. **Hewing GmbH** is the **leading global manufacturer** of physically **crosslinked polyethylene pipes (PE-Xc pipes)**. Further highlights in the product portfolio are highquality MT multilayer pipes and **system panels** for surface regulation. The company supplies providers of complete systems for sanitary and heating technology with these components.

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