

Composites/GRP January 2025: Downward trend continues due to weak demand / Resin prices expected to increase in February / Glass fibre set to remain unchanged

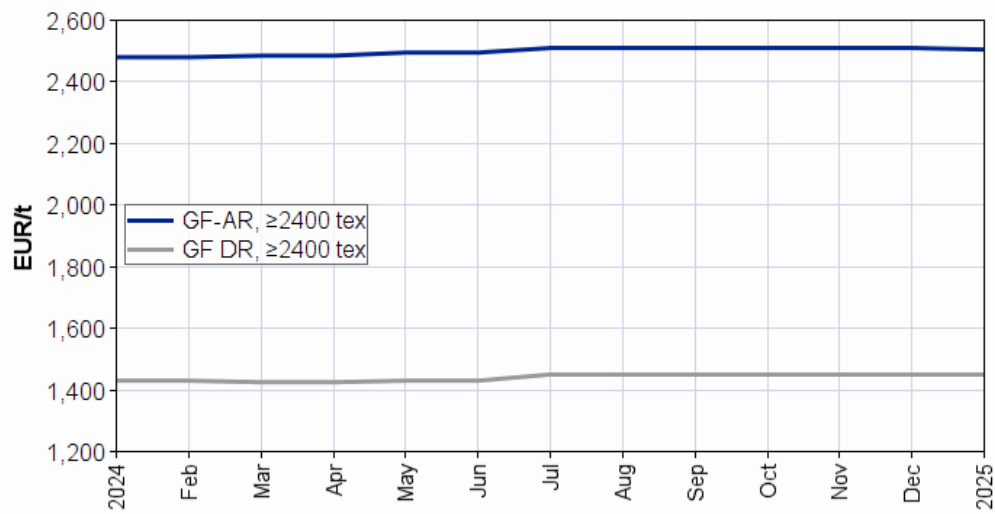
The new year got off to a really bad start. Neither the customary inventory replenishments nor the basic level of demand were especially noticeable. Automotive engineering was scarcely able to gain a foothold. Furthermore, although the construction and E&E segments reported isolated restocking orders, overall demand remained very limited. No substantial changes are expected in the weeks to come, either. Demand will be able to pick up somewhat, at a low level, since there will doubtless be warehouses in need of restocking here and there. Most converters, however, are only ordering what they strictly need.

A number of market participants expect the rising styrene prices of the past two months to have an impact on resins in the coming weeks. A slightly smaller group, however, points to the meagre replenishment effects seen so far and thinks that rollover agreements are more likely.

In the case of glass fibres, high logistics costs meant there were few imports from Asia. This considerably reduced the pressure on prices. Despite this, converters were able to achieve slight reductions in isolated cases. The price level is not, however, set to change significantly over the weeks to come.

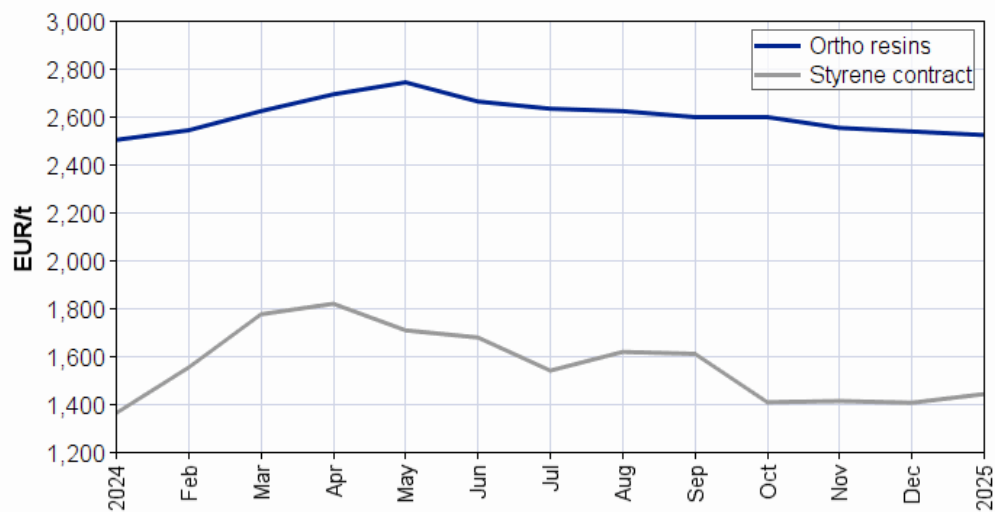
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Glass Fibres: Assembled Roving and Direct Roving 2024 - 2025, average prices in Europe



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Ortho Resins and Styrene 2024 - 2025, average prices in Europe



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