

## PRESS RELEASE

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### DEMAND FOR SINGLE PLY ROOFING MEMBRANES SUSTAINED BY GROWTH IN GERMAN CONSTRUCTION

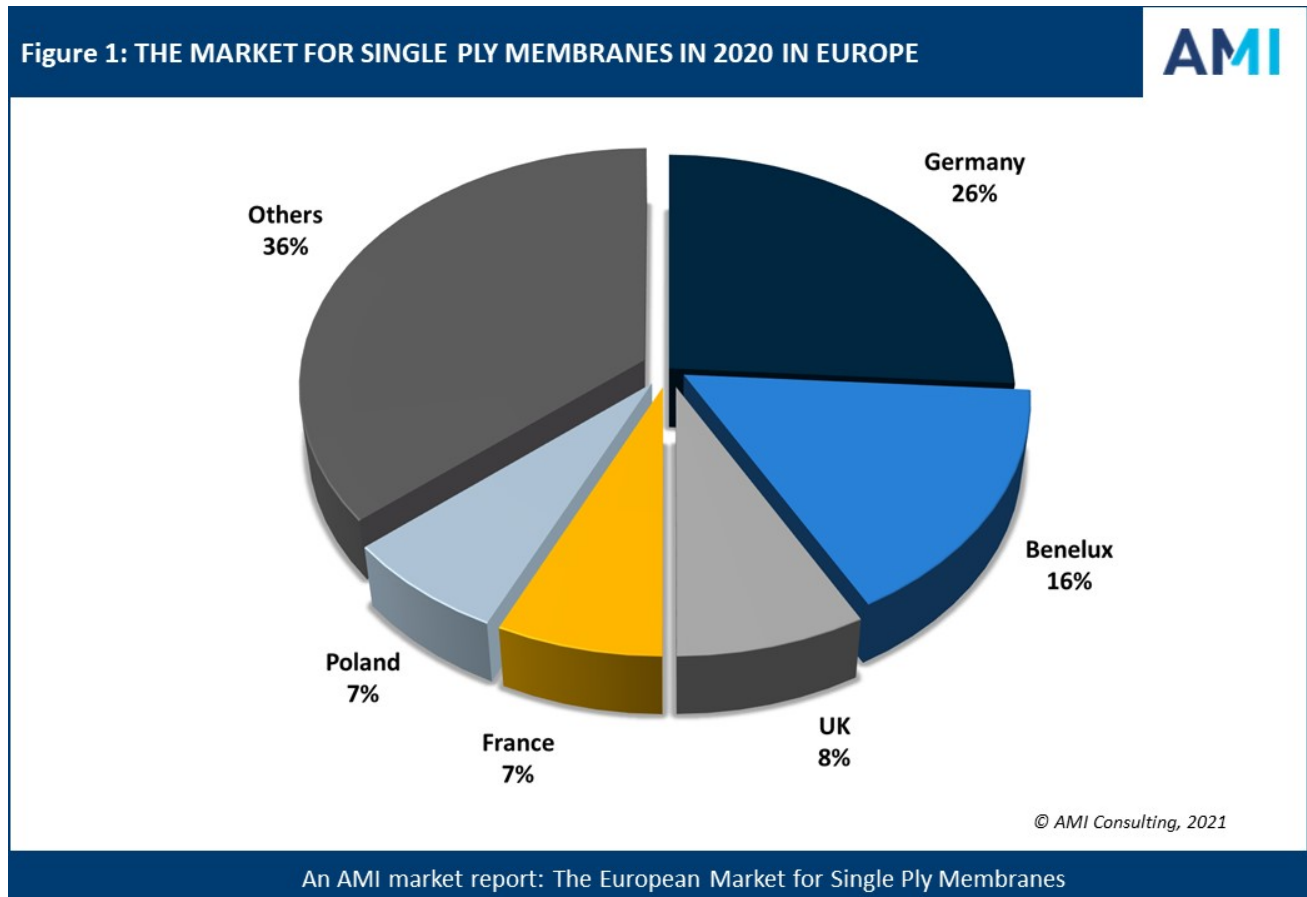
AMI Consulting, Bristol, 17/05/2021 – According to a study published today by leading industry consultants, Applied Market Information Ltd (AMI Consulting), demand for single ply roofing membranes in Europe was sustained in 2020 by strong demand in Germany.

2020 was a year like no other. The construction industry had to navigate lockdowns, labour shortages, interruptions to materials supplies and acute social and economic uncertainty. As many projects were put on hold, the focus turned to completing buildings already under construction. Consumers, with reduced physical access to shops, went on-line for their purchases creating huge stresses and strains for the infrastructure and the buildings needed to deliver on-line purchases. Demand for logistics buildings capacity went through the roof. Elsewhere, consumers unable to socialise, unable to holiday, forced to work from home spent like never before on home improvements. On the other hand, owners of shops, offices and factories cut building expenditure sharply in 2020 partly to preserve cash and partly because of the challenges in organising building work.

In amongst all this turmoil, demand for roofing materials dropped sharply in the early months of 2020 before recovering strongly to end the year, only a little lower than 2019 as measured by demand for polymeric membranes. While roofing membrane demand fell in France, Italy and the UK, this was counterbalanced by growth in Germany.

Low slope roofing uses a variety of waterproofing materials led by bitumen and single ply membranes. The report's author Sylvia Tabero says that "Whereas usually materials are selected for their ability to meet long term performance criteria, in 2020 ease of installation became the key parameter in deciding which material to use."

The report predicts that single ply roofing membranes will gain market share because they offer better durability, improved aesthetics, easier installation and reroofing capability. Single ply membranes are typically made from EPDM, PVC and TPOs (flexible thermoplastic compounds based on polyethylene and polypropylene copolymers). The key requirements relate to long-term performance in situations exposed to direct weathering and other environmental degradants.



Leading specialist suppliers of single ply membranes in Europe include Carlisle, Firestone Building Products, Protan, Renolit and Sika. Several large bitumen membrane producers like Bauder, BMI, IKO, Mapei and Soprema also make single ply having entered the market either via acquisition or greenfield investment. There is a high level of M&A driven by a combination of a market shift in roofing from products to systems and a desire to leverage established channels-to-market.

[‘The European Market for Single Ply Membranes’](#) is a detailed multi-client research report published in May 2021. For further information please contact John Nash at AMI Consulting: E / [John.Nash@ami.international](mailto:John.Nash@ami.international)  
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