

China to start up three new BR plants in H1 2013

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Three rubber producers in China is planning to start up new butadiene rubber (BR) plants in Jiangsu, Guangdong and Zhejiang provinces respectively in the first and second quarter of 2013, company sources said on Friday.

Maoming Petro-chemical Shihua will start up its new 100,000 tonne/year BR plant at Maoming, Guangzhou province in February, a company source from Maoming Petro-chemical Shihua said.

YPC-GPRO (Nanjing) Rubber plans to start up its new 100,000 tonne/year BR plant at Nanjing, Jiangsu province in April, one company source from YPC-GPRO (Nanjing) Rubber said.

Zhejiang Transfar Synthetic Material will bring on stream its new 100,000 tonne/year BR plant at Hangzhou in Zhejiang province in the second quarter of 2013, a source from the company said, without specifying the start-up date.

The details of these projects were not available immediately.

The total BR capacity in China is 1.162m tonnes/year, and it is expected to reach 1.462m tonnes/year following the new start-ups.

The BR market will face supply pressure with the rapid increase of the total capacity amid weak downstream demand, an industry source said.

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