

North America Carbon Black Market Size and Share Outlook - Forecast Trends and Growth Analysis Report (2025-2034)

Market Report | 2025-08-13 | 133 pages | EMR Inc.

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Report description:

The North America carbon black market attained a value of USD 3.08 Billion as of 2024 and is anticipated to grow at a CAGR of 5.90% during the forecast period of 2025 to 2034. The market for carbon black in North America is fueled by increasing demand for automotive tire production, expanding industrial rubber uses, and expanding use in plastics, coatings, and inks as a result of its reinforcing and conductive qualities. The market is thus expected to reach a value of nearly USD 5.46 Billion by 2034.

North America Carbon Black Market Growth

One of the key drivers of the growth of the market for carbon black is rising demand from the automotive industry, especially for tire production. Carbon black is employed as a reinforcing filler to enhance tire durability, fuel efficiency, and abrasion resistance. For instance, the number one carbon black producer, Cabot Corporation, raised its North American production capacity to address growing demand from tire manufacturers like Bridgestone and Michelin. Through investment in high-performance carbon black products for electric vehicles (EVs) and fuel-efficient tires, Cabot increased its revenue and enhanced its market position, also contributing to the North America carbon black market expansion.

In addition to tires, carbon black is used extensively in plastics, coatings, and industrial rubber because of its UV resistance, conductivity, and durability-enhancing capabilities. Orion Engineered Carbons, one of the leading companies in the sector, rode on this trend by creating high-performance specialty carbon black for the plastics market, thereby boosting the carbon black demand. Their emphasis on conductive carbon black for automotive components and electronic packaging greatly boosted profitability. By aiming at high-value electronics and high-end coatings applications, Orion Engineered Carbons diversified its customer base and had higher profit margins than commodity-grade carbon black producers.

Key Trends and Recent Developments

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Specialty applications, sustainability, plastics demand, and technological innovations in advanced industries are propelling the North America carbon black market dynamics and trends.

November 2024

Orion S.A. announced price increases for specialty carbon black grades in Europe and South Korea, effective January 1, 2025, due to rising feedstock and operational costs. The adjustment supports high-quality product supply and innovation for global customers, ensuring continued market leadership in specialty carbon black solutions.

September 2024

Cabot Corporation secured a \$50 million U.S. Department of Energy grant to build the first U.S. commercial-scale battery-grade carbon nanotube facility in Michigan. The project strengthens the domestic EV battery supply chain, reduces import dependence, and creates new jobs in manufacturing and construction.

June 2024

CSRC, Eco Infinic, and Continental Carbon will establish one of North America's largest recovered carbon black (rCB) plants, set for 2026. The \$60 million joint venture supports sustainability goals, boosting rCB supply for tire manufacturers and advancing the industry's net-zero carbon emissions target.

March 2022

Orion opened a new 25-kiloton carbon black production line in Ravenna, Italy, to expand capacity and meet growing demand. This investment strengthens its global supply network and enhances product availability for industries like tires, plastics, and coatings.

Increased Adoption of Specialty Carbon Black in Inks and Toners

Specialty carbon black is found in greater application in high-grade printing inks and toners owing to its enhanced dispersion, depth of color, and longevity. As there has been growth in packaging, commercial printing, and digital printing usage, business enterprises are spending in advanced formulating to support increasing demand for high-end ink and coating applications, thus pushing the growth of North America carbon black market.

Advancements in Sustainable Production Practices

The industry is moving towards sustainable carbon black production by embracing cleaner production methods and minimizing emissions. The growth of recovered carbon black (rCB) from recycled tires is on the rise, enabling companies to reduce their carbon footprint. Top manufacturers are investing in sustainability efforts to meet regulatory and corporate ESG objectives.

Rising Demand in the Plastics Industry

Carbon black finds widespread application in the plastics sector in order to make materials more durable, resistant to UV light, and conductive. With their growing applications in automotive parts, consumer electronics, and building products, manufacturers are diversifying product lines to take advantage of increased demand for specialty carbon black reinforced high-performance plastics, and thus aiding in shaping new trends in the North America carbon black market.

Technological Innovations in Carbon Black Applications

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New technologies are increasing carbon black's potential in emerging applications, like electronic devices using conductive polymers and lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles (EVs). Businesses that are investing in research and development are benefiting from these high-growth segments, promising long-term profitability and leading the industry as innovation leaders.

North America Carbon Black Market Trends

North America carbon black manufacturers are investing heavily in smart manufacturing technologies to promote efficiency and sustainability. Birla Carbon and Cabot Corporation are among firms that are deploying automation, artificial intelligence-based quality control, and energy-saving manufacturing processes to make operations more optimal, product consistent, and environment-friendly. All these technologies support manufacturers in maintaining competitiveness while achieving strict regulatory expectations, thus boosting the demand in the North America carbon black market.

Another trend on the rise is increased use of carbon black in 3D printing and high-end composites, thereby boosting the North America carbon black market opportunities. With additive manufacturing increasingly being applied in industries such as automotive, aerospace, and healthcare, demand for high-performance carbon black systems is on the increase. Carbon black adds strength, conductivity, and durability in 3D printing materials and composite systems and is therefore a key ingredient in future industrial products.

North America Carbon Black Industry Segmentation

The EMR's report titled "North America Carbon Black Market Report and Forecast 2025-2034" offers a detailed analysis of the market based on the following segments:

Market Breakup by Product

- Acetylene Black
- Furnace Black
- Thermal Black
- Others

Market Breakup by Grade

- Speciality Grade
- Rubber Grade

Market Breakup by End Use

- Industrial
- Printing and Packaging
- Building and Construction
- Transportation
- Others

Market Breakup by Country

- United States of America

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- Canada

North America Carbon Black Market Share

The market for acetylene black is growing because of its excellent electrical conductivity, which makes it critical in lithium-ion batteries, high-performance cables, and electronics. As per North America carbon black market analysis, the rise of electric vehicles (EVs) and energy storage systems also increases its market growth.

Furnace black holds the largest market share, fueled by its widespread application in automotive tires, industrial rubber, and plastic. The expansion of the automotive industry along with more demands for tough and fuel-saving tires drives its demand. Its applications in coatings, inks, and adhesives also drive additional growth.

Thermal black is also popular for its outstanding insulation and reinforcement qualities. According to North America carbon black industry analysis, it finds extensive application in high-performance rubber products, hoses, and mechanical components, with demand fueled by infrastructure development and industrial uses.

The other segment, which encompasses specialty carbon black, experiences growing demand as it has applications in high-performance polymers, coatings, and conductive compounds, underpinning sectors such as electronics, packaging, and aerospace.

Competitive Landscape

The major players such as Cabot Corporation, Orion Engineered Carbons, and Birla Carbon are focusing on sustainability, technology development, and capacity increase. In the United States, Cabot is investing in battery-grade carbon nanotubes for electric vehicles, and Orion is increasing specialty carbon black production. In Canada and Mexico, producers are increasing recovered carbon black (rCB) initiatives to address increasing environmental regulations and circular economy objectives.

Continental Carbon Company

Founded in 1936, Houston, Texas-based Continental Carbon Company is a leader in the production of furnace black for tires, industrial rubber, and plastics. The company produces high-performance grades of carbon black with enhanced reinforcement, conductivity, and UV protection. Sustainability is its focus, including recovered carbon black (rCB) development.

Orion Engineered Carbons S.A.

Orion Engineered Carbons, founded in 2011 and headquartered in Houston, Texas, supplies a broad portfolio of carbon blacks, such as specialty and high-performance furnace black for coatings, inks, plastics, and rubber uses. The firm is growing its production capacity in North America, with a focus on sustainability and innovation in conductive and reinforcing carbon blacks.

Tokai Carbon CB Ltd

Founded in 1927, Fort Worth, Texas-based headquarters of Tokai Carbon CB delivers furnace and specialty carbon black used in automotive, industrial, and polymer markets. Product consistency and performance are high on the priority list for this company, selling to tire companies, plastic fabricators, and coating industries in addition to maintaining green practices and energy-efficient process operations.

Cancarb Limited

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Established in 1973, Cancarb Limited of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada is a world leading manufacturer of thermal carbon black. It excels in the supply of low-surface-area and high-purity grades, covering rubber, plastic, and special applications. Envirotensive production is a focus with Cancarb using natural gas-based process for clean, sustainable, high-performance carbon black solutions.

Other key players in the North America carbon black market report include Birla Carbon, and Cabot Corporation, among others.

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