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Special Focus: Global Trends in Arms Trading



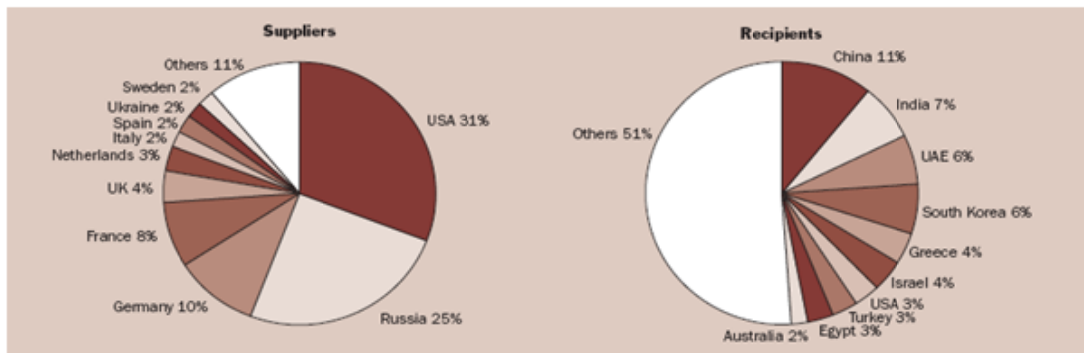
There is a momentous milestone that delimits the composition and the amount of transfer trade globally and this is the end of Cold War. The reason is that the collapse of the Warsaw Treaty Pact and the emerge of a new status quo in the European security created a serious alternation in the structure and purpose of the defense forces of Central and Eastern Europe. It is

indicative that following the end of the cold war there was a steady decline in global arm transfers as they reached their lowest point in 2002, when transfers amounted to only 38% of their cold war high that was recorded in 1982. Nevertheless, after 2002 there has been a more steady increase in transfers something that could be contributed in several factors that will be examined in this article.

The decline that international trade in arms experienced during the 1990s and the first year of the new millennium can be predominately contributed to the collapse of arm transfers from the Soviet Union and its successor states. Two major situations were created by this fact. The first was the end of the Soviet Union as a Superpower and the subsequent discontinuance of supplying weapons to friends and allies for free or on easy credit. The new status quo dictated the creation of a new entrepreneurship model for the Russian companies where new markets should be found.

Additionally, the end of the Cold War highlighted a key differentiation in the structure of the armed forces that was until then created in order to confront a high intensity war.

The suppliers and recipients of major conventional weapons, 2004–2008



Source: SIPRI Arms Transfers Database, <<http://armstrade.sipri.org>>.

Therefore, defence industry was developed to fulfill the aforementioned demands and after the end of the Cold War they found themselves in a completely different environment in which they had to adjust, as the prospect of a large skill war was not on the table anymore.

Despite the fact that Russia had to adjust in this new environment, it remained one of the five biggest arm suppliers. Actually, from the 1980s until 2008, the Soviet Union, the United States, France, the United Kingdom and Germany were steadily the five largest suppliers of major conventional weapons accounting for an average of 80% of world exports. In the contrary, the group of the largest recipients of major conventional weapons has varied over the years. For the period 1980-1984 the five largest recipients of military equipment -Iraq, India, Libya, Syria and Egypt - accounted for 26%



of total imports whereas, for the period 2004–2008 the top 5 -China, India, UAE, South Korea and Greece- accounted for 35% of all imports. In addition, Russian defence industry recuperated and its arms exports were 14% higher in 2004–2008 than in 1999-2003 and furthermore, deliveries to Africa and Latin America have increased by around 200% and 900% respectively.

The ascertainments made in the above paragraph illustrate two major trends; the first is a shift in the major arms import markets from the Middle East- Africa to Asia and the second is that Russia has actually found a new market for its defense industry namely Latin America and especially Venezuela.

Apart from Venezuela Brazil and Colombia are also trying to modernize their armament. Colombian defence budget increased by 2% of 1990's GDP to 6.3% GDP for 2008. Additionally, the Brazilian government decided to significantly augment its national defence budget, as the total sum of budgeted procurements during 2008-2011 is scheduled to be almost 10 billion US dollars more than the previous defence budget.

Arm transfers are an important economical and political issue. It is rather difficult to thoroughly calculate the amount of resources that each country allocates. Nevertheless, we can have a dim idea of the global arm trade and we can surely delineate its main trends and currently the trends are that Asia and Latin America are the new "big spenders" and they have the potential, together with UAE to continue leading this race.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Latin America's Trends in Arms Trading



Overwhelmed with outdated military equipment and technology, Latin America's countries were in a great need of modernising its armament. This was mainly contributed to the fact that military spending remained low during the 1990s and early 2000s. The civilian governments emerged after the end of the military dictatorships of the 1970s and the 1980s tried to gain the control over defence policies and disconnect the future of the country with this troubled past. Nevertheless, in recent years both military spending and arms imports were significantly augmented the last decade. Military spending rose to \$48.1 billion in 2008 and over the decade 1999–2008, it increased by 50%.

One of the reasons for the increase of military spending in Latin America has been the high prices of products that the region's countries are exporting, such as oil, soya and copper, something that significantly augmented their revenues. Additionally, Latin American countries are undergoing a period of socioeconomic modernisation. Under this inspiration their Armed Forces are undergoing a process of alternation that is parallel and in accordance with this procedure.

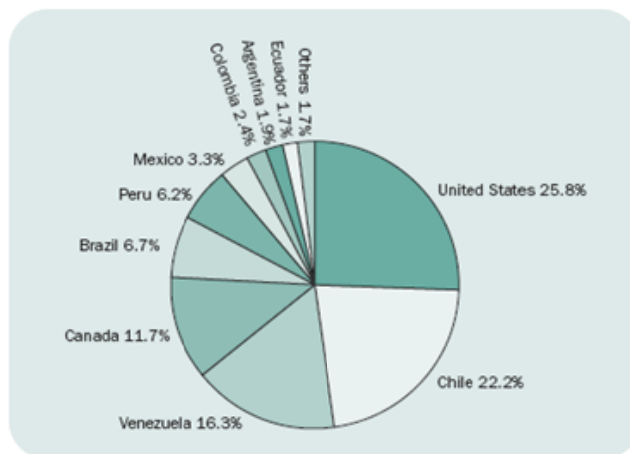
Furthermore every country has a different and more customised reason why it should upgrade its arsenal. For example Brazil faces internal security problems, especially in the Amazon Basin area, where it shares around 12,000km of border with seven other countries, over which the government has a weak hold over the rule of law.



Furthermore, Brazil is an important regional power and if it is to sustain its international position then the improvement of its armoury should be considered as a necessity. Therefore, in December 2008 Brazil signed an \$11.3 billion agreement with France for the licensed production of 50 EC-725 helicopters, 4 conventional submarines and 1 nuclear-powered submarine.

On the other hand Colombia is confronting with increasing demands to counter guerrilla warfare operations in the interior of the country something that resulted to the gradual renewal of the Colombian Air Forces' aging fleet.

National shares of the volume of imports of major conventional weapons by states in South and North America, 2004-2008



Source: SIPRI Arms Transfers Database

The champion of imports for the period 2004-2008 in Latin America is Chile. Its defence budget was nearly doubled and the country is now the 11th largest importer of conventional weapons in the world, up from 36th place for 1999–2003. Venezuela was the second in Latin America and the 18th largest in the world, up from 55th place for 1999–2003.

Another important feature that delineates the arm market in Latin America is that Russia is constantly reinforcing its position in the region. It is indicative that Russian deliveries to South America increased by around 900% between 1999–2003 and 2004–2008. The majority of these transfers went to Venezuela.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects"



Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects" provides a unique set of online tools enabling the structure, identification and implementation of comprehensive Offsets programs, through a searchable database. By introducing different offset projects and ideas proposed by local A&D industry it ensures the optimum cost for Prime Contractors and reassures that the priorities of local industry are fully met...

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Development of an innovative, compact and easy to use electro-optical system to measure wind and turbulence with maximum possible accuracy



A leading company in the design, development and production of electro-optical test and measurement systems for Defense, Industrial and Scientific markets, is proposing the development of a unique electro-optical wind and turbulence measurement system to be used by military, as well as civil aviation aircraft. The proposed system is compact, lightweight and can be used to provide high accuracy wind and turbulence measurements, thus maximizing flight safety. The system's low cost characteristics would make it particularly attractive to a very large aviation market consisting of modern high performance military and civil aviation aircraft and helicopters.

[For Further Information Contact our ICO Department](#)

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Nitrite free VCI Film for corrosion prevention of various aerospace and defence systems and subsystems



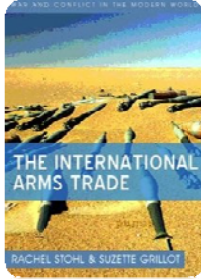
A company with many years of experience in the field of plastic bags development and production is proposing -to any likewise interested party- the use of a new generation Nitrite free VCI film for packaging/wrapping of aerospace and defense products which require particular protection from environmental elements. The associated VCI film complies with MIL-PRF-22019D specifications providing -environmentally safe- corrosion prevention for all product lines, ranging from steel rebar up to electronic circuit assemblies.

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The International Arms Trade (WCMW - War and Conflict in the Modern World), by Rachel Stohl , Suzette Grillot



International arms trade is a multi-billion dollar business in which virtually every country in the world is involved. The book is trying to delineate the complexities and realities of this global trade. The authors trace the history of the arms trade and examine how it has evolved since the end of the Cold War. In particular, they assess the role of the largest arms exporters and importers, the business of selling conventional arms around the world, and shed new light on the illicit arms trade and the shadowy dealers who profit from their deadly commerce. The International Arms Trade should be considered a must will be invaluable for students and scholars of international relations and security studies, and for policymakers and anyone interested in understanding more about the conventional arms trade.

The Global Arms Trade: A Handbook, by Andrew T. H. Tan



The Global Arms Trade is a timely, comprehensive and in-depth study of this topic, a phenomenon which has continued to flourish despite the end of the Cold War and has been revived till the middle of the first decade of the new millenium. It provides a clear description and analysis of the demand for, and supply of, modern weapons systems, and assesses key issues of concern. This book will be especially useful to scholars, policy analysts, those in the arms industry, defence professionals, students of international relations and security studies, media professionals, government officials, and those generally interested in the arms trade.



China Leads the World in Venture Capital Growth

Venture capital investments in China have come roaring back from the economic crisis, reaching \$5.4 billion in 2010, a 79% increase over 2009. China venture capital (VC) investments are growing at a pace that's outstripped every other nation on the planet, according to the inaugural report from Lux Research's new China Innovation Intelligence service. Lux Research reports that 40% of China's overall venture capital has backed emerging technologies since the start of 2010, affirming the country's intent to be a rising global leader in technological innovation.

"Foreign investors look for breakout technological innovations. Domestic investors do as well, but they also factor in market channels and financials when selecting companies," said Zhuo Zhang, a Lux Analyst and the report's lead author. "And locals are getting in earlier Series A rounds represent over 80% of all domestic VC-backed deals, while foreign VCs have backed less than half that many. This implies that many untapped opportunities await foreign investors willing to step beyond familiar territory."

Titled "Investing in Indigenous Innovation China's Emerging Technology VC Landscape," the report charts investment opportunities beyond well-travelled enclaves like Beijing and Shanghai to help foreign corporations and investors successfully navigate China's expanding frontier of innovation. It surveys how VC deals are distributed across multiple emerging technology domains and throughout China's 31 regions. It also compares the investment patterns of domestic and foreign VC firms, providing insights into how local investors approach China's unique opportunities differently.

Among the report's key insights

VC activity is unequally, but broadly distributed by regions. Twenty-six out of China's thirty-one regions received VC investment for emerging technologies since the beginning of 2010, but just four – Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Guangdong – account for 60% of the activity. Foreign VCs have out-invested their domestic counterparts by two-to-one in both Beijing and Shanghai.

Domestic and foreign VC firms have distinct industry portfolio weightings. Foreign investors have driven significant activity in LEDs, medical equipment, solar, and pharmaceutical industries. In contrast, domestic VC firms dominate investment in materials technologies, be they advanced materials platforms or green building construction materials. Even within technology domains there are distinct behaviors. For energy storage, domestic investors heavily favor lithium-ion battery opportunities, while foreign interests have scattered deals in flow batteries, supercapacitors, and fuel cells.

Solar, LEDs, and wind show signs of maturity. With average deal sizes of \$24 million for LEDs and \$26 million for solar, these industries are moving out of the VC realm and are already experiencing the cost and margin-crunching pain of over-population. The next generation of concentrated solar thermal technology, building-integrated photovoltaics and thin film start-ups will be needed to reinvigorate the solar VC climate in China. Notably, no wind energy deals were uncovered as large incumbents now dominate the landscape.

“Investing in Indigenous Innovation China's Emerging Technology VC Landscape,” is part of the Lux China Innovation Intelligence service. Clients subscribing to this service receive ongoing research on market and technology trends, continuous technology scouting reports and proprietary data points in the weekly Lux Research China Innovation Journal, and on-demand inquiry with Lux Research analysts.

About Lux Research

Lux Research provides strategic advice and on-going intelligence for emerging technologies. Leaders in business, finance and government rely on us to help them make informed strategic decisions. Through our unique research approach focused on primary research and our extensive global network, we deliver insight, connections and competitive advantage to our clients. Visit www.luxresearchinc.com for more information.

Source: Business Wire

Heaven knows what lies ahead for NASA

With the orbiter Atlantis set to land at Kennedy Space Center on Thursday, ending the 30-year space shuttle program, NASA has its sights set on the next big exploration mission: sending astronauts to an asteroid in about 15 years. But the path to that...

Source: Newspaper Direct, Epicos

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Prices on both cars and gas taking a brake

GAS PRICES may be going down this summer, but drivers looking to save even more money should wait until fall. That's when the price of a small car is expected to drop, according to data from auto pricing service Kelley Blue Book. Drivers in the...

Source: Newspaper Direct, Epicos

[Press here to Read the Full Article](#)

Research and Markets: Comprehensive 2011 Brazilian Power Utilities Market Overview

Research and Markets

(http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/a8e3fb/brazilian_power_ut)

has announced the addition of Frost & Sullivan's new report "Brazilian Power Utilities Market" to their offering.

This research service provides a general overview of the status of the power utilities market in Brazil, such as present and future capacity, governmental policies, regulation, end users,

and feedstock. The Brazilian electricity generation matrix is mainly comprised of renewable sources, specially hydropower. Hydropower plants were responsible for 67.4% of the total addition in Brazilian installed capacity in 2009, while thermal power plants contributed 23.6%, and wind farms were responsible for the remaining 8.9%

Outlook

After job losses in all sectors of the economy during 2009, the labour ministry forecasts the creation of two million formal positions in 2010. During the first semester, the agricultural, manufacturing and construction sectors presented the highest growth.

Even though the economy was stable, the government raised the internal interest rate in the 2010 to avoid inflation increscent. However, it might prejudice private investments.

The Special Settlement and Custody System (SELIC) rate is the Brazilian Central Bank's index for performing open market operation in execution of monetary policy.

Key Topics Covered:

Executive Summary

- Project Aim and Objectives
- Research Methodology
- Research Scope
- Research Definitions
- Overview
- Key Research Findings

Electricity Market in Brazil

- Brazilian Macroeconomic Outlook
- Market Characteristics
- Electricity Consumption

Distribution Industry Overview

- Introduction
- Market Status
- Marketing Engineering Measurements
- Market Dynamics - Challenges
- Market Dynamics - Market Drivers
- Market Dynamics - Market Restraints

Regulation and Policies

- Historical Overview
- Major Regulatory Bodies
- Concession Policy
- Legislation
- Distribution Procedures

Regional Power Distribution Participants

- Southeast Region
- Southeast and South Region
- Southeast and Central West Region
- South Region
- Northeast Region
- Central West Region
- North Region

Efficiency Indicators

- ANEEL's Supervision Role
- Loss Measurement
- Energy Efficiency Program
- IASC Brazil

Distribution Market Perspectives

- Market Highlights
- Market Trends
- Electricity Forecast
- Revenue Forecast

Recommendations and Conclusions

For more information visit

http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/a8e3fb/brazilian_power_ut

Source: Business Wire

European waste technology leaders to meet in London this October

For the EU-27 by 2009, landfilling had fallen at a staggering rate to 38 %. Meanwhile, the share of waste that was recycled or composted rose from 25 % to 42 % during the same period. This irrefutable fact tells you which way the wind is blowing in the waste industry – towards energy efficiency and valuable outputs!

On October 4th and 5th in London, the European waste management industry will converge at the Waste Technology Summit with a significant task in mind: to identify the key impediments to adopting Waste Conversion technologies and delivering the necessary infrastructure to develop solutions.

At this industry leading event, delegates from across Europe will try to find out which of the emerging technologies to put their weight behind. There are plenty of innovative ideas but which will develop into a commercial reality and which will remain consigned to the demo plant?

The industry has made clear that they want to know how to select, finance and integrate successful Waste Conversion Technologies. This has given EyeforEnergy the impetus to construct a world beating agenda for the event.

The focus of the Waste Technology Summit agenda on October 4th and 5th in London:

Technology – Discover the business and scientific cases for waste conversion technologies and learn how to implement them

Finance – Understand the public and private finance available and how you can access it for your project

Project Development – Select the right technology that will deliver over the life of a long term, 20+ year contract

Infrastructure delivery – Learn how to deliver new infrastructure on time and cost effectively

Hitting Waste Targets – Deliver an end to end sustainable waste strategy to hit your targets

Speaking at this event are the top organisations working in waste technology today:

- DEFRA
- Grant Thornton
- AEA
- SITA UK
- Mott Macdonald

Join these companies and dozens more in London this October to take full advantage of this speaker expertise, the valuable networking time and an exclusive site visit to the Viridor/Grundon facility at Colnbrook..

For more information please visit:

<http://www.eyeforenergy.com/wasteuk>

OR Contact:

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For the original version on PRWeb visit:

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/prweb2011/7/prweb8650025.htm>

Source: PR Web