Managing Chemical Substances

All chemical substances possess inherent properties that offer outstanding benefits. At the same time, however, if misused chemical substances can harm people's health and place a burden on the environment. Fuji Electric manages chemical substances appropriately and works to reduce their emission.

Managing and Reducing the Use of Chemical Substances

Fuji Electric identified the goal of reducing its use of chemical substances by 40% compared with levels recorded in fiscal 2000 by fiscal 2010. This target covers emissions of chemical Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) Law-designated substances and for atmospheric emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in accordance with the voluntary action plan put forward by Japan's four major electronics and electrical industry organizations based on the Air Pollution Control Act.

Emissions of PRTR-listed substances in fiscal 2010 were 219.1 tons, down 40.4% compared with levels recorded in fiscal 2000. Atmospheric emissions of VOCs totaled 286.1 tons, a reduction of 62.2%. In each case, Fuji Electric successfully achieved its targets.

In fiscal 2011, we set the goal of maintaining levels achieved in fiscal 2010. In specific terms, emissions of PRTR-designated substances were 195.6 tons while atmospheric emissions of VOCs totaled 255.4 tons. On this basis, the Company again achieved its established goals.

Our ability to record such positive results reflects successful efforts to shift over to alternative substances while overcoming wide-ranging issues relating primarily to production, production technology, and quality. The benefits that have accrued are also a measure of our steady endeavors to engage in environmental facility investment.

From fiscal 2012, we plan to establish internal objectives within the Environmental Management 3-Year Rolling Plan formulated in fiscal 2011. Moving forward, we will engage in all appropriate activities with the aim of achieving established goals.
Managing Products that Contain Chemical Substances

Fuji Electric holds regular liaison meetings (roughly on a quarterly basis) and an annual Company-wide seminar to promote the sharing of information with respect to a variety of issues including trends in statutory and regulatory requirements. Through these means, the Company works diligently to ensure that products, which contain chemical substances, comply with all pertinent legislation worldwide.

In addition, we determine all chemical substance risks across the entire production process including the use of raw materials in the manufacture of products on an individual works basis. At the same time, steps are taken to put in place an optimal management framework.

In fiscal 2011, approximately 30 employees mainly comprising coordinators responsible for managing chemical substances at all production bases in Japan participated in each liaison meeting. In addition to sharing the latest information on environmental regulations in such global regions and countries as the EU and China, these meetings provided the forum to reinforce the Company’s commitment to strictly adhere to appropriate compliance measures. Moreover, during the Company-wide seminar covering such themes as Fuji Electric’s energy-related businesses and efforts to reduce environmental impact, an update on revisions to the RoHS Directive were included in the program. In this manner, we continue to maintain a keen eye on trends in chemical substance regulations in overseas countries.

Overseas factories are appropriately handling chemical substances under the direction of mother plants in Japan. In addition to collecting information of chemical substances contained in procured items, we will take steps to provide information to customers and fulfill our responsibilities as a member of the supply chain going forward.

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