Managing Chemical Substances

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

Managing and Reducing the Use of Chemical Substances

Fuji Electric set a goal of reducing its environmental emissions of chemical substances by 40% compared with fiscal 2000 by fiscal 2010. This target covers emissions of chemical Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (fPRTR-designated substances and for atmospheric emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in accordance with an action plan put forward by Japan's four electrical and electronics industry organizations*2 based on the Air Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) designated substances and for atmospheric emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in fiscal 2010 were down 40.4% compared with levels recorded in fiscal 2000 and atmospheric emissions of VOCs were reduced by 62.2%. In each case, Fuji Electric successfully achieved its target.

Since fiscal 2010, Fuji Electric has worked to achieve a voluntary 10.0% reduction from fiscal 2010 levels by fiscal 2013 as part of its Environmental Management 3-Year Rolling Plan. We achieved this target both for PRTR-designated substances and for atmospheric emissions of VOCs, which were reduced by 13.4%.

Initiatives to reduce the use of chemical substances are to switch to alternatives while working to overcome integration issues in production technologies and quality, to install equipment enabling recycling of chemical substances and to develop new technologies to reduce emissions. Additionally, records of examples of initiatives at each production base are shared with work processes at other bases.

Overseas, we have moved ahead with surveys*3 of PRTR-designated substances and VOC emissions since fiscal 2014, emissions of PRTR-designated substances were 1,240.2 tons and VOC atmospheric emissions were 201.5 tons.

*1 Act on Confirmation, etc. of Release Amounts of Specific Chemical Substances in the Environment and Promotion of the Management Thereof
*2 The four electrical and electronics industry organizations were The Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industry Association (JEITA); the Communications and Information Network Association of Japan (CIAJ); the Japan Business Information System Industries Association (JBMIA); and the Japan Electrical Manufacturers' Association (JEMA)
*3 Overseas in fiscal 2014, emissions of PRTR-designated substances were 1,240.2 tons and VOC atmospheric emissions were 201.5 tons
Managing Chemical Substances Contained in Products

We hold regular liaison meetings on a four-monthly basis among design and development divisions and an annual seminar to promote the sharing of information with respect to a variety of issues including trends in statutory 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 and manufacture of products on an individual works basis. At the same time, steps are taken to put in place an optimal framework.

In fiscal 2014, 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 environmental regulations in such global regions and countries as the EU and China, these meetings provided the Company's commitment to strictly adhere to appropriate compliance measures.

Overseas factories are appropriately handling chemical substances under the direction of mother factories in Japan.