

# Safety, Health, and Disaster Prevention Measures

Aiming at achieving zero accidents and zero disaster damage, we have adopted the Occupational Safety and Health Management System (OSH-MS). Dangerous operations and facilities are identified by on-site risk assessments, and any necessary changes are made to improve safety.

## Safety and Health

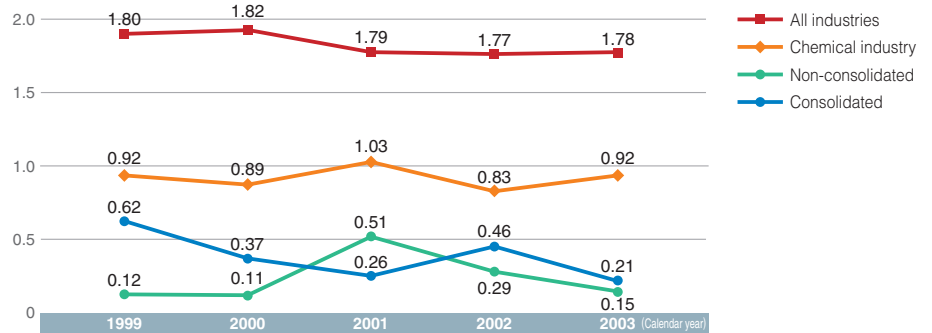
The Hitachi Chemical Group has adopted various safety measures, including the OSH-MS activities, improvement of the intrinsic safety of facilities, the Safety Training Observation Program (STOP) developed by DuPont, Risk Prevention Training (KYT), and the “Hiyari-Hatto” (Near-Miss) program.

As a result of these measures, both the casualty rate\* and the number of employee absences due to work-related illness or injuries decreased in 2003 compared with the previous year. As our next goal, we will work on the promotion of risk assessment based on the observation of actual sites at non-routine work (when an accident occurs, for example), and on risk reduction activities. These are measures to achieve the ultimate goal of basic safety principles to ensure intrinsic safety of working environment.

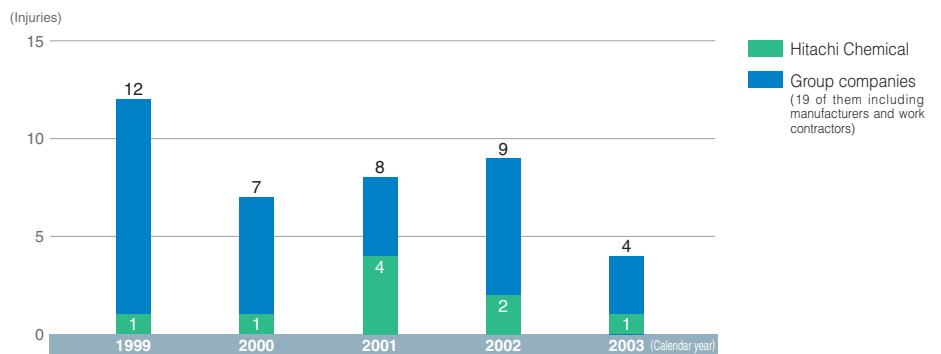
The efforts have been producing successful results. In February 2003, Goshomiya Works of Hitachi Chemical achieved zero accident records in category II (zero accidents in 5.4 million hours), and the Research and Development Center also achieved category I (zero accidents in 2.7 million hours) in December 2002, as designated by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare.

\* Casualty rate: The total number of those killed or injured by a labor accident per 1 million working hours.

Occupational accident rate



Number of work-loss injuries

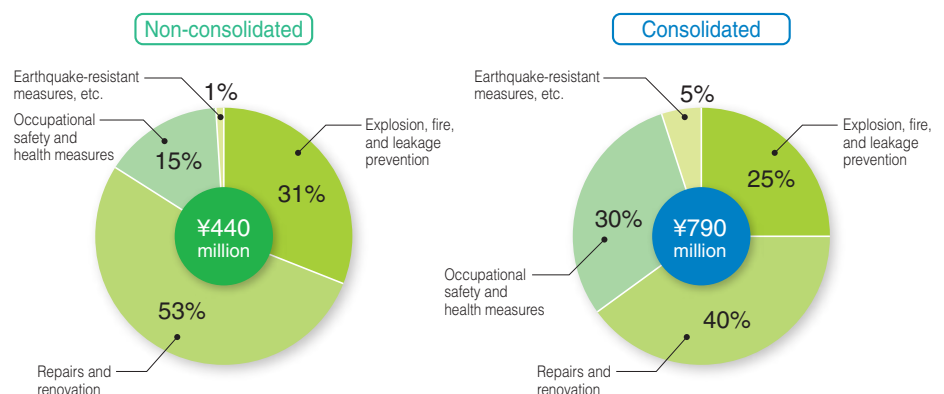


•The data of safety and health is for calendar year.

## Safety and Disaster Prevention Investment

The Hitachi Chemical Group has been continuously making investments in safety and disaster prevention measures. In fiscal 2003, Hitachi Chemical alone invested 440 million yen in safety measures, mainly in measures against the aging of facilities. Investments on a consolidated basis amounted to 790 million yen. The accumulated amount of investments since 1990 in safety and disaster prevention measures made by Hitachi Chemical has now reached 5.6 billion yen.

Breakdown of safety and disaster prevention investment (Fiscal 2003)



## Environmental Safety Audit

The Hitachi Chemical Group publishes an Environmental and Safety Management Report as an original auditing data document with regard to issues concerning environmental conservation, disaster prevention, safety and health measures, and chemical substance treatments. Based on this report, the Environmental and Safety Auditing Committee carries out every year, document auditing and site inspections of the manufacturing and R&D divisions, as well as OSH-MS auditing, to audit the manufacturing companies and works.

## Safety and Health Discussion Session

Each year, the Hitachi Chemical Group holds a discussion session on safety and health issues in order to improve safety and health standards. In these sessions, examples of where improvements have been made to the systems are presented, information is exchanged, and field trips to sites are organized.

## Mental Health Care

The environment surrounding workers, including social settings and employment formats, has been rapidly changing in recent years. These changes can be a serious burden to workers, and may even cause high levels of fatigue and stress. That is why the Hitachi Chemical Group makes the utmost efforts to provide its staff with mental health support, in order to take measures against the above-mentioned issues and to improve the working environment and the general health condition of its employees.

In fiscal 2003, we took a variety of approaches to achieving this goal. We

## Company-wide Disaster Prevention Drills

Observing the day when a serious accident occurred at one of its works, November 14, 1982, Hitachi Chemical designated November 14 as a company-wide disaster prevention day to renew our pledge for disaster prevention and safety efforts. In addition, May 14 is also designated as a disaster prevention day when events are held at each work site. For the week including these dates, "disaster prevention week," we carry out various events, including company-wide disaster prevention drills, reviews of disaster prevention management schemes, safety-awareness-raising program for employees, and inspections of disasters prevention and safety facilities.



Company-wide disaster prevention day: November 14, 2003, at Goi Works.

## Fire Drills

The Hitachi Chemical Group has its own fire fighting crew to prevent and prepare for sudden disasters and accidents, including fires and natural disasters caused by wind and water.

In addition to the drills specially performed in the disaster prevention week in the spring and autumn, the crews undertake regular drills so as to be completely prepared in the event of an emergency. The crew also participates in the city-wide joint drills organized by the local governments.



Fire drills: December, 2003 at Shimodate Works.



Mental health care seminar: February, 2004 at Goi Works.