

# Control of Chemical Substances

We have been working on the complete control of chemical substances through participating in the Global Initiative on High Production Volume Chemicals, an international action to assess the hazards of chemical substances, as well as through establishing the Hitachi Chemical Comprehensive Control System of Chemical Substances.

## Control of Chemical Substance

The Hitachi Chemical Group takes various measures for the appropriate control of chemical substances. For example, we founded the Chemical Substances Safety Center inside the group in 1998. We cooperate with national and local governments to take administrative measures and participate in voluntary plans with the chemical industry. As a part of those activities, we carry out information collection and study activities concerning risk assessment and risk communication in compliance with the PRTR system, and have joined the Global Initiative on High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals,\* operated by the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA). In the HPV Initiative, Hitachi Chemical led the group in preparing a hazard report for tetrahydromethylphthalic anhydride. The report was examined and agreed at the OECD SIDS Initial Assessment Meeting held on October 2002 (SIAM 15).

\* HPV (High Production Volume) Initiative: An international system to carry out hazard assessments and disseminate results on approximately 1,000 chemical substances that are produced in large quantities.

## Review of New Chemical Substances

Before starting to use a new chemical substance or when replacing a chemical material with a different material, the Hitachi Chemical Group has the substance thoroughly reviewed by the Chemical Substance Committee and other related groups. Through this review processes, the

## Comprehensive Control System for Chemical Substances

Aiming to further improve its chemical substances control system, the Hitachi Chemical Group has been creating a Comprehensive Control System for Chemical Substances. We accomplished the PRTR control system in 2000 and the MSDS control system in 2002. Together with the Chemical Substance Database, which is now under preparation, these systems will complete the Comprehensive Control System.

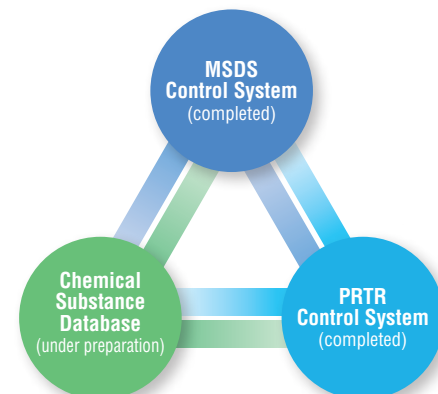
The PRTR control system is a calculation system that allows quick and accurate aggregative accounting of chemical substances that are subject to PRTR. Based on the input of the release coefficient and other conditions specific to the worksite, the system calculates the aggregated use of specific PRTR chemical substances and the amount of emissions. The system drastically speeds up such calculations and improves the accuracy compared with conventional manual calculation.

The MSDS control system contains MSDSs for the chemical materials that we purchase and for the chemical products we manufacture. Anyone can access the data from any location through the company's internal network and use them to improve the safety conditions when working with specific chemical substances.

propriety of the substance and its conditions for use are discussed, based on the MSDS, legal regulations, and hazard information. This is a measure to prevent the unprepared use of hazardous chemicals.

In addition, the members of the Chemical Substance Committee also attend

### Concept of the comprehensive control system of chemical substances



### MSDS control system



### PRTR control system



the meetings of the Chemical Substances Safety Management Representatives and chemical substance training sessions to obtain a thorough understanding of legal regulations and new information about chemical substances. These opportunities in turn improve the accuracy of the reviews.

### Next Step

We are completing the Chemical Substance Database that will contain up-to-date and accurate regulations and hazard information on chemical substances. We will use this database to further improve the control level of chemical substances.