

Reducing Environmental Impacts in the Production Processes (5) Controlling Chemical Substances

Establishing a Comprehensive Control System

The Hitachi Chemical Group is establishing a Comprehensive Control System for Chemical Substances to centralize the control of chemical substance/environmental data and to respond to such laws and regulations. In 2004, as a primary system, a database was compiled covering 6,000 out of 20,000 substances subject to such laws and regulations and owned by each site.

From 2005, the PRTR Control System and the MSDS Control System, both of which has already been established, will be integrated into the system and its operation will be started.

Establishment of the secondary and third-generation system is planned, including release and transfer control, support for preparation of MSDS,

environmental/safety information management, green procurement and risk evaluation, which will surely enhance the chemical substance control system of the Group.

Review of New Chemical Substances

Before starting to use a new chemical substance or when altering ingredients in existing products, the Hitachi Chemical Group has the substance thoroughly reviewed by the Chemical Substance Committee and other predetermined reviewing committees. Through this review process, the propriety of the substance and its conditions of use are discussed, based on the MSDS, laws and regulations, and hazard information. This is a measure to prevent the unprepared use of hazardous chemicals.

In addition, the Council of Chemical Substances Safety Management

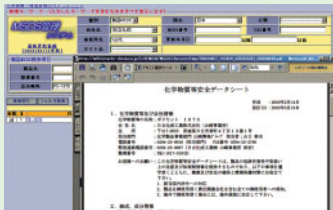
Representatives and the chemical substance training sessions provide the members of the Chemical Substance Committee with involved information including laws and regulations about chemical substances.

Control of hazardous chemical substances


The Hitachi Chemical Group stores transformers and capacitors containing Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) securely in special containers and facilities under appropriate control to prevent any loss or leakage of PCBs. The disposal treatment will be outsourced to external facilities, and all PCB will be properly treated and disposed of by July 2016. Use of specific chlorofluorocarbons, carbon tetrachloride, and organic solvents were totally abolished each in 1994, 1995, and 1996.

Before FY 2004

- Viewing MSDS of the products (from 2002)



- Release control of substances subject to PRTR (from 2000)




In first half of FY 2005

6,000 substances used in the Group compiled into the database and control of chemical substances systemized.

Comprehensive Control System for Chemical Substances

- Viewing MSDS of the products and procurement products
- Viewing chemical substance data (including information about laws and regulations)

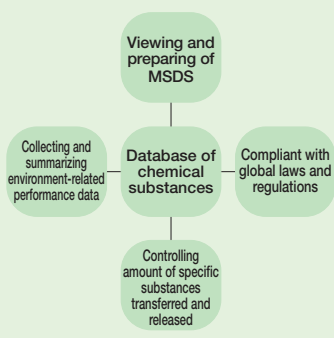


By FY 2006

By centralization of the database and integration of the system, accurate chemical substance control and prompt response will become possible.

New Comprehensive Control System for Chemical Substances

- Assisting in preparations for MSDS in addition to viewing
- Viewing chemical substance data (including information about laws and regulations)
- Collecting and summarizing environment-related performance data.



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      A[Collecting and summarizing environment-related performance data] --> B[Database of chemical substances]
      B --> C[Viewing and preparing of MSDS]
      B --> D[Compliant with global laws and regulations]
      B --> E[Controlling amount of specific substances transferred and released]
  
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CSR Management

In the Market

For the Global Environment

With Employees

In Society