

Preventing pollution from chemical substances

← P12 CSR Policy 5

● Reducing emissions of chemical substances

2007 Result: 11% of 2000 levels (Target: 20% or less)
VOCs: 15% (Target: 25% or less)

2008 Target: 11% or less of 2000 levels
VOCs: 15% or less

The Hitachi Chemical Group is systematically working to reduce the use and atmospheric emissions of 480 substances identified in the PRTR survey from the Japan Chemical Industry Association, including 354 substances subject to the PRTR Law. The Group focused on 21 substances, which include 14 substances in particular controlled by the PRTR Law and emitted in significant volumes, along with 7 substances that are subject to voluntary controls, such as acetone and methyl ethyl ketone.

In response to the enforcement of the Air Pollution Control Law in April 2006, we reported on our large drying facilities that handle VOCs and have been observing the allowable concentration at their exhaust outlets. We are also working on reducing our output of 41 substances that are released in larger volumes (accounting for more than 90% of our total VOC emissions).

In fiscal 2007, the release of chemical substances into the atmosphere was reduced to 7% of 2000 levels on non-

consolidated basis and 11% on consolidated basis, or 388 tons and 694 tons respectively. The reduction resulted from launching operation of new exhaust processing equipment within the year and switching from raw materials controlled under the PRTR Law to those not covered by the law.

In fiscal 2007, we reduced VOC emissions to 13% of 2000 levels on a non-consolidated basis and 15% on a consolidated basis.

● Preventing air pollution

The Hitachi Chemical Group is striving to reduce emissions of sulfur oxide (SOx) and nitrogen oxide (NOx), which cause air pollution. SOx emissions were 9,000 Nm³ on non-consolidated basis and 24,000 Nm³ on consolidated basis, while NOx emissions were 117,000 Nm³ and 130,000 Nm³ respectively in fiscal 2007.

● Preventing water pollution

The Hitachi Chemical Group is working to prevent discharge of polluted water through surveillance based on our voluntary standards, which are stricter than legal mandates. We are also systematically reinforcing the capacity of our waste water processing equipment.

In fiscal 2007, discharge into public waters was 5,282,000 m³ on non-consolidated basis and 11,201,000 m³ on consolidated basis, while discharge into sewage systems was 315,000 m³ and 2,576,000 m³ respectively. Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) was 24 tons (non-consolidated) and 103 tons (consolidated), and chemical oxygen demand (COD) was 35 tons (non-consolidated) and 266 tons (consolidated).

● Preventing soil/groundwater pollution

Some works of the Hitachi Chemical Group caused soil or groundwater contamination through the usage of chlorinated organic solvents. Now, after completely purifying the soil and groundwater, there is no contamination outside of company boundaries.

We will continue purification at the works in fiscal 2008 and thereafter while continuing surveillance of possible pollution at all of our works.

Release of chemical substances into the atmosphere

