

May 27, 2015

-- JCIA Presents 39th Annual Safety Award --
“Kashima Plant of KURARAY CO., LTD.” Honored as the Grand Prize Winner

Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA, Chairman: Yoshimitsu Kobayashi, Chairman of Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings) had recently reviewed a number of chemical facilities for the 39th Annual Safety Awards and selected the winner of the Grand Prize (one company) and the First Prize winners (four companies).

JCIA's Safety Award is awarded to those chemical facilities that perform exceptionally in safety activities that exceeds the industry's standards as part of the chemical industry's promotion of voluntary conservation, health and safety efforts. This year, 22 facilities, including three research centers, were recommended and/or applied for the Association's awards. As reviewed and selected by the JCIA's Safety Awards Council, chaired by Dr. Shozo Tamura (Professor Emeritus of Tokyo University), the following have been selected as award-winning facilities:

JCIA Annual “Safety Award Grand Prize Winner:”

Kashima Plant of KURARAY CO., LTD.

Facility Location:36 Higashiwada, Kamisu City, Ibaraki Prefecture

Founded: 1972

Production: Manufacturing products such as isoprene and isoprene-rubber products

Amount of Dangerous Substances Handled: About 935 times the designated amount

Number of Employees: 512

Safety Record: 7,100,000 labor hours without any recorded accident

Years Without Recorded Accident: 7 years

Major Awards: Japan Petrochemical Industry Association Safety Award for 2010 and 2012

Reasons for Selection: The Safety and Health Committee, Safety and Health Cooperation Group, Security and Disaster Prevention Council, and Regular Meetings on Security and Disaster Prevention have been established under the plant manager and they integrate the safety activities of all the departments. At the plant, security and disaster prevention measures such as equipment management has also been conducted because a large amount of dangerous substances and high-pressure gases are handled. Moreover, the plant tends to get affected by external corrosion because of

salt damage as the plant is located in the coastal area. To improve the overall safety, the overall plant, including a multiple number of business departments, unanimously focus on improvement in the revitalization of communication, improvement in danger prediction, and overall risk assessment. In particular, daily greetings and basic training on safety are extensively promoted.

JCIA Annual Safety Award First Prize Winners (four facilities):

Corporate Research & Development of Ube Industries, Ltd. (Ube area) (Special Prize)

Moka Plant of SABIC Japan Ltd

Kitakata Plant of Showa Denko K.K.

Tatsuno Plant of Show Denko K.K.

At JCIA, based on the government's request to promote the disaster prevention measures in May last year by the inter-ministerial liaison council on examining disaster prevention measures such as petroleum complexes (participated by Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and others), we reinforced our efforts to maintain safety and expand it horizontally further. Furthermore, we published supplementary materials (popular edition/DVD) toward diffusion and frequent use of the "Safety and Accident Prevention Guidelines (first edition)" and aggressively promoted the materials not only among members but also among non-member companies and organizations. In addition, by utilizing the guidelines based on "Best Practices of Safety and Disaster Prevention, Industrial Health and Safety," we promoted information exchange and coordination among academic societies on security and safety activity. Moreover, to prevent labor accidents, we proceeded with activities such as responding to the emergency request of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare of August last year, toward establishing a workplace without any labor accidents. We will continue to enlighten and assist the companies in the fields of security, disaster prevention, labor safety, and health.

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