37th JCIA Safety Award Winners Selected Asahi Kasei Chemicals Has Been Selected for JCIA Safety Award

Japan Chemical Industry Association

The Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA, Chairman: Kyohei Takahashi, Chairman of Showa Denko K.K.) recently announced the winners of their 37th JCIA Safety and Safety Effort Awards for chemical facilities with superior performance in promoting voluntary conservation, safety and health.

As a part of promoting voluntary environment preservation, safety and health in the chemical industry, the JCIA Safety Award commends every year those facilities which could become a model for the industry by carrying out superior safety activity. This year, out of 22 facilities (including three research centers) which had been recommended or applied for the award, JCIA's Safety Awards Council, chaired by Dr. Shozo Tamura, Professor Emeritus of The University of Tokyo, reviewed and selected the following facilities as award-winning facilities:

JCIA Safety Award Grand Prize (one company)

Name: Asahi Kasei Chemicals Corporation, Suzuka Plant

Address: 1-1 Hirata-nakamachi, Suzuka City, Mie Pref. 513-8660 Japan

Operation started: 1953

Major business line: Manufacturing of wrapping films for food, etc. (Saran Wrap,

Saran Film, Suntech SE Film, etc.), synthetic fiber, and polyethylene foams

Amount of dangerous substances handled: 26 times the designated amount.

Amount of high-pressure gas handled: 148,779 Nm³/day

Employee force: 566

Safety record: Labor hours without recorded accident – 17,160,000 hours

Years without recorded accident – 15 years

Reasons for selection: To realize completely no accidents and a lively workplace "full of smiles," the company adequately operates its labor safety management system with all employees participating and makes improvement continuously.

At the work sites, there have been displays everywhere from which employees can understand safety protocols. In addition, as a measure to reduce the risks from machinery, safety locks and other devices have been equipped to provide essential safety. For major safety programs, the company targets (1) Activity to reduce risks at the workplace, (2) activity to foster "safety consciousness," (3) programs for workplace inspection tours, and (4) organizing Responsible Care meetings in the Suzuka area. Thus, the company has achieved a superior record in safety by carrying out its safety programs with all employees participating, maintaining a high consciousness of safety by each employee, and having been awarded with the Director of Labor Standards Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, No Recorded Accident Type 3 in 2007.

JCIA Safety Effort/Special Award First Prize (four companies)

Asahi Kasei Metals Ltd, Tomobe Plant (Special Award)
Showa Aluminum Can Corporation, Oyama Plant
Showa Denko K.K., Institute for Advanced and Core Technology (Special Award)
Taoka Chemical Co., Ltd., Yodogawa Plant

The awards ceremony will be held in Tokyo on May 29, when the 22nd General Assembly of JCIA will be held.

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