



CORPORATE REPORT 2020

ZEON

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Editorial policy

Zeon Corporation and Zeon Group ("Zeon") previously published a stand-alone CSR Report. Since FY 2013, Zeon has published a booklet form of the CSR Report renamed the Corporate Report, which includes an annual report and corporate profile providing of overview of Zeon's general business activities.

In this FY 2020 version of the Corporate Report, the Highlight 1 section outlines the Zeon Group's response to COVID-19, and the impact of the epidemic. Highlight 2 introduces Zeon's plastic business utilizing Cyclo Olefin Polymers (COP), a segment in our Specialty Materials Business experiencing long-term growth. The CSR Matrix is presented in summary form; the full version can now be found in Zeon's CSR Report.

Reporting period

April 2019 to March 2020
(includes some information after April 2020)

Reporting scope

Zeon Corporation and Zeon Group companies inside and outside Japan. Some data covers only Zeon Corporation.

Zeon's information disclosure

Basic information on Zeon Corporation and Zeon Group is available on the Company Information section of the corporate website.

This Corporate Report (booklet) contains a wide range of information on Zeon corporate management and CSR. A CSR Report (PDF) with detailed information on initiatives and site reports is available on the CSR activities section of the corporate website.

More information about Zeon's management and operations is available on the Investor Relations section of the corporate website and in the Fact Book.

Website ▶ http://www.zeon.co.jp/index_e.html

Survey about this Corporate Report

URL ▶ http://www.zeon.co.jp/contact_e/index.html

Corporate Philosophy

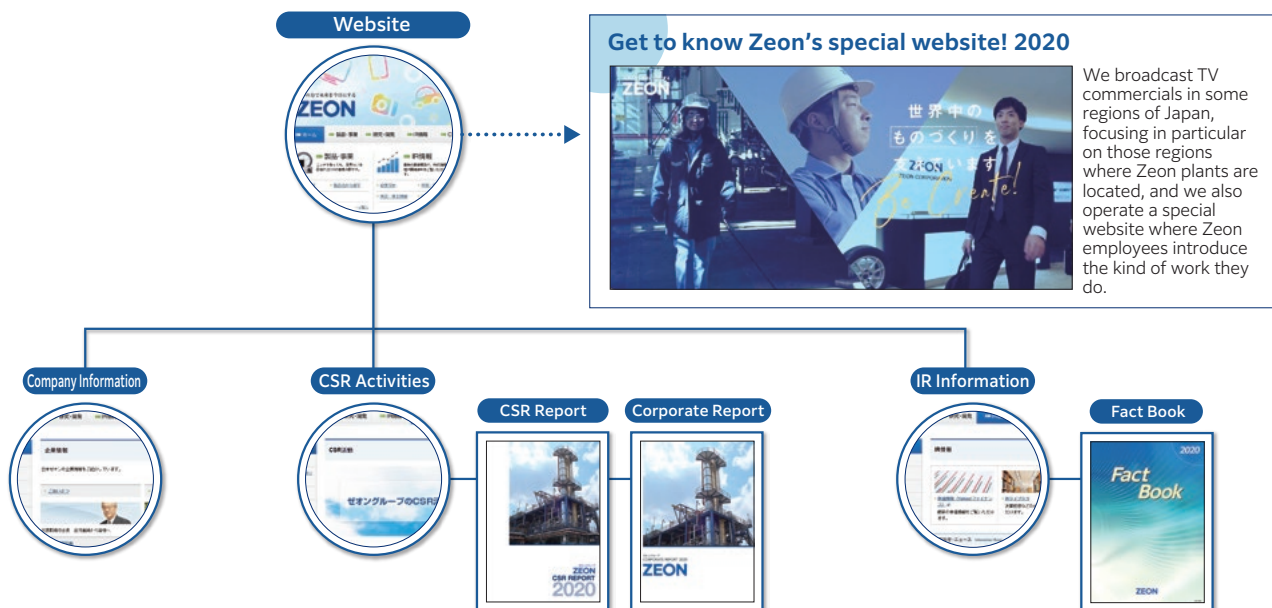
Zeon is contributing to the preservation of the Earth and the prosperity of the human race

Zeon, with its name drawn from words signifying the Earth (geo) and eternity (eon), is committed to responsible stewardship of the global environment as the foundation for human prosperity through the development and application of unique, world-leading technologies.

Enterprise Blueprint for 2020

Zeon makes the Future Today through the Power of Chemistry

Zeon will continue to contribute to the realization of customer dreams and a prosperous society through employees' individual growth.



2019–2020 Topics

The following summarizes Zeon's major business developments from June 2019 through August 2020. See the related press releases for more detailed information.

Organization/Business



Decided to increase production capacity for Cyclo Olefin Polymers (COP)

Zeon Corporation made the decision to increase production capacity for Cyclo Olefin Polymers (COP), a type of specialty plastics, at the Mizushima Plant. Demand for ZEONEX® and ZEONOR®, which are made using COP, has been growing in applications such as LCD TVs, smartphones, medical containers, etc., and is expected to continue growing in the future.

Annual production volume is forecast to increase from 37,000 tons at present to 41,600 tons. Related construction work is due to begin in FY 2020 and be completed in July 2021.

Absorbed TFC Inc.

TFC Inc. was a wholly-owned subsidiary of Zeon Corporation, specializing in the manufacturing of LCD components such as optical films, etc. On April 1, 2020, TFC was merged into Zeon Corporation, with the aim of realizing a further enhancement of product quality and of strengthening competitiveness.

Zeon Medical Inc. invested in a medical device venture fund

Zeon Medical Inc., which has been developing its medical device business, invested 500 million yen in a fund established by MedVenture Partners Inc., a venture capital firm specializing in investment in the medical devices sector. Through this investment, Zeon Medical aims to expand its business portfolio by collecting information, and by identifying projects to collaborate on and opportunities for direct investment.

Zeon Corporation expressed its support for the TCFD (regarding disclosure in relation to climate-related risks and opportunities)

In August 2020, Zeon Corporation expressed its support for the recommendations made by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). In the future, Zeon Corporation will implement disclosure and announcements in line with the TCFD recommendations, and will also be strengthening its initiatives aimed at making a positive contribution towards the realization of a sustainable society that can create a "virtuous circle" in relation to the environment and growth.

Zeon Corporation has also joined the Japan TCFD Consortium. As a member of the TCFD Consortium, Zeon Corporation works to promote various initiatives together with other corporations, financial institutions etc. that also support the TCFD recommendations, and engages in dialog and discussion regarding effective disclosure.



Completed a new production line to manufacture optical film for large-sized TVs at the Tsuruga Plant of Optes Inc.

In January 2020, Optes Inc. completed a new production line for the manufacturing of retardation film for use in large-sized TVs, at its optical film plant in Tsuruga City, Fukui Prefecture.

Full-scale operation of the new production line began in April 2020. ZeonorFilm® has superior optical properties and outstanding dimensional stability, and the new production line will help to meet growing demand resulting from the trend towards ever larger display size.

Optes has also increased its extruded film production capacity at its Takaoka Plant.

R&D

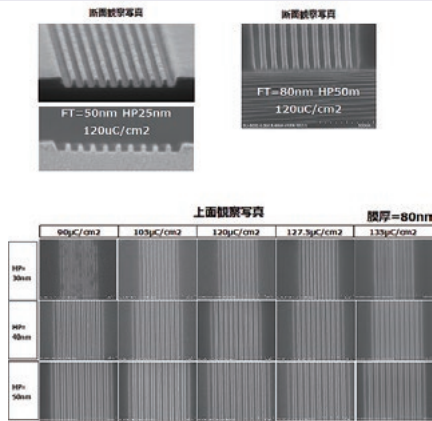


Presented a paper at an academic conference on the low adsorptivity of the protein in COP for pharmaceutical use

In October 2019, Zeon Corporation presented a paper on the stability of pre-filled syringe agents in the biomedical products sector at the Universe of Pre-filled Syringes and Injection Devices, an academic conference held in Sweden.

In addition, in May 2019 Zeon Corporation gave a technical presentation for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on the utilization of COP as a material for pre-filled syringes. COP is characterized by very low levels of protein adsorption and binding, and as such is attracting a great deal of interest as a packaging material in the biomedical products sector.

New Products



Launched a new electron beam resist for next-generation electronics components

In August 2019, Zeon Corporation launched the ZEP530A series, a new grade of resist. By comparison with existing resist grades, ZEP530A provides superior dry etching resistance, along with enhanced resolution and an improved process window. ZEP530A will make a significant positive contribution to the manufacturing of the next-generation electronics components needed for **5G mobile communications**.



Commercialized a solar card type lamp

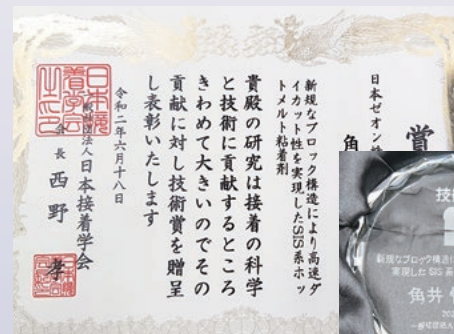
In June 2019, Zeon Corporation successfully commercialized a rechargeable lamp that uses a solar card (a polycarbonate card with a photovoltaic cell built into it) made using **carbon nanotubes**, developed through the Project LNES open innovation project.

Commendations



Received the Excellence Award in the Electronic Materials for Semiconductors category at the 2020 Semiconductor of the Year Award for a positive electron beam resist designed for use with next-generation electronics components

In June 2020, Zeon Corporation received the Excellence Award at the 2020 Semiconductor of the Year Award, organized by Electronic Device Industry News (Publisher: Sangyo Times Inc.), for the contribution made to the development of the semiconductor sector by the superior performance of Zeon Corporation's ZEP530A electron beam resist.



Received the Technology Award from the 2020 Adhesion Society of Japan for asymmetric SIS (styrene-isoprene-styrene triblock copolymer) research achievements

In June 2020, Zeon Corporation received the Technology Award from the Adhesion Society of Japan in recognition of several research results relating to adhesive label applications for Zeon Corporation's independently developed asymmetric SIS.

The Zeon group's response to COVID-19, and the impact of the epidemic

The measures taken by the Zeon Group in response to the COVID-19 coronavirus epidemic, and the impact that the epidemic has had by May 2020, are summarized below.

Impact on FY 2019 results (financial results for the accounting period ending March 31, 2020)

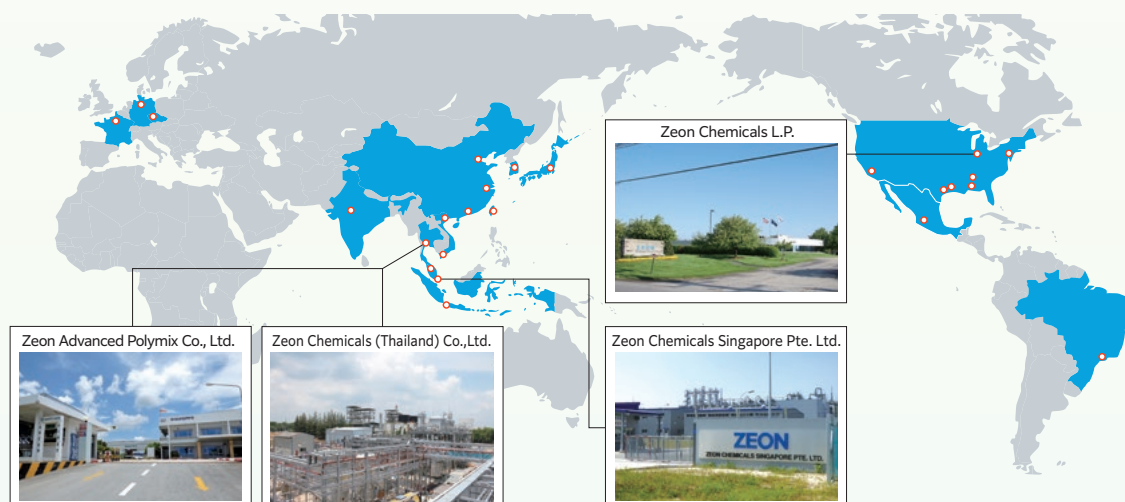
Despite the constraints on economic activity throughout the world, because it takes some time for the impact on sales to be felt, **COVID-19 did not have a significant impact on performance in FY 2019.**

Factory operation status

The Zeon Group has production facilities in three locations in China: Shanghai City, Guangzhou City, and Changshu City. **Production was suspended for a short period, but the factories began operating again starting from February 10, and operations are now back to normal.**

Factories in regions outside China implemented infection prevention measures, **and were able to maintain more or less normal operation right from the early stages of the pandemic.**

With regard to the issuing of orders to suspend operations by government authorities, the Zeon facility in Singapore was allowed to continue operating even during lockdown, as it was classed as belonging to a key economic sector.



Impact on business

With a global economic downturn forecast, the need to respond to the COVID-19 and to changes in lifestyle habits **was expected to have both positive and negative impacts** on the Zeon Group's business.

As a result of various factors such as automotive manufacturers being forced to suspend production, etc., the economic downturn was expected to have a substantial negative impact on the Elastomer Business. On the other hand, demand for latex to make medical gloves has increased.

In the Specialty Materials Business, the impact on COP and films was projected to be limited. At the same time, demand for battery materials was forecast to be negatively impacted by the situation in the automotive sector.

Financing measures

To improve liquidity, in addition to our existing commercial paper issue of 50 billion yen, we have also increased our planned commitment line to 50 billion yen. As of March 2020, Zeon's liquidity ratio stood at 191%, and the cash plus marketable securities ratio was 1.2 months, so there was no cause for concern in regard to cash flow.

Group-wide response strategies

The Zeon Group established an emergency response headquarters at Zeon Corporation's head office. The company president has been serving as head of the emergency response headquarters, and has set up a committee in which the various department heads play key roles. Implementing intensive online communication, information from business locations both within and outside Japan is aggregated at Zeon's head office in a timely manner, while at the same time we have encouraged the sharing of information between business locations, and have been implementing various response measures.

Starting from January 2020, we have been implementing speedy, appropriate countermeasures, focusing on the following three areas:

- ①Safeguarding the health and safety of employees and their family members, etc.
- ②Maintaining stable cash flow
- ③Maintaining our supply chain

Even after the lifting of the state of emergency in Japan, we extended Zeon's Period of Special Measures for Infection Prevention, and we have been implementing measures in line with the "New Lifestyle" proposed by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) and the Guidelines for Preventing the Spread of Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) formulated by the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren).

Safeguarding the health and safety of employees and their family members, etc.

●Measures taken at plants

As plants cannot operate unless employees come in to the plant to work, we have taken appropriate countermeasures that take account of the need for thorough infection prevention measures.

In order that plant operation can continue even if an operative is found to have been infected with COVID-19, we have been reviewing how shift work assignments are adjusted, etc. A message from the company president has been shown at plants, thanking the employees for their efforts to maintain plant operation and encouraging them to keep going.

■Infection prevention measures

Measures taken include checking employees temperature when entering the facility, etc., requiring employees to wear masks, encouraging employees to wash their hands frequently, distributing face-shields, washing and disinfecting common areas, efforts to optimize cafeteria operation (including establishment of staggered meal times, installation of partition screens, maintaining sufficient distance between diners, etc.), ensuring good ventilation within the facility, discouraging or prohibiting business travel outside the facility, meetings and business entertaining, etc., implementation of awareness-raising activities and information-sharing for employees, asking external parties to collaborate on infection-prevention measures, etc.

* Starting from June 15, in order to prevent heatstroke, some of the rules on mask-wearing were relaxed, provided that employees can maintain a sufficient distance from other people.

●Measures taken in offices

At Zeon Corporation's head office, as of April 2020, 95% of employees were working from home. We have also been taking thorough prevention measures with respect to employees working at our other offices in Japan and worldwide, including having employees work from home. In addition, the company president had encouraged employees throughout the world to maintain their efforts and take care of their health with video and letter messages.

■Infection prevention measures

Measures taken include working from home, introduction of staggered working hours, postponing or cancellation of special events, prohibition of overseas business trips, restrictions on domestic business trips, arranging for employees on assignment overseas to return home, provision of support for overseas business locations from company head office, encouraging employees to stay at home on weekends and public holidays, suspension of reception and main switchboard operations at head office (relaunched starting from June 1), etc.

* Starting from June 15, in order to prevent heatstroke, some of the rules on mask-wearing were relaxed, provided that employees can maintain a sufficient distance from other people.

Maintaining our supply chain

As noted above, manufacturing plans both in Japan and overseas have been able to continue operating more or less normally, while implementing thorough infection prevention measures.

We have also been implementing thorough infection prevention measures at our overseas sales bases, continuing business operations in line with conditions at our business partners and elsewhere.



Cyclo Olefin Polymers, specialty materials creating the future



Self-driving



COP



5G communication

Zeon's original COP developed ahead of the world

Zeon's Cyclo Olefin Polymers (COP) have excellent optical and chemical properties. Under the product names ZEONEX® and ZEONOR®, they are widely used in optical films and lenses, medical and biotechnology applications while earning highly favorable reviews. The FY 2019 business scale of the Specialty Plastics Business came to 56.8 billion yen in net sales.

Currently, the optical film business for LCD and OLED panels for TVs and smartphones takes a large share of the COP business. COP's characteristics are not only applicable to optical films; they also have potential for application in a wide range of usage settings including the medical applications outlined in our 2019 Corporate Report.

Here we introduce the use of COP in electronic devices.

2019 Corporate Report ▶ http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/report.html

● Characteristics of Zeon's COP that improve the performance of electronic devices

Low water absorbency (high-intensity)	COP is hydrolysis-resistant and able to maintain strength long term.
Low outgassing	COP undergoes very little degassing of volatile components from resin.
High chemical inertness	COP demonstrates excellent resistance to acid, alkali and alcohol.
Low dielectric loss	COP experiences little transmission loss in high-frequency ranges.
Excellent electric insulation	COP offers high dielectric breakdown strength, effective at miniaturization and improving the durability of electronic components.
High processability/precision moldability	COP is easily processable into films and molded goods, and processing technology is also available. COP offers good dimensional stability, and is also suitable for precision molding.
Strong environmental performance	COP does not produce hazardous substances even when incinerated (only CO ₂ and water).

Zeon's COP making contributions to self-driving cars and 5G communication

Many new electronic devices will be developed to perform sensing, communication, and information processing in the self-driving car and 5G communication fields, whose markets are forecast to expand in the near future.

Our COP is able to meet needs for the advanced functions required in these new fields.

As a film antenna substrate

Self-driving cars and mobile 5G communication are projected to involve a larger amount of information transmission. Our COP offers low dielectric loss with high information density and extremely low electric signal loss, making it ideal for use as a communication antenna substrate.

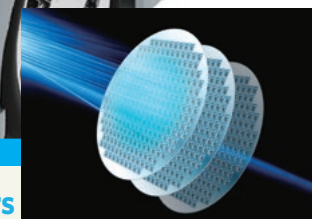
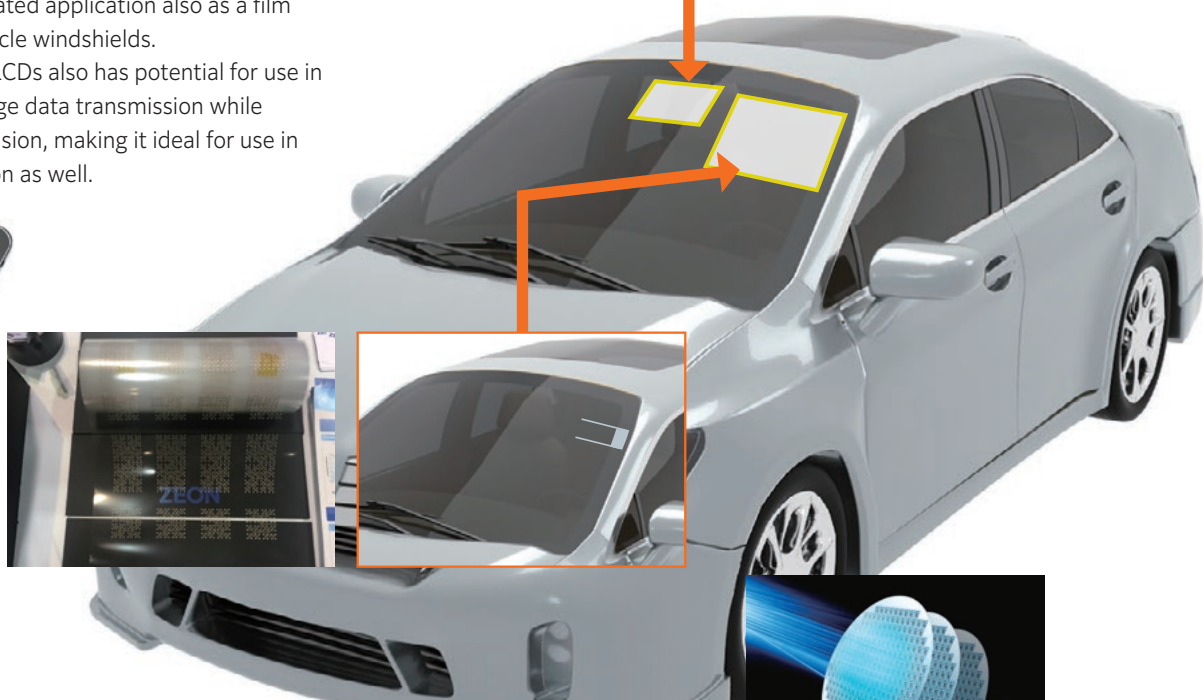
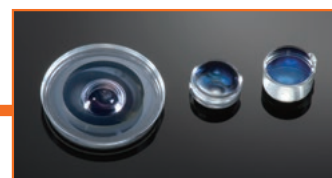
It is also highly bendable as a substrate and will not break even if bent, with anticipated application also as a film antenna attached to vehicle windshields.

COP used in films for LCDs also has potential for use in applications involving large data transmission while maintaining the field of vision, making it ideal for use in mobile 5G communication as well.



As a sensing camera lens

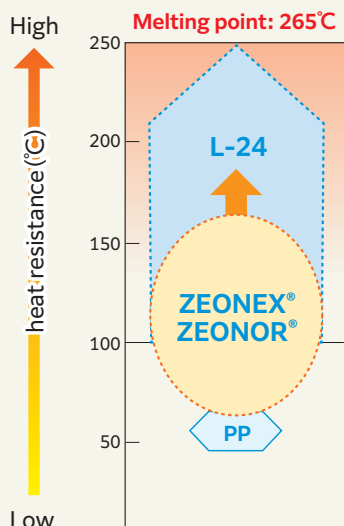
The lenses of sensing cameras, which serve as the "eyes" in collision avoidance systems and drive recorders, need to be transparent and offer excellent precision molding properties. Our COP products have been adopted in many lenses for smartphone cameras to date. In self-driving cars, which are forecast to see market expansion, even more camera lenses are predicted to be used to monitor the vehicle surroundings.



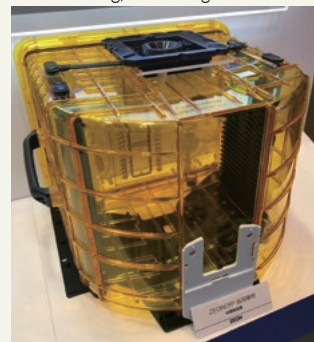
L-24, a new high-temperature resistant COP, and semiconductor containers

COP materials in the past have offered heat resistance to approximately 160°C. However, the new L-24 (development code) material we developed achieves greatly improved heat resistance with a **melting point of 265°C** thanks to added crystallinity.

To obtain the heat resistance and bendable properties required for communication applications, we improved the molecular design of the resin using our original technology, resulting in the creation of a brand-new crystalline COP material.



A lot of fluorine resins are used in conventional semiconductor manufacturing. Fluorine resins exhibit high heat resistance and chemical inertness, but the materials are heavy and expensive, greenhouse gases are produced during manufacturing, and toxic gas is emitted during incineration, which has given rise to needs for alternative materials.



Semiconductor container using COP (stores and mechanically transports tens of 300mm-450mm disc-shaped wafers)

Our COP is increasingly being used in semiconductor containers that store disc-shaped wafers in semiconductor processes, due to its high degree of chemical inertness, low water absorbency, low outgassing, and low environmental impact during incineration.

In addition, L-24 offers improved heat resistance, leading to gains in semiconductor productivity, and therefore is a promising new material.

Zeon material and products making contributions to society

Zeon has defined the key development areas of Global Environment, Health and Living, and Smart Devices, and is engaging in new business creation and new product development.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Contributions to the SDGs across all products

Zeon is working to reduce the environmental load of all products during product manufacturing and use (Goal 12), and aims to contribute to societal development and technological innovation through product use (Goal 9).



- Energy conservation
- Batteries
- Power generation
- Reduction of fossil fuel use
- Automotive

Improved performance and extended life of manufacturers' products made with Zeon's materials and components contribute to reducing environmental impacts through such ways as energy conservation, mitigating climate change, and reducing waste.



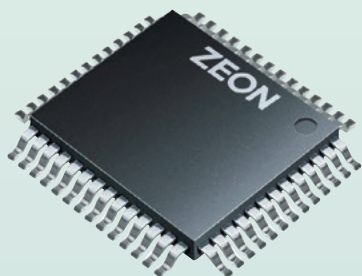
Solution-polymerized styrene-butadiene rubber (S-SBR):
Improves the performance of fuel-efficient tires and contributes to energy conservation and reduced CO₂ emissions.



Zetpol® specialty cross-linked hydrogenated nitrile rubber (HNBR):
Developed a proprietary method to add specialty cross-linking to nitrile rubber hydrogenated to increase heat resistance to improve the rubber's durability (compression set) and achieve both durability and heat resistance.

Asia Technical Support Laboratory (ATSL):

Based in Singapore, ATSL provides technical support in such areas as blending, kneading, and physical property evaluations of rubbers made with locally available agents for Asian rubber manufacturers. ATSL is enhancing Zeon's presence in Asian markets using the technological strengths Zeon has built up in the United States, Europe, and Japan.



ZEORORA® H Fluorinated solvent:
Contributes to climate change prevention as an alternative HFC solvent.

ZEORORA® Etching gas for oxide layers:
Contributes to climate change prevention as an etching gas with low global warming potential.



Energy materials:

Zeon's binders prevent electrode volume expansion and greatly improve cell life. They also increase the chemical reactions on the surface of the active materials to increase battery output.



Health and Living

- Self-driving cars
- Medical materials
- Medical devices
- Daily necessities
- Agriculture

Zeon's materials, components, and products are useful in daily life and contribute to health and well-being of people.



Prohydrojasmon plant growth regulator: Reduces declines in the production volume and quality of agricultural products due to the effects of climate change (Jasmomate™ Ekizai agrochemical formulation).



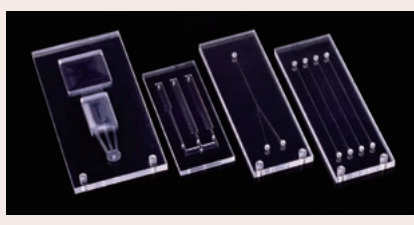
Cyclo Olefin Polymers (COP) for onboard sensing cameras: ZEONEX® offers excellent optical properties and stable chemical properties, resulting in its adoption not only in smartphone cameras but also in onboard sensing cameras in automotive hazard detection systems.



Synthetic latex for gloves: Due to concern about allergic reactions from natural rubber proteins, demand is shifting to NBR latex gloves, and the market is expanding.



Microfluid chip prototyping service: Microfluid chips that use microprocessing technology to form microchannels and reaction chambers are widely used in medical fields including pharmaceuticals and in-vitro diagnostics. One stop service is also available, from molding to cutting and joining, and able to flexibly support orders from one piece to mass-production.



Thermoplastic elastomer SIS: Used in elastic film for disposable diapers to achieve lighter weight and greater comfort.



Catheters to remove bile duct stones: Zeon's catheters help lessen patients' pain and healthcare professionals' workloads, with a strong reputation in treatment to remove bile duct stones.

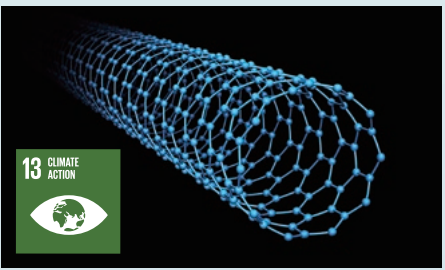
Smart Devices

IoT

Using Zeon's materials and components can greatly improve product performance.



ZeonorFilm® Optical film: ZeonorFilm® optical film contributes to improved display performance by combining ZEONOR® resin properties including transparency and low water absorption with our world-first sheet extrusion process, film stretching technology, and other film processing technologies.



Pad-type thermal interface material (TIM): TIM using rubber/single-walled carbon nanotube (ZEONANO®) composite achieves low thermal resistance. It increases the thermal conductivity of the heat sink and resolves the heat generation problem of servers and power devices.

Name: Zeon Corporation

Established: April 12, 1950

Capital: 24.211 billion yen (as of March 31, 2020)

Market capitalization: 192.9 billion yen (as of March 31, 2020)

Total number of shares outstanding: 237,075,556 shares

Employees: 3,462 (consolidated)

1,600 (non-consolidated) (as of March 31, 2020)

Business segments: Elastomer Business, Specialty Materials Business, other businesses (➔P. 15)

Head Office: Shin Marunouchi Center Building, 1-6-2

Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8246, Japan

Plants: Takaoka Plant, Kawasaki Plant,

Tokuyama Plant, Mizushima Plant

Research laboratories: R&D Center (Kawasaki)

Offices: Osaka Office, Nagoya Office

Subsidiaries and affiliates in Japan (➔P. 21):

Tokyo Zairyo Co., Ltd., Zeon Kasei Co., Ltd.,
 Zeon North Co., Ltd., Zeon Yamaguchi Co., Ltd.,
 Zeon F&B Co., Ltd., Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa Co., Ltd.,
 RIMTEC Corporation, Zeon RIM Co., Ltd.,
 Zeon Medical Inc., Optes Inc., Zeon Opto Bio Lab Co., Ltd.,
 Zeon Polymix Inc., Tohpe Corporation,
 Zeon Nano Technology Co., Ltd., ZS Elastomers Co., Ltd.,
 Okayama Butadiene Co., Ltd., ZIS Information Technology Co., Ltd.

Subsidiaries and affiliates outside Japan (➔P. 17, 19):

[USA] Zeon Chemicals L.P., Zeon Specialty Materials Inc.,
 Tokyo Zairyo (U.S.A.) Inc.

[Brazil] Zeon do Brasil Ltda.

[Mexico] Zeon Kasei Mexico S.A. de C.V.,
 Tokyo Zairyo México, S.A. de C.V.

[Europe] Zeon Europe GmbH, Telene S.A.S.,
 Tokyo Zairyo Czech, s.r.o.

[China] Zeon (Shanghai) Co., Ltd., Zeon Trading (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.,
 Shanghai Zeon Co., Ltd., Zeon Polymix (Guangzhou) Co., Ltd.,
 Takehara Zeon (Shanghai) Co., Ltd., Zeon Kasei (Changshu) Co., Ltd.,
 Zeon Medical (Guangzhou) Inc., Tokyo Zairyo (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.,
 Tokyo Zairyo (Tianjin) Co., Ltd., Tokyo Zairyo (Guangzhou) Co., Ltd.

[South Korea] Zeon Korea Co., Ltd., Zeon Shinhwa (Zeshin) Inc.

[Taiwan] Zeon CSC Corporation, Zeon Taiwan Co., Ltd.

[Singapore] Zeon Chemicals Singapore Pte. Ltd.,
 Zeon Asia Pte. Ltd., Tokyo Zairyo (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.

[Malaysia] Zeon Asia Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

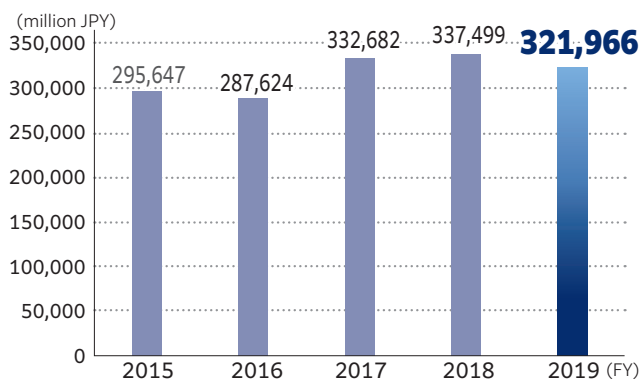
[India] Zeon India Private Limited,
 Tokyo Zairyo (India) Pvt. Ltd.

[Thailand] Zeon Chemicals (Thailand) Co., Ltd.,
 Zeon Advanced Polymix Co., Ltd.,
 Tokyo Zairyo (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

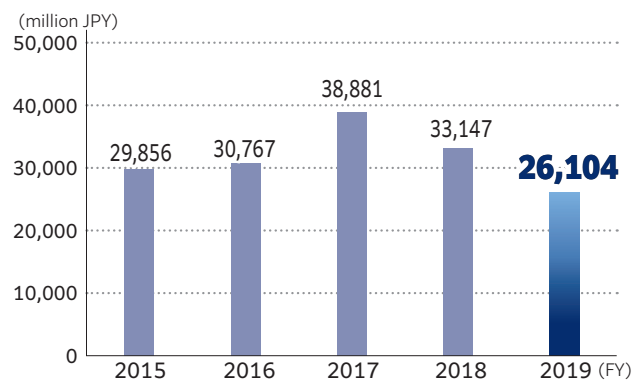
[Vietnam] Zeon Manufacturing Vietnam Co., Ltd.,
 Zeon Research Vietnam Co., Ltd.,
 Tokyo Zairyo (Vietnam) LLC.

[Indonesia] PT. Tokyo Zairyo Indonesia

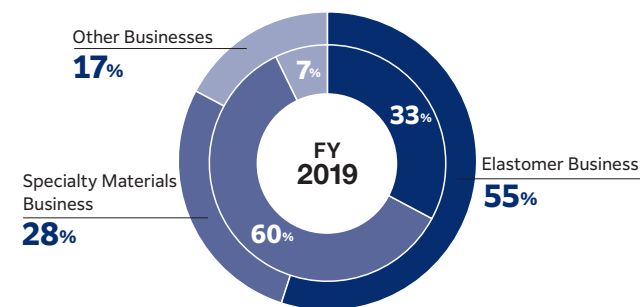
Consolidated net sales



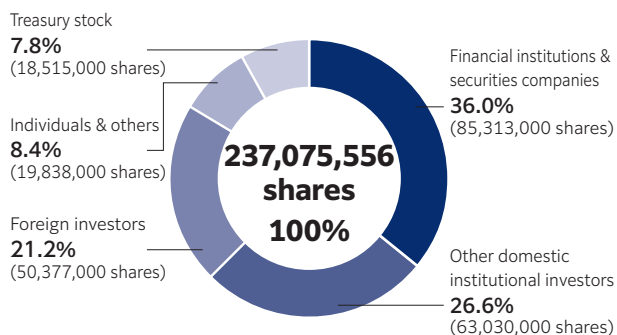
Consolidated operating income



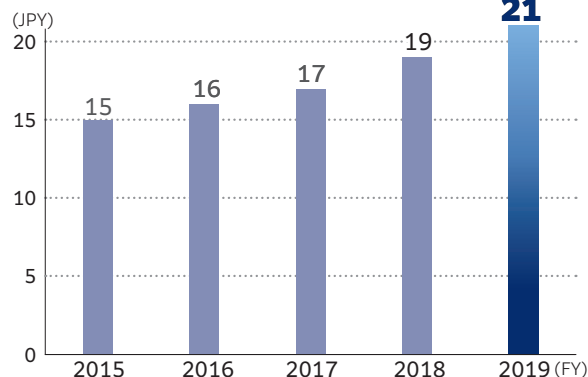
Segment net sales (outer circle) and operating income (inner circle)



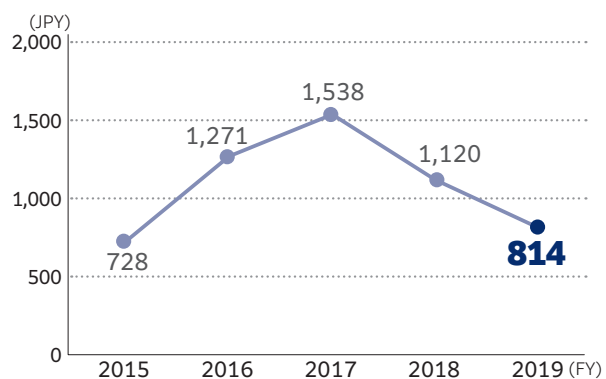
Shareholder information (as of March 31, 2020)



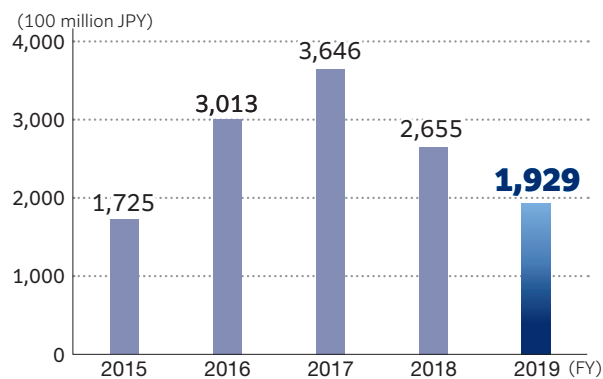
Dividends



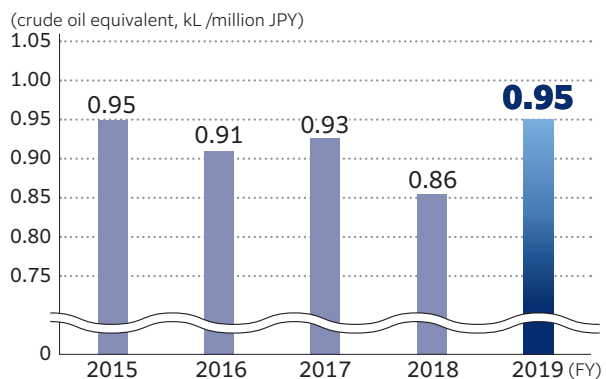
Share price (closing price on March 31)



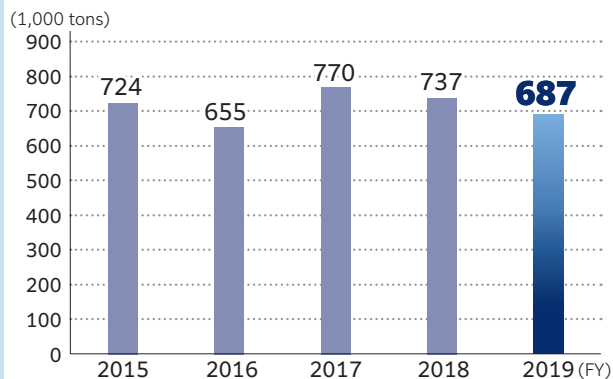
Market capitalization (as of March 31)



Energy use per net sales (Zeon Group inside and outside Japan)



CO₂ emissions (including Zeon Group inside and outside Japan)



Zeon Group History

Starting from PVC and synthetic rubber production

Zeon Corporation was founded as a PVC manufacturer in 1950, established with capital from three Furukawa group companies—Furukawa Electric, Yokohama Rubber, and Nippon Light Metal. Zeon acquired its PVC manufacturing technologies from U.S.-based B.F. Goodrich Chemical Company, which at the time was the global leader in the industry. Zeon continued developing the PVC business from its founding until full withdrawal in 2000.

In 1959, Zeon acquired technologies from B.F. Goodrich Chemical Company to operate a specialty synthetic rubber (NBR) plant. This was Japan's first domestic synthetic rubber plant. Following this, Zeon embarked on the production of general-purpose synthetic rubber (SBR). Zeon thus established its Synthetic Rubber Business for tires and engine components, which it continues to manufacture today.

World-leading C₄ and C₅ technologies with GPB and GPI processes

In the petrochemical industry, which uses crude oil as a raw material, technological capabilities are a key element impacting company competitiveness. Zeon developed the GPB process in 1965 to efficiently extract high-grade butadiene, which is the raw material used in synthetic rubber production, from C₄ fractions. In 1971, Zeon developed the GPI process to efficiently extract isoprene, the raw material in isoprene rubber, and other useful components, from C₅ fractions.

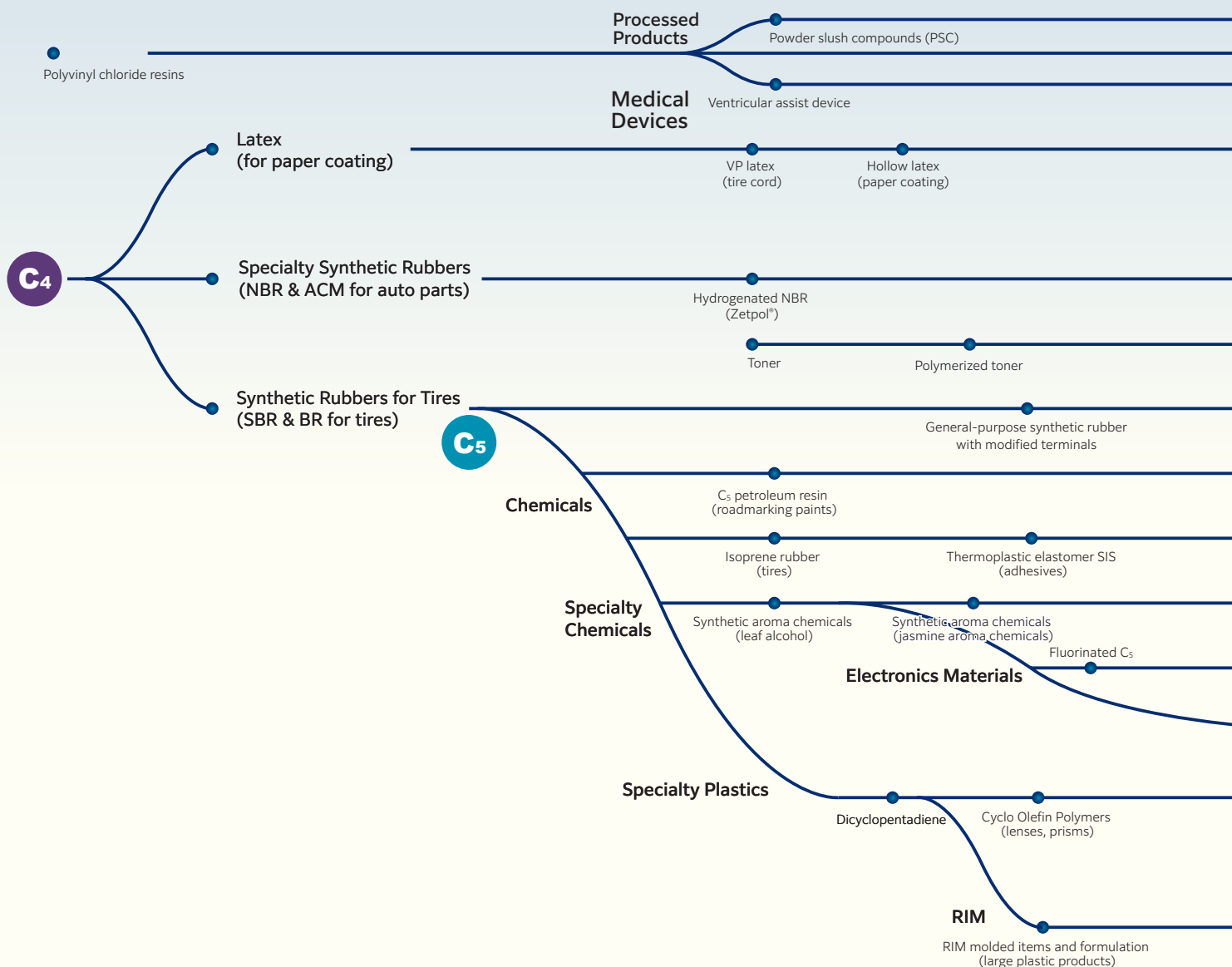
Zeon licenses its proprietary GPB process technology in countries around the world. This greatly contributes to Zeon's competitive edge and promotes the Zeon brand globally.

Timeline of main businesses and product development

1960 >>>

1970 >>> 1980 >>>

1990 >>>



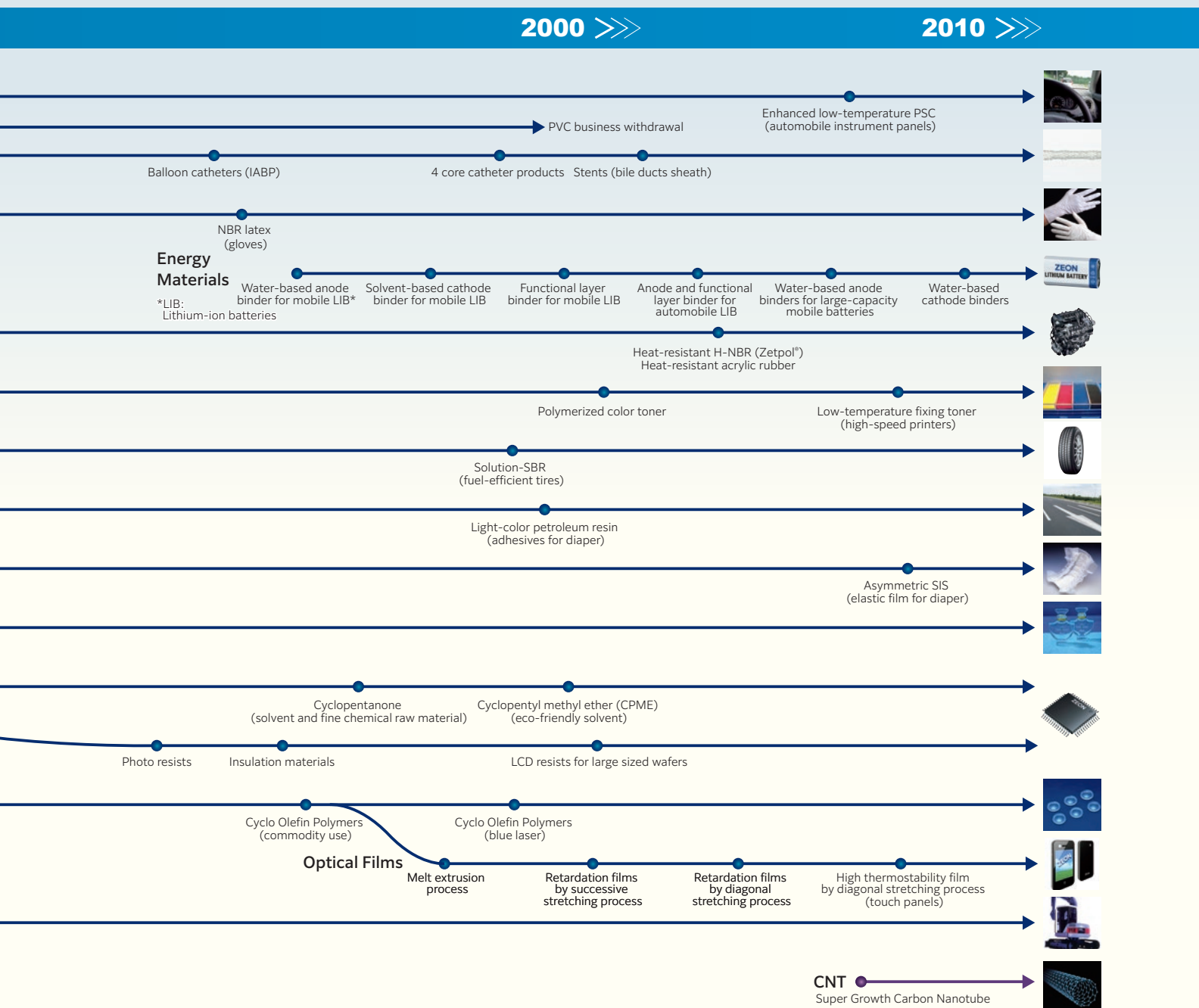
■ Developing comprehensive uses for C₅ fractions

Isoprene rubber is a useful material that can stably achieve the same properties as natural rubber. Many byproducts are derived from the process of extracting isoprene feedstock from C₅ fractions. One advantage of the GPI process is the ability to extract these byproducts at a high degree of purity. Zeon has focused on ways to effectively use these substances. As a result, Zeon subsequently grew its business to include petroleum resins and thermoplastic elastomer SIS in the 1980s, synthetic aroma chemicals and RIM molded products in the 1990s, and Cyclo Olefin Polymers since the 2000s. These businesses now enjoy a large share of the global market. The technologies gained during this development process are being used in other areas in addition to C₅ fractions.

■ Developing more advanced materials and establishing leading manufacturing technologies

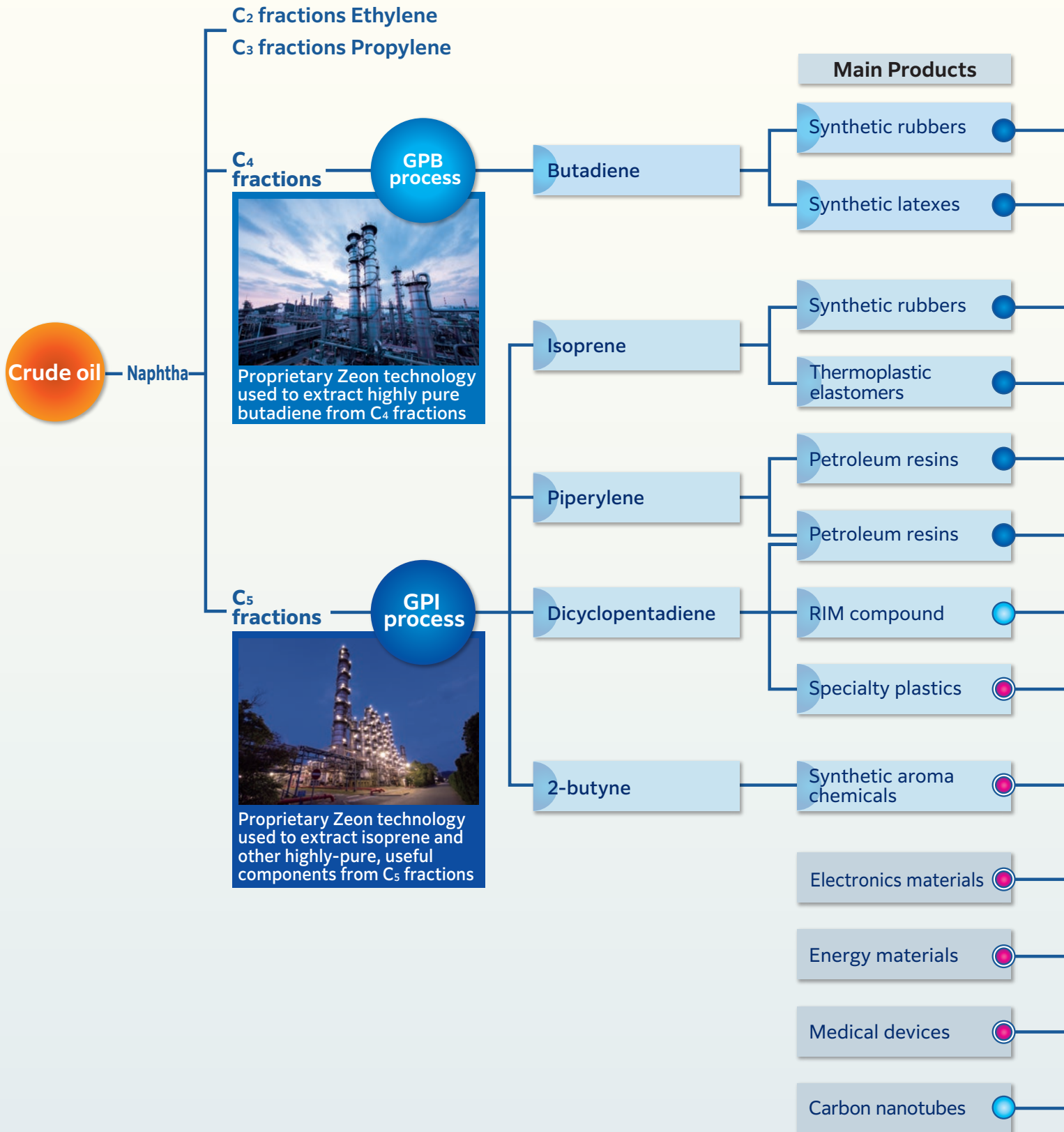
In recent years, there has been growing demand for products with advanced functions that can contribute towards solving social issues, and similar expectations are rising for chemical materials. To meet these expectations, Zeon's Synthetic Rubber Business developed Zetpol® hydrogenated nitrile rubber, which provides high functionality at a competitive cost and is used in automotive engine components and other applications with severe working conditions. Cyclo Olefin Polymers, developed from comprehensive use of C₅ fractions, are high-performance materials used in optical films and lenses, and in electrical insulation.

Single-walled carbon nanotubes (SWCNT), in compounds with other materials such as rubber, are able to demonstrate novel properties and performance. Zeon has become the first company in the world to use the Super-Growth method for mass production of SWCNT.



Business Overview

Zeon's main products are created from raw materials such as butadiene and isoprene, which are extracted from the C₄ and C₅ fractions of naphtha using proprietary Zeon technologies. Business segments are divided into the Elastomer Business, Specialty Materials Business, and other businesses.



Applications

Automobile components



Tires



Gloves for medical use and food processing



Cosmetic puffs



Automobile components



Tires



Adhesives



Adhesives



Traffic paints



Paints/coatings, Inks

Housing equipment and components



Large-size molding



Lenses



Optical films



Medical containers

Fragrances



Food additives

Electronics materials



Toner



Binders for lithium-ion rechargeable batteries



Medical catheters



Single-walled carbon nanotubes, Composite materials



Business Segments

Elastomer Business

In 1959, Zeon became the first company in Japan to mass-produce synthetic rubbers. The Elastomer Business is a core business area, providing over 50% of total net sales and operating income.

Main products

Synthetic rubbers, synthetic latexes, chemical products (thermoplastic elastomers, petroleum resins)

Elastomer Business

Other

Specialty Materials Business

Specialty materials refer to materials and components with high added value that have a macromolecular design and are made with processing technology. The three key business areas of the Specialty Materials Business are IT components, energy materials, and medical devices.

Main products

Specialty plastics and components, electronics materials, toners, battery materials, medical devices

Specialty Materials Business

Other

Other Businesses

Engineering, packaging materials, building materials, deodorants, RIM formulation, single-walled carbon nanotubes, paints/coatings, trading, etc.

Social value created from C₄ and C₅

→ P. 9

Asia

as of July 1, 2020

We are continuing to globalize our business since the 1970s.

We have set up sales networks in major markets around the world and established a production system for rubber and resin products. In addition, we have R&D facilities in the USA and Europe to meet the local needs quickly. We are also establishing R&D and sales locations in China, a market that is growing rapidly.

We are aiming to be a company that, through our local production systems, builds close ties with local communities and contributes to the global society.

1 Zeon (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

Room 1904, 2 Grand Gateway, No.3 Hongqiao Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai, 200030, China

TEL: +86-21-6167-5776 FAX: +86-21-6040-7258

- Provide assistance and exercise control over the Zeon Group companies in China with regard to such functions as accounting, finance, personnel management, legal, etc

1 Zeon Trading (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

Room 1901-2, 2 Grand Gateway, No.3 Hongqiao Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai, 200030, China

TEL: +86-21-6040-7255 FAX: +86-21-6040-7258

- Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

1 Shanghai Zeon Co., Ltd.

No. 380 Shennan Road, Xinzhuang Industry District, Minhang, Shanghai, 201108, China

TEL: +86-21-6489-6160 FAX: +86-21-6442-0569

(Push "0" after announcements)

- Manufacture and sales of rubber compounds (CM)

1 Takehara Zeon (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

No. 380 Shennan Road, Xinzhuang Industrial Zone, Minhang District, Shanghai, 201108, China

- Manufacture and sales of silicon rubber compounds (CM)

2 Tokyo Zairyo (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

Room 1903, 2 Grand Gateway, No.3 Hongqiao Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai, 200030, China

TEL: +86-21-6119-9400 FAX: +86-21-6119-9401

- Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

2 Zeon Polymix (Guangzhou) Co., Ltd.

No. 1 1st Jingquan Road, Yong He Economic Zone, Guangzhou, 511356, China

TEL: +86-20-3222-1171 FAX: +86-20-3222-1820

- Manufacture and sales of rubber compounds (CM)

2 Zeon Medical (Guangzhou) Inc.

Room 1706A, Goldlion Digital Network Center, No. 138 Ti Yu Dong Road, Tianhe District, Guangzhou, Guangdong, 510620, China

TEL: +86-20-2283-6788 FAX: +86-20-2283-6789

- Sales, export, and import of medical devices (cardiovascular and endoscopic accessory, etc.)

2 Tokyo Zairyo (Guangzhou) Co., Ltd.

Room 1208, Goldlion Digital Network Center, No. 138 Ti Yu Dong Road, Tianhe District, Guangzhou, Guangdong, 510620, China

TEL: +86-20-3878-0671 FAX: +86-20-3878-1336

- Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

For Japanese locations, see P. 21

3 Zeon Kasei (Changshu) Co., Ltd.

Huangpujiang Road 96, Dongnankaifa District, Changshu City, Jiangsu Province, 215500, China
TEL: +86-512-5235-7000 FAX: +86-512-5235-7308
• Manufacture and sales of powder slush compounds

4 Tokyo Zairyo (Tianjin) Co., Ltd.

Room 1805, The Exchange Tower 1, 189 Nanjing Road, Heping District, Tianjin, 300051, China
TEL: +86-22-23021268 FAX: +86-22-23021278
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

5 Zeon Korea Co., Ltd.

No.403, 4Fl., 36, Teheran-ro 87-gil, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, 06164, Korea (City Air Tower, Samseong-dong)
TEL: +82-2-539-8565 FAX: +82-2-538-5190
• Sales and import of optical materials, imaging and electronics materials, synthetic resins, and synthetic rubbers, etc.

5 Zeon Shinhwa (Zeshin) Inc.

No.502 CALT B/D (City Airport)22, Teheran-ro 87-gil, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, 06164, Korea
TEL: +82-2-761-7030 FAX: +82-2-786-7221
• Sales of imaging and electronics materials

6 Zeon CSC Corporation

3F.-2, No.266, Sec. 1, Wenhua 2nd Rd., Linkou Dist., New Taipei City 24448, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
TEL: +886-2-2609-2156 FAX: +886-2-2600-6413
• Sales of optical materials

6 Zeon Taiwan Co., Ltd.

4F., No.36, Nanjing W. Rd., Datong Dist., Taipei City 103, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
TEL: +886-2-2552-3620
• Sale of electronics materials

7 Zeon India Private Limited

Unit Number: 708, 7th Floor, Time Tower MG Road, Sec-28, Gurugram, Haryana, India - 122002
TEL: +91-124-4229461 FAX: +91-124-4229462
• Import, sales, and marketing of synthetic rubbers and other Zeon products

7 Tokyo Zairyo (India) Pvt, Ltd.

Time Tower, Unit No.708, 7th floor, Sector-28, M.G Road, Gurgaon-122002, Haryana, India
TEL: +91-124-424-9011 FAX: +91-124-424-9005
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

8 Zeon Chemicals (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

3 Soi G-14, Pakorn-Songkhorrad Road, Tambol Huaypong, Amphur Muangrayong, Rayong 21150, Thailand
TEL: +66-3-868-5973-5 FAX: +66-3-868-5972
• Manufacture and sales of petroleum resins

8 Zeon Advanced Polymix Co., Ltd.

111/2 Soi Nikom 13, Moo 2 T.Makhamkoo, Nikompattana District Rayong 21180, Thailand
TEL: +66-38-893-565 FAX: +66-38-893-569
• Manufacture and sales of rubber compounds (CM)

8 Sales office

591 UBCCI BLDG, Office No.2206, 22thFL, Sukhumvit 33rd, KlongtonNua, Wattana, Bangkok 10110, Thailand
TEL: +66-2-261-0175 FAX: +66-2-261-0172

8 Zeon Chemicals Asia Co., Ltd.

16 Phangmuang Chapoh 3-1 Road, Huaypong Sub-district, Muang Rayong District, Rayong 21150, Thailand
TEL: +66-33-017-781-6 FAX: +66-33-017-788
• Manufacture and sales of synthetic rubbers

8 Tokyo Zairyo (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

29th Floor Room 2903, Empire Tower 1 South Sathorn Rd., Yannawa, Sathorn, Bangkok, 10120, Thailand
TEL: +66-2-670-0285 FAX: +66-2-670-0283
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

9 Zeon Asia Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Unit 208, Block B, Phileo Damansara II, No.15, Jalan16/11, Off Jalan Damansara, 46350 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia
TEL: +603-7956-7069 FAX: +603-7957-1758
• Sales of synthetic latexes

10 Zeon Chemicals Singapore Pte. Ltd.

100 Banyan Drive, Jurong Island, Singapore 627571
TEL: +65-6933-4400 FAX: +65-6933-4413
• Manufacture and sales of S-SBR

10 Zeon Asia Pte. Ltd.

331 North Bridge Road, #20-01/02, Odeon Towers, Singapore 188720
TEL: +65-6332-2338 FAX: +65-6332-2339
• Sales, export, and import of synthetic rubbers, synthetic latex, and petroleum resins

10 Asia Technical Support Laboratory

61 Science Park Road, #05-09/10 The Galen, Singapore Science Park 2, Singapore 117525
TEL: +65-6266-7631 FAX: +65-6266-7712

10 Tokyo Zairyo (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.

331 North Bridge Road, #20-01/02, Odeon Towers, Singapore 188720
TEL: +65-6337-5053 FAX: +65-6337-4557
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

11 Zeon Manufacturing Vietnam Co., Ltd.

No.109, Road No.10, VSIP Haiphong Township, Tan Duong ward, Thuy Nguyen District, Haiphong City, Vietnam
TEL: +84-225-3797-027 FAX: +84-225-3797-028
• Manufacture and sales of packing containers

11 Zeon Research Vietnam Co., Ltd.

6th Floor, Building 85 Nguyen Du Str., Hai Ba Trung District, Hanoi, Vietnam 100000
TEL: +84-24-3632-0557 FAX: +84-24-3632-0557
• Design simulation of optical materials and molded products, and market research for Zeon products in Southeast Asia

11 Tokyo Zairyo (Vietnam) LLC.

4th Floor, Building 85 Nguyen Du Str., Hai Ba Trung District, Hanoi, Vietnam 100000
TEL: +84-24-3941-3825 FAX: +84-4-3941-3826
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

12 Branch of Tokyo Zairyo (Vietnam) LLC in HCMC

Unit 1203, 2nd Fl., CITYVIEW, 12 Mac Dinh Chi st., Da Kao Ward, Dist. 1, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
TEL: +84-28-3911-0135 FAX: +84-28-3911-0136

15 PT. Tokyo Zairyo Indonesia

Gedung MidPlaza 2, Lantai 12, Jl. Jend. Sudirman Kav. 10-11, Jakarta 10220
TEL: +62-21-574-6454 FAX: +62-21-573-5661
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)



At Zeon Advanced Polymix Co., Ltd., solar power is generated on the plant's roof.



Zeon Manufacturing Vietnam Co., Ltd.

Americas / Europe as of July 1, 2020



1 Zeon Chemicals L.P.

4111 Bells Lane, Louisville, Kentucky 40211, U.S.A.
TEL:+1-800-735-3388 FAX:+1-502-775-2055
TEL:+1-502-775-2000
• Manufacture and sales of synthetic rubbers

1 R&D Center

4111 Bells Lane, Louisville, Kentucky 40211, U.S.A.
TEL:+1-502-775-7765 FAX:+1-502-775-7783

1 Kentucky Plant

4100 Bells Lane, Louisville, Kentucky 40211, U.S.A.
TEL:+1-502-775-7600 FAX:+1-502-775-7614

2 Mississippi Plant

1301 West Seventh Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401, U.S.A.
TEL:+1-601-583-6020 FAX:+1-601-583-6032

3 Texas Plant

11235 Choate Road, Pasadena, Texas 77507, U.S.A.
TEL:+1-281-474-9693 FAX:+1-281-474-0966

4 Zeon Specialty Materials Inc.

25 Metro Drive, Suite 238, San Jose, CA 95110, USA
TEL:+1-408-641-7889 FAX:+1-408-516-9382
• Sale of advanced materials

5 Tokyo Zairyo (U.S.A.) Inc.

750 Old Hickory Blvd., Building One, Suite 220
Brentwood, TN 37027
TEL:+1-615-922-4633 FAX:+1-615-942-7424
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc.
(including international trade)

6 New York Office

333 Mamaroneck Avenue PMB#394 White Plains, NY 10605 U.S.A.
Tel: +1-914-646-7450

7 McAllen Office

2112 South Shary Rd, Suite# 26 Mission, TX 78572
TEL:+1-914-314-8919

8 Zeon Kasei Mexico S.A. de C.V.

Avenida Santiago Sur 100, Los Jassos, San Luis Potosi, San Luis Potosi, MEXICO, C.P.78420
TEL:+52-1-444-478-5400
• Manufacture and sales of powder slush compounds

8 Tokyo Zairyo México, S.A. de C.V.

Boulevard Bernardo Quintana 7001 Torre II Suite 807 Colonia Centro Sur, C.P. 76090 Querétaro; Querétaro, México
TEL:+52-442-229-3242 FAX:+52-442-229-3244
• Purchase and sales of synthetic rubbers, chemical products, etc. (including international trade)

9 Zeon do Brasil Ltda.

Rua Arandu, 57/cj 23, Sao Paulo-SP, 04562-031
TEL:+55-11-5501-2120 FAX:+55-11-5501-2122
• Sales of synthetic rubbers and resins, etc.

10 Zeon Europe GmbH

Hansaallee 249, 40549 Dusseldorf, Germany
TEL:+49-211-52670 FAX:+49-211-5267160
• Sales, export, and import of synthetic rubbers and resins

11 Zeon Europe GmbH - Branch in France

ZEON France Succursale française de Zeon Europe GmbH c/o Sofradec 153, Boulevard Haussmann 75008 Paris, France
TEL:+49-211-5267-145

12 Zeon Europe GmbH - Branch in Spain

C/Beethoven, 15, 4º, 08021 Barcelona, Spain
TEL:+34-93-183-87-08 FAX:+34-93-183-87-58

13 Zeon Europe GmbH - Branch in Italy

Piazza Quattro Novembre, 7, 20124 Milano, Italy
TEL:+39-02-67141701 FAX:+39-02-36680124

14 Zeon Europe GmbH - Branch in U.K.

Scott Court, Unit 2A, Ocean Way, Cardiff, CF24 5HF, United Kingdom
TEL:+44-1446-725000 FAX:+44-1446-747988

15 Telene S.A.S.

2, rue Marie Curie - 59910 Bondues, France
TEL:+33-3-20-69-57-10 FAX:+33-3-20-69-57-11
• Development and sales of Telene® DCP-RIM resin

16 Tokyo Zairyo Czech, s.r.o.

Pobřežní 620/3, 186 00 Prague 8, Czech Republic
Tel: +420-221-228-406 Fax: +420-221-228-405
• Procurement and sales of synthetic resins, synthetic rubbers, and other chemical products



Zeon Chemicals L.P.
Kentucky Plant



Zeon Europe GmbH

Japan

as of July 1, 2020

1

Zeon Corporation – Head Office

Shin Marunouchi Center Building, 1-6-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8246, Japan
TEL: +81-3-3216-1772 FAX: +81-3-3216-0501

Tokyo Zairyo Co., Ltd.

Shin Marunouchi Center Building, 1-6-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0005, Japan^{same as follows}
TEL: +81-3-5219-2171 FAX: +81-3-5219-2201
• Trading

Zeon Kasei Co., Ltd.

TEL: +81-3-5208-5111 FAX: +81-3-5208-5290

Plants: Ibaraki, Yamaguchi

• Manufacture and sale of PVC compounds, packaging materials, packaging containers, logistics equipment, etc.

Zeon F&B Co., Ltd.

TEL: +81-3-3216-1410 FAX: +81-3-3216-1421

• Agency business for life and non-life insurance; loan and factoring business to each group company

RIMTEC Corporation

TEL: +81-3-5220-8581 FAX: +81-3-5220-8584

Plants, R&D Center: Mizushima

• Sales of formulation liquid for Reaction Injection Molding (RIM)

ZIS Information Technology Co., Ltd.

TEL: +81-3-3216-6500 FAX: +81-3-3216-6534

• Consulting about data processing systems; sales and maintenance of computer and office automation equipment

Zeon Nano Technology Co., Ltd.

TEL: +81-3-3216-1766 FAX: +81-3-3216-1767

• Processing and sales of Carbon Nanotubes and related products

ZS Elastomer Co., Ltd.

TEL: +81-3-3216-0620 FAX: +81-3-3216-0629

• Sales and R&D of S-SBR

Zeon Medical Inc.

TEL: +81-3-3216-1265 FAX: +81-3-3216-1269

Plant: Takaoka

• Manufacturing and sale of medical devices

Okayama Butadiene Co., Ltd.

Sen-i Kaikan 2F, 3-1-11 Nihonbashi-Honcho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-0023, Japan

TEL: +81-3-3278-0721 FAX: +81-3-3278-0722

• Manufacturing of butadiene monomer

2

Zeon Corporation – Kawasaki Plant

1-2-1 Yako, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki-ku, Kanagawa 210-9507, Japan
TEL: +81-44-276-3700 (direct)
FAX: +81-44-276-3701

Zeon Corporation – R&D Center

TEL: +81-44-276-3721

FAX: +81-44-276-3720

3

Zeon Corporation – Takaoka Plant

630 Ogino, Takaoka-shi, Toyama 933-8516, Japan
TEL: +81-766-21-0252 (direct)
FAX: +81-766-21-8201

Zeon North Co., Ltd.

351 Ejiri, Takaoka-shi, Toyama 933-0062, Japan

TEL: +81-766-25-1111 FAX: +81-766-25-1114

• Contracting, design, construction, and management for various facilities; sales of industrial materials and equipment, purchase and sale of petrochemical products; testifying environmental measurements, measurement working environment; conducting various analyses

Optes Inc.

422-1 Futagamishin, Takaoka-shi, Toyama 933-0981, Japan

TEL: +81-766-32-1590 FAX: +81-766-32-1591

Plants: Takaoka, Himi, Tsuruga

• Manufacture of optical films

4

Zeon Corporation – Tokuyama Plant

2-1 Nachi-cho, Shunan-shi, Yamaguchi 745-0023, Japan
TEL: +81-834-21-8501 (direct)
FAX: +81-834-21-8793

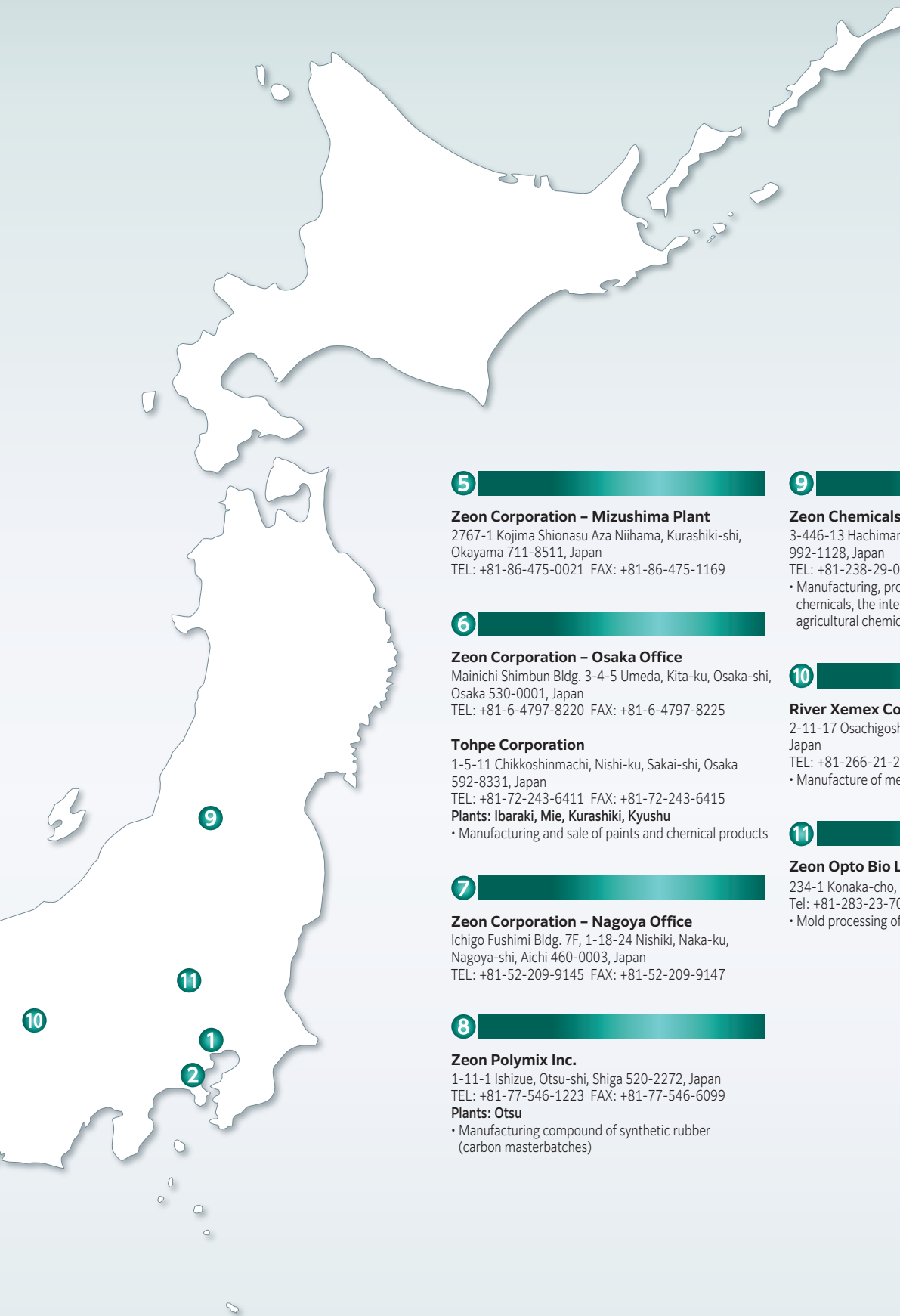
Zeon Yamaguchi Co., Ltd.

2-1 Nachi-cho, Shunan-shi, Yamaguchi 745-0023, Japan

TEL: +81-834-21-8482 FAX: +81-834-21-8663

• Purchase and sale of civil engineering materials, packing materials, and various facilities; design and construction, contracting for various plants; environment analysis





5

Zeon Corporation – Mizushima Plant

2767-1 Kojima Shionasu Aza Niihama, Kurashiki-shi, Okayama 711-8511, Japan
TEL: +81-86-475-0021 FAX: +81-86-475-1169

6

Zeon Corporation – Osaka Office

Mainichi Shimbun Bldg. 3-4-5 Umeda, Kita-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 530-0001, Japan
TEL: +81-6-4797-8220 FAX: +81-6-4797-8225

Tohpe Corporation

1-5-11 Chikkoshinmachi, Nishi-ku, Sakai-shi, Osaka 592-8331, Japan
TEL: +81-72-243-6411 FAX: +81-72-243-6415

Plants: Ibaraki, Mie, Kurashiki, Kyushu

• Manufacturing and sale of paints and chemical products

7

Zeon Corporation – Nagoya Office

Ichigo Fushimi Bldg. 7F, 1-18-24 Nishiki, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi 460-0003, Japan
TEL: +81-52-209-9145 FAX: +81-52-209-9147

8

Zeon Polymix Inc.

1-11-1 Ishizue, Otsu-shi, Shiga 520-2272, Japan
TEL: +81-77-546-1223 FAX: +81-77-546-6099

Plants: Otsu

• Manufacturing compound of synthetic rubber (carbon masterbatches)

9

Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa Co., Ltd.

3-446-13 Hachimanpara, Yonezawa-shi, Yamagata 992-1128, Japan
TEL: +81-238-29-0055 FAX: +81-238-29-0053

• Manufacturing, processing and sale of aromatic chemicals, the intermediate of medicine and agricultural chemicals and RIM formulation liquid

10

River Xemex Co., Ltd.

2-11-17 Osachigoshō, Okaya-shi, Nagano 394-0082, Japan

TEL: +81-266-21-2131 FAX: +81-266-21-1550

• Manufacture of medical devices

11

Zeon Opto Bio Lab Co., Ltd.

234-1 Konaka-cho, Sano-shi, Tochigi 327-0001, Japan
Tel: +81-283-23-7061 Fax: +81-283-23-7054

• Mold processing of plastic products



Kawasaki Plant and the R&D Center

Zeon's Business and Strategy

This section describes Zeon's business and strategy in the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020, with the target of "Over 500 billion yen in consolidated net sales" and the mission "Zeon makes the future today through the power of chemistry."

Interview with the President P. 24

Zeon's Business and Strategy

Elastomer Business P. 27

Specialty Materials Business P. 29

Research and Development (R&D) P. 31

Corporate Governance P. 33

A growth foundation and corporate culture reforms to overcome difficulties

President Kimiaki Tanaka outlines where Zeon Group is today and its outlook for the future in a Q&A format.

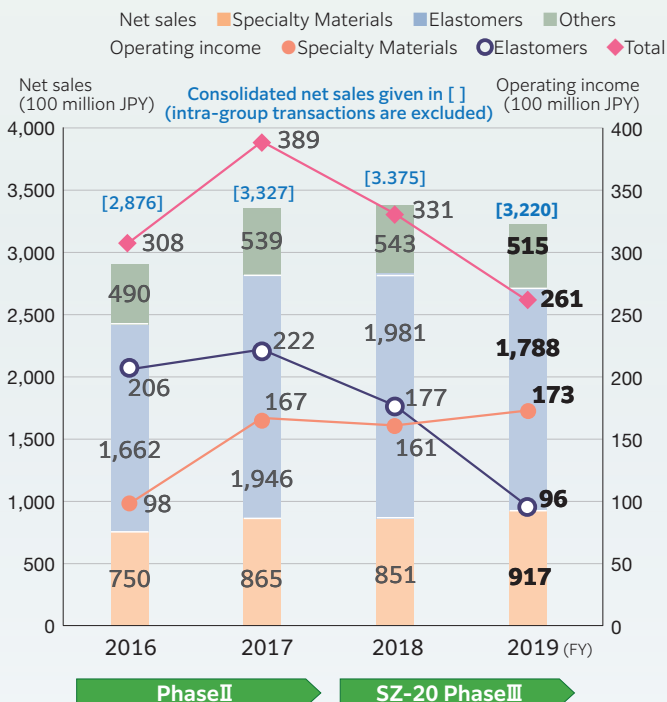


Kimiaki Tanaka
 Kimiaki Tanaka
 President
 Zeon Corporation

Q.1 What is the situation in terms of the economic environment and for the Zeon Group, and how was the situation in Zeon's Elastomer Business and Specialty Material Business in FY 2019?

A.1 [Overview] Achieved annual sales of 300 billion yen for three consecutive years. The market softening seen in the Elastomer Business is continuing. The Specialty Material Business achieved record-high sales and profit, and was a driver of our overall business performance.

● Fig. 1: Consolidated Results by Segment



While our performance in FY 2019 saw lower revenue and profit in terms of sales and operating income, our current term net income rose due to decreased extraordinary loss including impairment loss. Although revenue and profit fell year on year, we have maintained annual sales of around 300 billion yen for three consecutive years.

The COVID-19 pandemic had almost no impact on our performance in FY 2019.

Revenue and profit fell in **the Elastomer Business**, impacted by the global economic slowdown sparked by the trade friction between the United States and China. (See Fig. 2 on next page) We maintained a similar shipment volume year on year for general-purpose rubber, which is mainly used in tire applications, while demand was weak for specialty rubbers mainly used in automotive industry applications, and their shipment volume fell slightly.

For synthetic rubbers and latex, the price of the main raw materials, naphtha and butadiene, continued the low-price trend seen since FY 2018, and linked to this, sales prices simultaneously fell due to lower unit sales prices (formula pricing) and shrinking demand. The fall in the price of the raw materials, instead of exerting a positive effect, had a large negative effect. (See also → P. 27)

The Specialty Material Business posted increased revenue and profit higher than in FY 2018. (See Fig. 3 on next page)

The business is growing with the three pillars of optical films, optical plastics, and battery materials. Demand for optical films remains brisk, and lower fixed expenses on manufacturing floors as a result of higher utilization rates is also contributing to increased profit. Meanwhile, as we also recognize that there are rising sales, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses as well as rising expenses related to development prototypes, we are striving to further improve productivity.

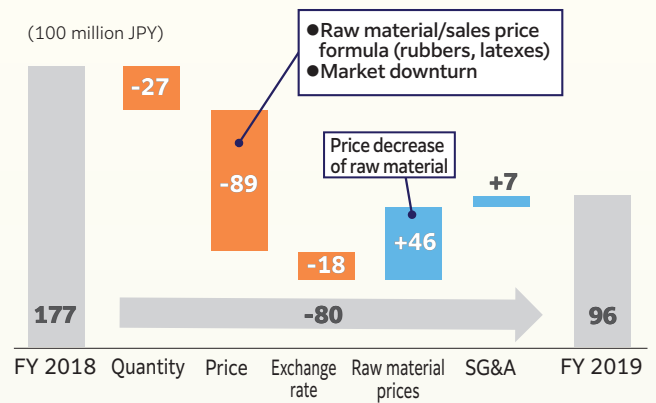
Demand for optical plastics, which are used in the stage before film processing, is increasing. While optical plastics have so far been used in applications such as smartphone camera lenses, we are seeing increasing demand due to the trend towards multiple-lens camera modules for use in portable electronic devices, and due to strong demand for medical syringes and vials. With business growing in these new applications, both production and sales were at maximum capacity in FY 2019. To meet the robust demand, we are looking into scaling up our production capacity.

Our battery materials are mainly used in lithium-ion batteries for automobiles, and we are meeting these needs by delivering our products to factories in China and Europe where lithium-ion batteries are produced. Shipments remained brisk throughout FY 2019, but demand fell toward the second half of the year due to deferred production in light of upcoming revisions to the NEV mandate* in China and fewer days of factory operations after the Chinese New Year. Demand in FY 2019 was down year on year, and future demand trends need to be watched closely. (See also → P. 29)

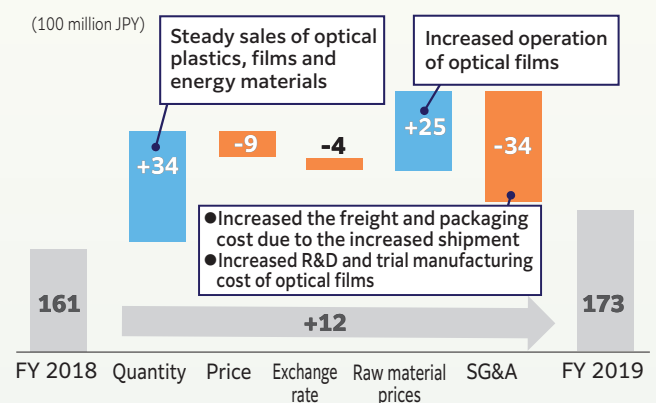
*NEV mandate

The New Energy Vehicle mandate regulates automobile sales and stems from fuel regulations enacted in China. The NEV mandate is contributing to an increase in electric vehicles.

● Fig. 2: Operating Income Variance in the Elastomer Business



● Fig. 3: Operating Income Variance in the Specialty Material Business



Q.2 How has the Zeon Group been affected by COVID-19 and what actions are you taking?

A.2 [Overview] There has been little impact on our production activities, and we are operating almost the same as during normal times. The impact on business performance was negligible in FY 2019, but we expect the impacts to increase in FY 2020. (See also → Summary of COVID-19 response on P. 5–6)

The impact on our FY 2019 business performance was only negligible, but we are projected to feel effects starting in FY 2020. Since we provide a wide range of materials to customers in a wide range of industries, however, the effects will not be uniform but varied.

Even within the Elastomer Business, latex is used to make medical gloves, and demand for latex is markedly higher. Meanwhile, our Synthetic Rubber Business is being impacted by the suspension of automotive production. The Chemicals Business is being impacted, although not as severely as the Synthetic Rubber Business, by the suspension of home-use adhesive production.

The Specialty Material Business is projected to continue posting comparatively strong performance for optical plastics and optical films. Meanwhile, market softening is projected in the Battery Materials Business, but the scale of this is not yet visible.

In terms of business operations, our factories are operating almost the same as during normal times. We have established

an emergency response headquarters, with subgroups for functions such as inventory management and separate business divisions, and they are working to quickly obtain information and take targeted action in response.

In terms of financing, in addition to our original commercial paper issue of 50 billion yen, we have increased our planned commitment line to 50 billion yen. This assures that we have sufficient liquidity.

As a manufacturer, we are placing particular priority on our infection control measures in manufacturing divisions. We are instituting protective measures using masks and face shields, and are also taking measures to ensure social distancing. We are also taking thorough prevention measures at the Head Office and our sales bases in Japan and worldwide, including having employees work from home, and are continuing business operations according to conditions at our business partners and elsewhere. We are also communicating with our factory employees and all Group employees using video messages as needed.

● Fig. 4: The Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 and the Mid-term Management Plan SZ-20 Phase III: Groupwide strategy



Q.3

How is the progress of efforts to achieve the group-wide strategy (Fig. 4) of the SZ-20 Phase III mid-term management plan? How is the review of the next mid-term management plan moving forward?

A.3

[Overview] Although we have not reached sales of 500 billion yen, we have been able to achieve stable sales in excess of 300 billion yen. We are moving forward with our review in order to smoothly transition to implementing the next mid-term management plan in FY 2021.

In light of current conditions, there is very little chance that business performance in FY 2020, the final fiscal year of our plan, will improve. As such, we are planning to conduct a review of our Mid-term Management Plan SZ-20 using performance through FY 2019, complete drafting of the next-term management plan and budget as well as the implementation policy within FY 2020, and then quickly get to work on our next mid-term management plan from April 2021.

We launched a project in 2019 to draft our next mid-term management plan, which reviews our vision for the Zeon Group looking 10 years into the future to 2030 as well as what the world

will be like after that. As part of this, we received suggestions from employees in their 30s and 40s who represent our Group's future. The suggestions deserve serious consideration from our management team as well.

Although we did not reach the SZ-20 performance indicator of 500 billion yen in sales, we were able to maintain sales in excess of 300 billion yen in FY 2019, which had previously been a hurdle, even while sustaining effects from the global economic slowdown, and this can be considered good progress. We have also expanded our production facilities every year. We will continue to powerfully forge ahead without changing this trajectory.

Q.4

What is the status of actions for the United Nations Global Compact, the SDGs, and strengthening diversity?

A.4

[Overview] We are deepening the understanding of all employees through trainings and dialogue, and will connect our business activities to contributions to society.

A policy set by top management in FY 2019 was for individuals to learn and educate each other through diversity promotion, and to change into an organization that creates innovation. After creating diversity in our human resources, this policy aims to have diverse human resources mutually accept each other and work together to create an inclusive organization that acts as a unified team. We anticipate that individuals achieve growth as a result, and by working together, become an organization that generates innovation.

We are holding "career design" trainings and one-on-one meetings on a trial basis as ways to build a corporate culture that prioritizes dialogue and have verified their effectiveness. Continuing

in FY 2020 as well, we will build a corporate culture that prioritizes dialogue and offer opportunities for people to create change in themselves.

Based on becoming a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact and establishing and releasing our human rights policy, we have held CSR informational sessions for all employees since 2019 and are also verifying their level of understanding through e-learning, which we will continue. We will deepen our understanding for the SDGs, including among our senior management team, incorporate the SDGs into our next mid-term management plan, and contribute to achieving the SDGs through our business activities.

Elastomers Business

Consisting of the three businesses of synthetic rubber, synthetic latex, and chemicals, the Elastomer Business supports the Zeon Group's foundation and provides high-quality materials essential in all kinds of industrial fields around the world. Its sales account for more than 50% of total sales in the Zeon Group. While shipment volumes in FY 2019 remained at almost the same level as the previous year, in addition to contracting global demand since the summer due to effects from the U.S.–China trade friction, slumping unit sales prices for synthetic rubbers in particular, caused by greater market competition and falling raw material prices, resulted in decreased sales and profit.

Business Overview and Future Strategy

In FY 2019 the Synthetic Rubber Business posted shipment volumes for general-purpose rubber, mainly used in automotive tires, above those of the previous year; however, net sales fell, and both the shipment volumes and sales of specialty rubbers used in advanced automotive components and general industrial goods decreased.

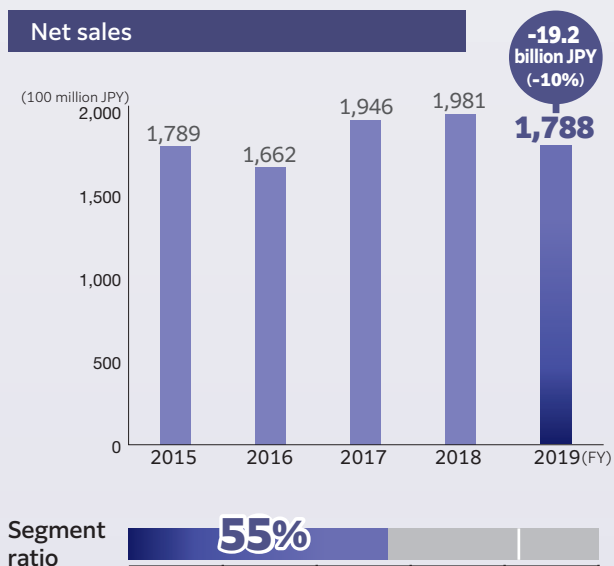
The full impacts of COVID-19 emerged from the start of FY 2020. In addition to the direct effects felt in the Synthetic Rubber Business, which is closely tied to the automotive industry, demand slumped in other industries such as oil drilling and construction equipment and was coupled with falling market prices. Therefore, we are envisioning that FY 2020 will be an exceedingly challenging year for the Synthetic Rubber Business. We anticipate that demand in the synthetic rubber market will bottom out during the April–June quarter and then show gradual recovery, but full recovery will not be seen until 2021.

Under these conditions, we are focusing on having a system in place able to immediately adapt to future demand trends and meet changing customer needs. We will further expand and develop our S-SBR business, and the specialty rubber business (an area where Zeon is particularly strong), through expanded production capacity eyeing the future, new product development, and a detailed level of technical support in the markets.

In the Synthetic Latex Business, demand for NBR latex for disposable gloves continued to show expansion in FY 2019, and while competition did intensify with increased production capacity at competitors, we satisfied



Hiroyuki Hirakawa
 Director & Senior Corporate Officer
 Elastomers and Chemicals Business
 Division Manager – Raw Material
 Division Manager – Logistics

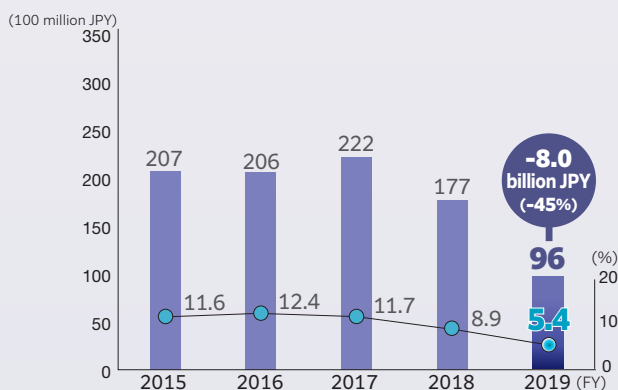


demand by operating our facilities at full capacity. Meanwhile, our specialty product for cosmetic puffs, which had been posting strong performance, saw sales decline year on year due to changes in cosmetics preferences, lower inbound consumption, and increased price competition among other factors.

Entering FY 2020, demand further expanded for disposable gloves used in medical and other applications to meet needs in the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are continuing to focus on increasing our production and supply volumes. The Synthetic Latex Business is not expected to experience as much COVID-19 impact as the Synthetic Rubber Business, but some falloff in markets apart from gloves is unavoidable. Going forward, we will accelerate development to steadily commercialize new, differentiated latex materials with higher added-value for surgical gloves.

In the Chemicals Business, global demand in FY 2019 for our main products of thermoplastic elastomer SIS and C₅ petroleum resin PDR remained largely strong, but shipment volumes decreased year on year due to the regular inspection of the Mizushima Plant, the Chemicals Business production base, and softening in Asian markets caused by the U.S.-China trade friction. Nevertheless, steady progress was seen in our key strategy to shift to and expand business in high value-added products, mainly for asymmetric SIS. In FY 2020, while the impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic are visible, the Chemicals Business has few automotive applications and direct impacts are relatively slight. Meanwhile, our business in adhesive materials is seeing increased demand for packing tape due to the expanding e-commerce market, and we are continuing to produce SIS and PDR at full capacity with a plan to offer robust capacity to meet customers' high level of supply requests. In addition, we will not pull back from our ongoing strategy to shift to higher value-added products, and will also review further increasing our production capacity.

Operating income (ratio)



Segment ratio

33%

Elastomer Business breakdown (FY 2019)

	Sales quantity (1,000 tons)	Net sales (100 million JPY)
Synthetic rubber	348 (↓2%)	1,238 (↓11%)
Latex	121 (↓2%)	168 (↓11%)
Chemicals	129 (↓7%)	348 (↓9%)

● Elastomer Business: Lower revenue and profit

Synthetic rubber: Weak demand for applications including in the automotive industry and general industrial goods, and prices fell hand in hand with lower raw materials prices

Latex: Lower demand for applications including cosmetics materials and general industrial goods, and prices fell hand in hand with lower raw materials prices

Chemicals: In addition to shipments commensurate with production volumes due to a regular inspection of the main plant, Asian markets softened

Specialty Material Business

Specialty materials refers to materials and components offering high added value due to their macromolecular design and processing technology. Focusing on future growth areas, we are positioning IT components (optical, packaging, electronics), energy materials, and medical devices as our three main business areas.

Business Overview and Future Strategy

Performance in the Specialty Material Business in FY 2019 was largely in line with expectations for both sales and profit. The Film Business accounts for a large volume of the Specialty Material Business. Creating growth in the Film Business is key to increasing overall sales. Economic recession is forecast due to the effects of COVID-19, but demand for large-screen TVs remains high. There is also high demand for educational tablets used in home schooling as well as PCs for people working from home, and we must contribute to society by strengthening our supply of small- and mid-sized films.

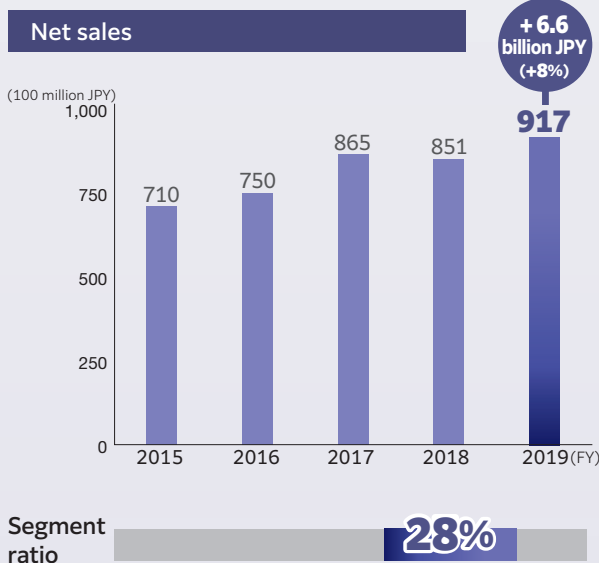
As such, we are moving forward with increasing the production capacity of our optical film plants in Tsuruga City and Takaoka City, aiming for operations to begin in 2020.

This move is expected to contribute to BCP from plant decentralization and have supplemental effects on the local economies from new employment. The new line at Tsuruga Plant will meet needs for larger LCD panels and be able to produce retardation films with the world's largest width (2,500-mm class). There is strong demand for these films for LCD panels for large-screen TVs due to their dimensional accuracy and other excellent properties.

We are seeing more inquiries for Cyclo Olefin Polymers (COP) as plastic lens with the accelerated shift to multi-lens smartphone cameras. We will continue to develop advanced products that leverage the characteristics of COP. The microfluidic chip prototyping



Yoshiyuki Sone
Senior Corporate Officer
Specialty Business
Division Manager - Specialty Components



service is seeing stable expansion and was spun off to establish Zeon Opto Bio Lab in April 2019 to build out its structure for medical packaging applications leveraging the property of low adsorption to proteins.

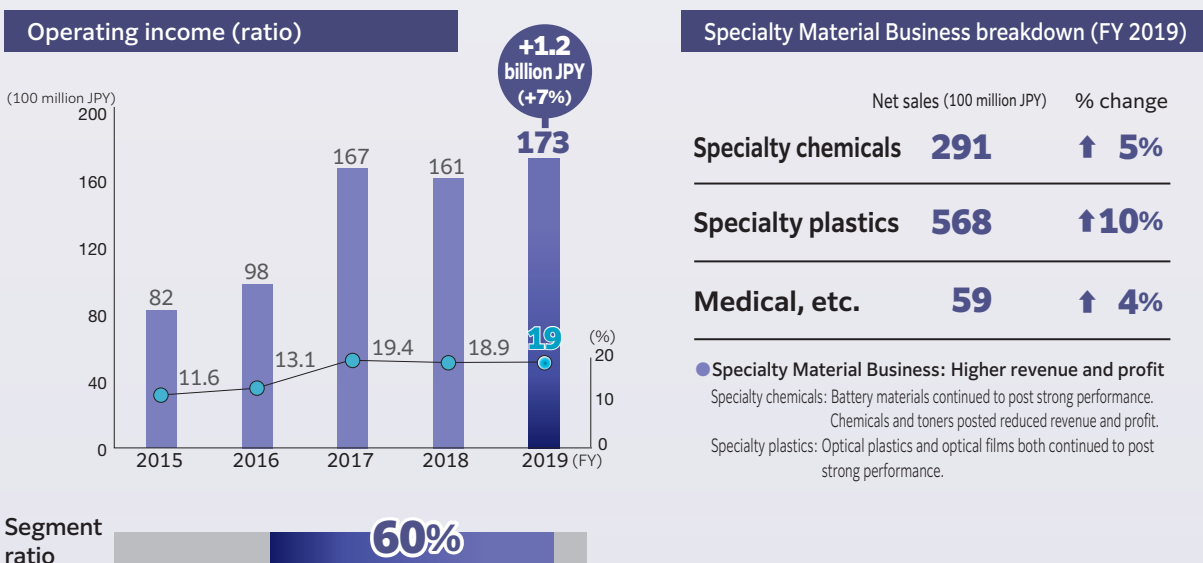
Demand for battery materials (energy materials) is also rising sharply with increased demand for electric and hybrid vehicles. Demand is expected to recede temporarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but moves to expand the electric vehicle market in Europe are ramping up quickly, and demand for battery materials is growing.

In electronic materials, transparent insulating films for displays are seeing substantial growth. We are developing pad-type thermal interface material with excellent thermal conductivity and durability as a new product and developing the market, primarily for semiconductor applications.

Demand for specialty chemicals as a whole remains brisk, continuing the same trend from last year. Cheap products launched by new competitors have been weeded out from tightened environmental regulations. Market conditions are recovering, and demand for Zeon's products is rising.

The Medical Business invested in a venture fund in FY 2019. In parallel with our ongoing own development, we aim to expand our business portfolio by collecting information on the latest medical technologies in Japan and around the world, identifying projects to collaborate on with startup companies, and so on.

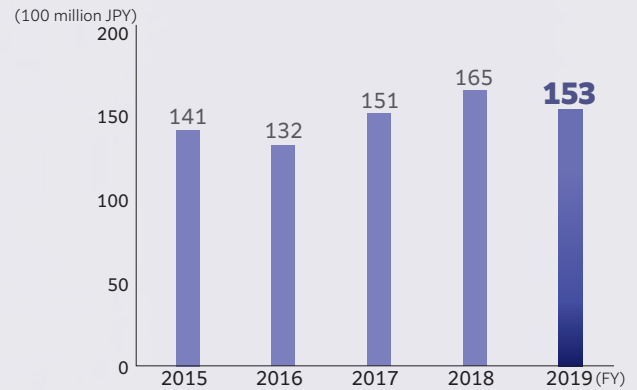
In our Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube Business, we are conducting ongoing research on various composite materials and are beginning to commercialize some parts and materials, including shale gas O-rings. We will continue to pursue research to develop products leveraging the characteristics of carbon nanotubes.



Research and Development (R&D)

The R&D Center conducts Zeon Group's R&D activities with a workforce of more than 400 researchers. In addition to the R&D Center's 10 research buildings located next to the Kawasaki Plant, we have established other laboratories located near production plants. We develop new products and improve existing products through close collaboration with business divisions to meet the needs of customers. Additionally, we are exploring new materials, developing and using new analysis and simulation techniques and AI/ML, and developing new and improving existing production processes and equipment.

R&D expenses



New Systems for More Efficient R&D

It has been three years since we began implementing the Innovation Highway framework and multi-review process. Our most critical mission now is to increase our research output. To do this, it is important that we ① definitively produce outcomes from our current research themes, and ② assess whether the outcomes can become large businesses.

The research flow encompasses the stages of discovery, research, development, and production, and decisions must be made at each of these stages.

Product planning stage: Select discovery themes considering their future market potential

Product design stage: Transition to the verification stage

Production preparation stage: Examining how stable production can be achieved at the plant, and proceeding to actual commercialization

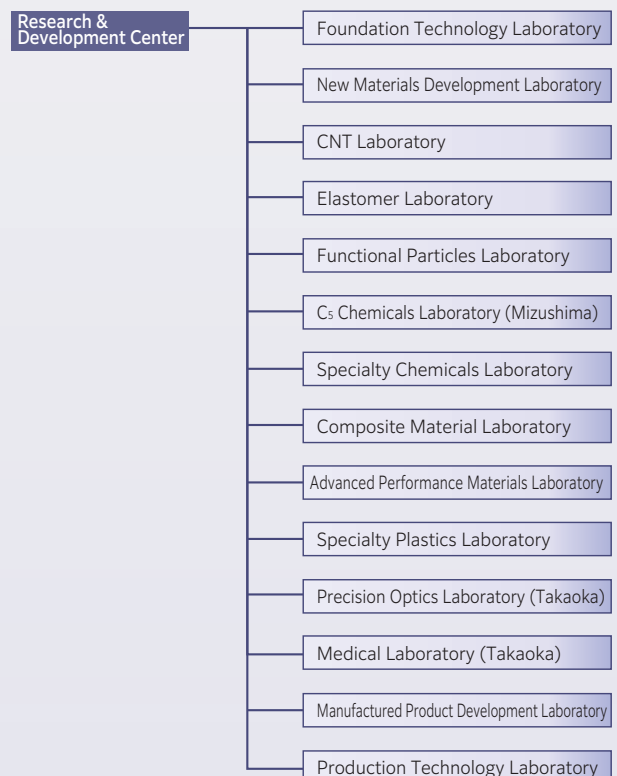
Using the Innovation Highway, we select themes in the discovery stage based on expert views and market information. Multiple candidates were also proposed last year, and we will continue to explore themes.

In the multi-review process, we review projects at the product planning and product design stages from a range of viewpoints both inside and outside the development division to determine whether they truly meet customer needs and whether there is a market for a commercialized product. Last

year too, we conducted multi-reviews for themes whose progress had stalled. This fiscal year, we will continue to move up our assessments and conduct multi-reviews at earlier stages to enhance efficiency.

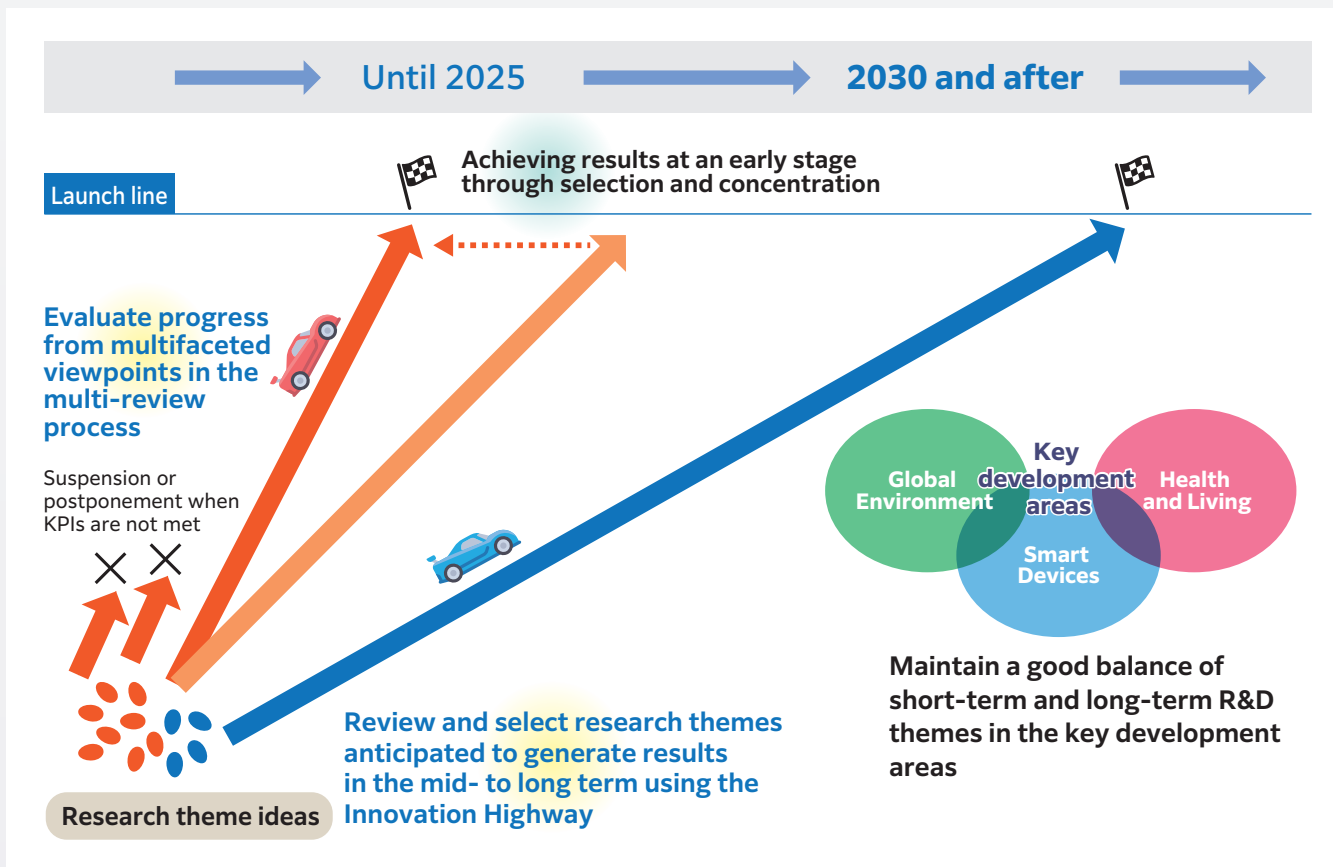
In addition, we will further select, concentrate, and prioritize our limited resources. By selecting themes nearing commercialization, concentrating staff and resources on them, and bringing together the capabilities and expertise of all employees, we are increasing the potential to commercialize products in a shorter timeframe. We are actively using simulation technology and outside research resources as well to further increase the efficiency of research and development.

R&D System



Tetsuya Toyoshima
Senior Corporate Officer
Research & Development
Division Manager – Research & Development Center

● Multi-review process to strengthen output at an early stage and Innovation Highway framework for mid- to long-term R&D



Changing the research culture

In SZ-20 Phase III, we added the phrase “through employees’ individual growth” to the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020. The FY 2020 policy for the Research & Development Division also places a strong focus on changing how we do research. More than just a slogan of “change,” the policy embodies our strong determination to change. Researchers will change themselves, and we will change Zeon’s research and development as a whole. To achieve this, I am also encouraging our division to get new ideas by going outside and conducting joint research with groups in other industries and conducting activities such as industry–academia–government collaboration.

With our research structure, from this fiscal year we are beginning a new project system for market, application and technology topics that straddle laboratories, and creating cross-laboratory projects for them instead of vertical ones. Our research and development expenses also remain on the same scale as before. We will invest in a pilot plant for product commercialization and strengthen our analysis function in the Foundation Technology Laboratory.

Intellectual Property Strategy

We always make efforts to expand our intellectual property rights with our policy of “patent first” to enhance our competitiveness and contribute to industry development in line with our corporate strategy. We define “patent first” as filing patent applications based on our patent portfolio strategy prior to product development, product launch announcements,

and distributing samples. We also define it as developing products that do not infringe on other companies’ intellectual property rights by conducting patent searches from the early stages of development.

Product differentiation is achieved by strategically protecting individual technologies with multiple intellectual property rights rather than a single application of rights. We will enhance our competitiveness not only for products but also through acquiring intellectual property rights related to manufacturing processes and applications and keeping our manufacturing know-how confidential. We will also rigorously evaluate whether our intellectual property is being used effectively.

Assessing real needs

We are working to more closely and more quickly assess whether customers’ true needs match Zeon’s technology seeds. We are seeking to create not materials that would be good to have, but materials that are indispensable. If the materials that are indispensable are only offered by Zeon, we will be selected by customers with the potential to turn the materials into major businesses. This is true differentiation.

In the long term, we are also aware of the momentum in society to move away from petrochemicals and reduce the use of plastics. Together with Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., in July 2018 we jointly developed world-first technology to produce isoprene, a tire raw material, from biomass. This is how we view true needs as being part of society’s hopes and expectations, and will pursue uncovering true needs from the wants and needs of a wide range of stakeholders and feeding them into our research and development.



Visit our corporate website for more information

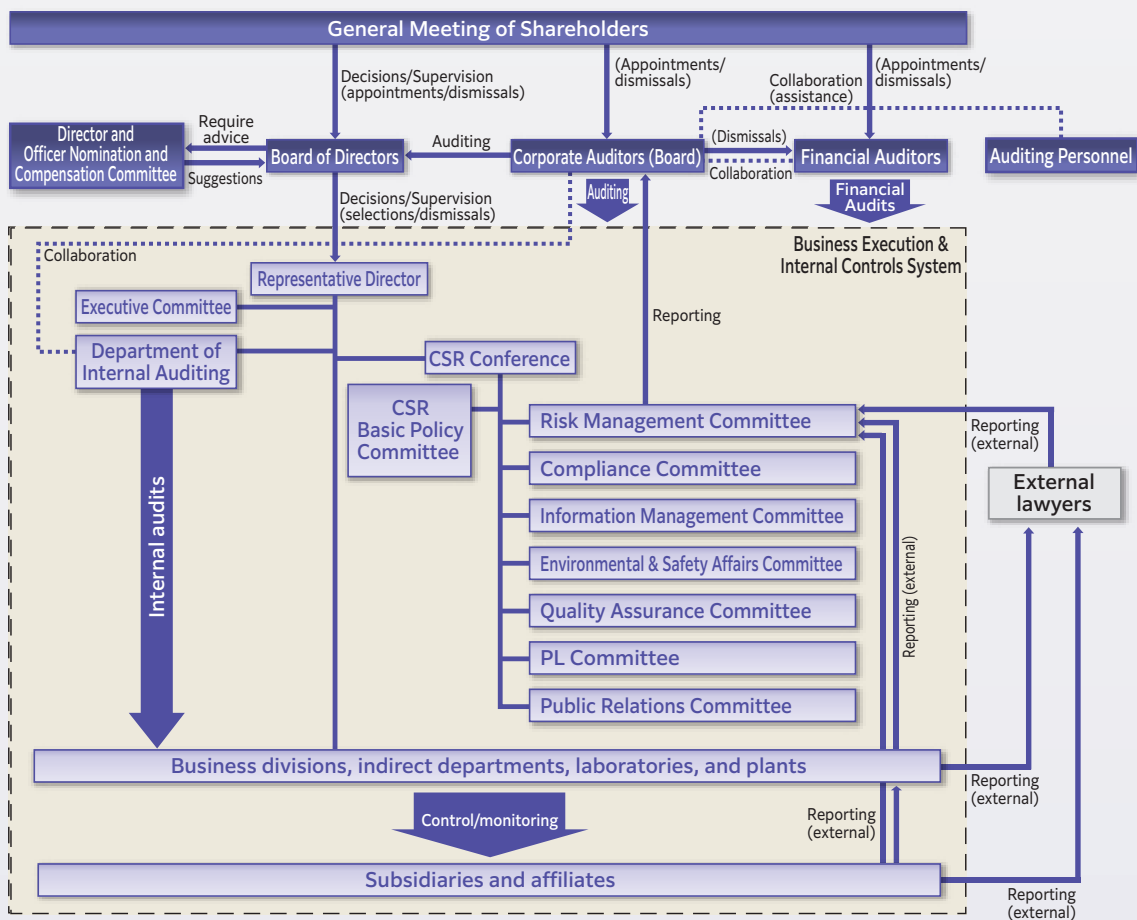
Corporate Governance Report (PDF)
http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/management.html
 Basic Policy on Corporate Governance (Japanese Only)
<http://www.zeon.co.jp/content/200281514.pdf>

Zeon aims to increase profits and enhance corporate value on an ongoing basis while respecting and balancing the various interests of its shareholders and other diverse stakeholders. To this end, we are continuing efforts to build a system that enables efficient and sound corporate management through corporate governance.

Maintaining a system of corporate governance allows

us to clarify the functions and roles of each organizational entity within the company and to carry out rapid decision-making and execution. We are also improving corporate transparency through appropriate monitoring and disclosure of business activities and their effects. We are determined to further enhance our corporate governance system to effectively carry out these aims.

● Corporate Governance System



● Board of Directors

The Board of Directors meets, in principle, every month with corporate auditors in attendance to ensure compliance with applicable laws and the Articles of Incorporation in the execution of business. In addition to its statutory duties, the role of the Board of Directors is to make important decisions about basic management policy, strategy, and other aspects of business execution. As of July 2020, the Board of Directors consists of seven directors, including three outside directors.

● Executive Committee

The Executive Committee, in accordance with the Executive Committee Rules, comprises the President and executive officers ranked senior corporate officer or above and meets twice a month in principle to examine and make decisions on important business matters after due deliberation involving consultation with attending full-time corporate auditors. Important business matters stipulated in the Board of Director Rules are examined and decided by the Board of Directors.

● Board of Corporate Auditors

The Board of Corporate Auditors comprises five members, including three outside corporate auditors. The Board reports, discusses, and adopts resolutions on important business matters. In accordance with the auditing guidelines established by the Board of Corporate Auditors, each corporate auditor audits directors' execution of their duties through various means, such as attending Board of Directors meetings and monitoring business operations, including subsidiaries' operations.

● Director and Officer Nomination and Compensation Committee

The Director and Officer Nomination and Compensation Committee is placed under the Board of Directors as an advisory organ for the purpose of strengthening the objectivity and transparency of the Board of Directors functions related to nominating directors and officers and deciding their compensation. The committee is composed of four members, of which three are independent outside directors.

Director and officer compensation

We use a performance-based compensation system as one type of healthy incentive to achieve sustained growth. Individual compensation is decided by the Representative Director after receiving the advice of the Director and Officer Nomination and Compensation Committee.

● Director and officer compensation structure

Internal Directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed-amount cash compensation • Performance-based cash compensation • Restricted stock compensation system
Corporate Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed-amount cash compensation • Performance-based cash compensation
Outside Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed-amount cash compensation

Appointment and dismissal of directors and officers

Nominations of candidates for directors and auditors and appointments of corporate officers are made based on the requirements provided in the Basic Policy on Corporate Governance, with advice given by the Director and Officer Nomination and Compensation Committee, a recommendation by the Representative Director, and a decision by the Board of Directors.

Risk Management

The Risk Management Committee promotes Zeon's risk management. Activities to prevent legal violations and ensure legal compliance are conducted under the Compliance Committee. The Information Management Committee promotes the appropriate management of information from when it is received to when it is destroyed.

Internal reporting system

We have implemented an internal reporting system at Zeon to gather information about potential risks at an early stage and make it easier to address them. In addition to our internal reporting line, we have also set up a reporting line with external lawyers.

The Risk Management Committee investigates the facts of reports that are made and responds as appropriate, such as by instructing the internal organization to implement countermeasures based on the results of the investigation.

In the case of committing a serious violation of the law, or an act violating company policy either intentionally or through gross negligence, or other reason that is cause for dismissal of the director or officer as provided in internal company regulations, the Board of Directors deliberates the case and dismisses the director or officer concerned based on the Companies Act and other legislation.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the Board of Directors

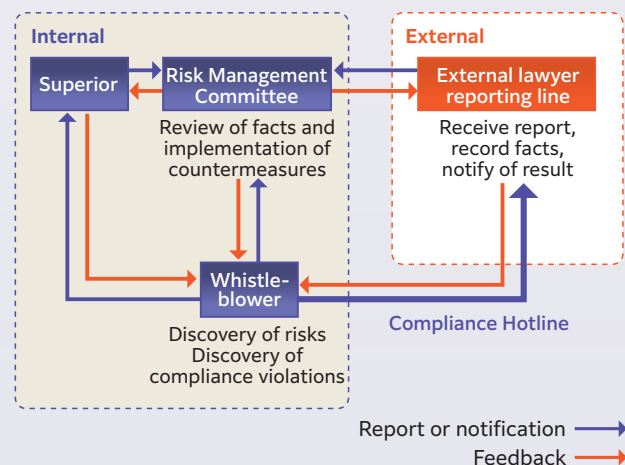
Questionnaires are conducted for directors including outside directors and auditors about the operations of the Board of Directors. Questionnaire responses are analyzed and evaluated by a third-party outside lawyer entrusted to perform the task, who has provided the opinion that our Board of Directors operates with a high degree of overall effectiveness.

Constructive dialogue with shareholders

The Department of Corporate Communications manages dialogue with shareholders, which is overseen by the corporate officer in charge of CSR. Accurate, impartial information is provided in a timely manner. We continue to hold briefings for investors quarterly, expand the materials released on our website, and increase opportunities for dialogue apart from individual meetings, such as participating in company briefings for individual investors.

► Our response to COVID-19 can be found on P. 5

● Internal reporting flow



Directors and Officers (as of July 1, 2020)



Visit our corporate website for more information

Corporate Governance Report (PDF)

http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/management.html

Director



President
Kimiaki Tanaka

Profile

April 1979 Joined Zeon
June 2005 Zeon Director
June 2007 Zeon Director and Corporate Officer
June 2011 Zeon Director and Senior Corporate Officer
June 2012 Zeon Director and Executive Corporate Officer
June 2013 Zeon President (current)



Director & Senior Corporate Officer
Hiroyuki Hirakawa
Elastomers and Chemicals Business
Division Manager – Logistics

Profile

April 1981 Joined Zeon
June 2008 Zeon Corporate Officer
June 2009 Zeon Director and Corporate Officer
June 2015 Zeon Director and Senior Corporate Officer (current)



Director & Senior Corporate Officer
Toru Nishijima
Production and Engineering Technology
Division Manager – Production Center
General Manager – Production Administration

Profile

April 1981 Joined Zeon
June 2009 Zeon Corporate Officer
June 2013 Zeon Senior Corporate Officer
June 2014 Zeon Director and Senior Corporate Officer (current)



Director & Corporate Officer
Kazuyoshi Matsuura
Administration,
Division Manager – Human Resources,
General Manager – Human Resources,
General Manager – China Business Administration
Director – Tohpe Corporation

Profile

April 1993 Joined Zeon
June 2017 Zeon Corporate Officer
June 2019 Zeon Director and Corporate Officer (current)



Director
Haruo Itoh
Adviser – Fuji Electric Co., Ltd.



Director
Takao Kitabata
Outside Director – Kobe Steel, Ltd.
Chairman of the Board



Director
Tadanobu Nagumo
Senior Advisor –
The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.

Audit & Supervisory Board



Member
Takeo Furuya



Member
Shinichi Hirakawa



External Member
Akio Kohri
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
– ADEKA CORPORATION



External Member
Nobutake Nishijima
Corporate Adviser – NIPPON
TOCHI-TATEMONO Co., Ltd.



External Member
Hiroki Kimura
President –
Asahi Mutual Life Insurance Company

Corporate Officer



Senior Corporate Officer
Tetsuya Toyoshima
Research & Development
Division Manager –
Research & Development Center



Senior Corporate Officer
Yoshiyuki Sone
Senior Corporate Officer – Specialty Business
Division Manager – Specialty Components
President – Zeon Korea Co., Ltd.
President – Zeon CSC Corporation



Corporate Officer
Erisa Watanabe
Manager – CSR Headquarters
Division Manager – CSR
Manager – CSR Promotion



Corporate Officer
Tomoyuki Kose
Managing Director of
Zeon Kasei Co., Ltd.



Corporate Officer
Makoto Watanabe
Plant Manager –
Mizushima Plant



Corporate Officer
Takafumi Kawanaka
Plant Manager – Kawasaki Plant



Corporate Officer
Tsutomu Eguchi
Division Manager –
Synthetic Latex



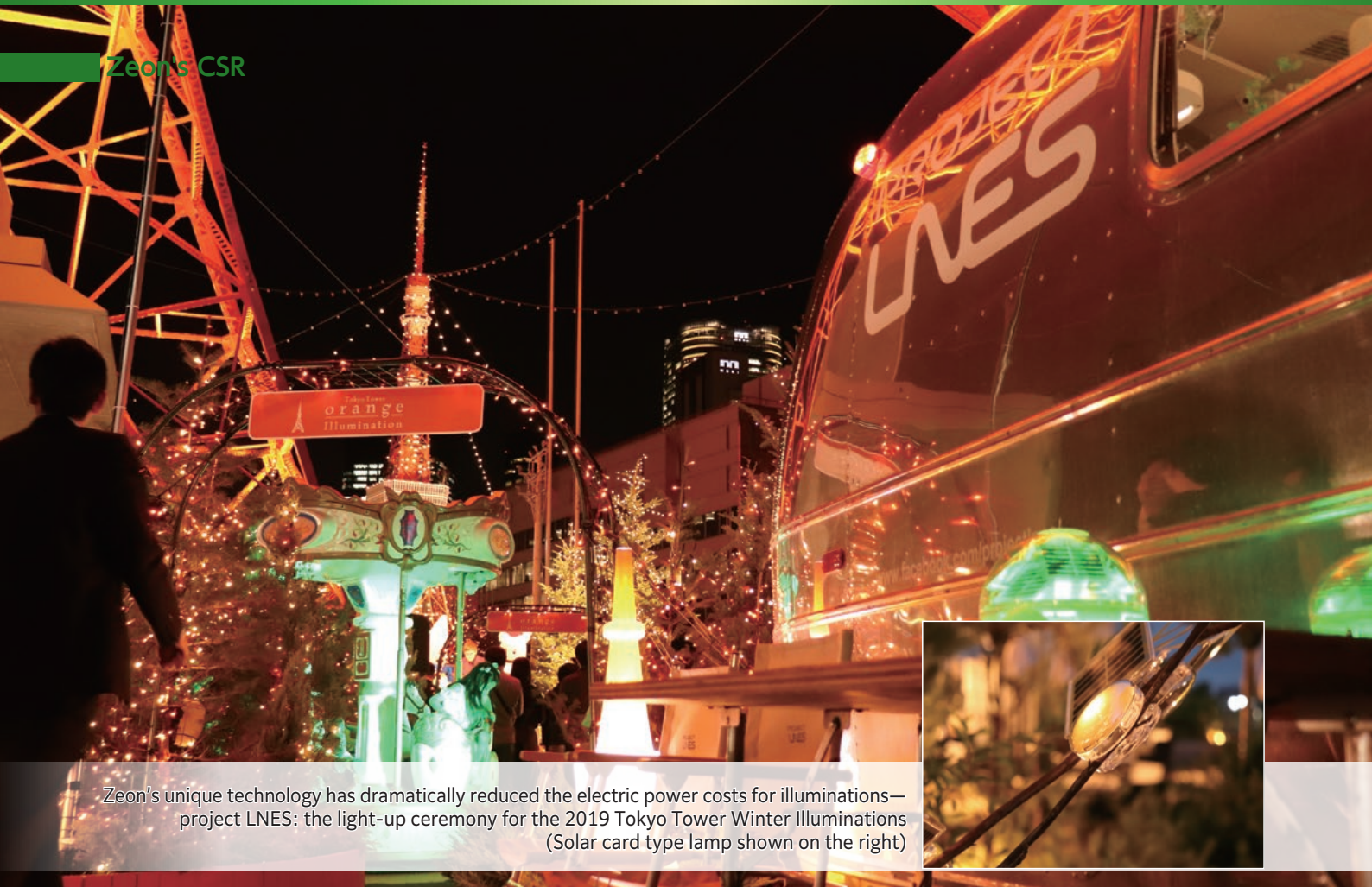
Corporate Officer
Satoshi Tominaga
Division Manager –
Corporate Planning



Corporate Officer
Yoshinobu Oi
Division Manager –
Synthetic Rubber



Corporate Officer
Yuichiro Konishi
Division Manager –
Electronics Materials



Zeon's unique technology has dramatically reduced the electric power costs for illuminations—project LNES: the light-up ceremony for the 2019 Tokyo Tower Winter Illuminations (Solar card type lamp shown on the right)

Zeon's CSR

We ensure compliance and conduct safe and stable production activities. At our global business locations, we conduct business activities together with local residents as a member of the local community.

Zeon's CSR	P. 38
CSR Implementation Plan	P. 39
Environment	P. 41
Human Rights/Fair Operating Practices	P. 42
Labor Practices	P. 43
Community	P. 45



Visit our corporate website for more information

Zeon's CSR

http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/concept.html

At Zeon, we regard CSR activities as all activities undertaken to continue being “a company trusted and valued by society.” With all employees acting with an awareness of CSR, we ensure compliance and contribute to the global environment and sustainable development through our corporate activities. In April 2010, we established the Zeon CSR Policy and the more specific CSR Code of Conduct. In January 2011, we established our current CSR Management Framework.

The CSR Code of Conduct was revised in January 2018. This revision clearly specifies Zeon's commitment to meeting society's expectations, which represents Zeon's fundamental approach to CSR, and restructures the CSR activities that Zeon undertakes.

Zeon CSR Policy (established April 2010)

1. We will ensure compliance and meet society's needs for safety and security
2. We will contribute to sustainably developing society and protecting the global environment through our corporate activities
3. We will ensure that each and every Zeon person is aware of CSR and acts accordingly

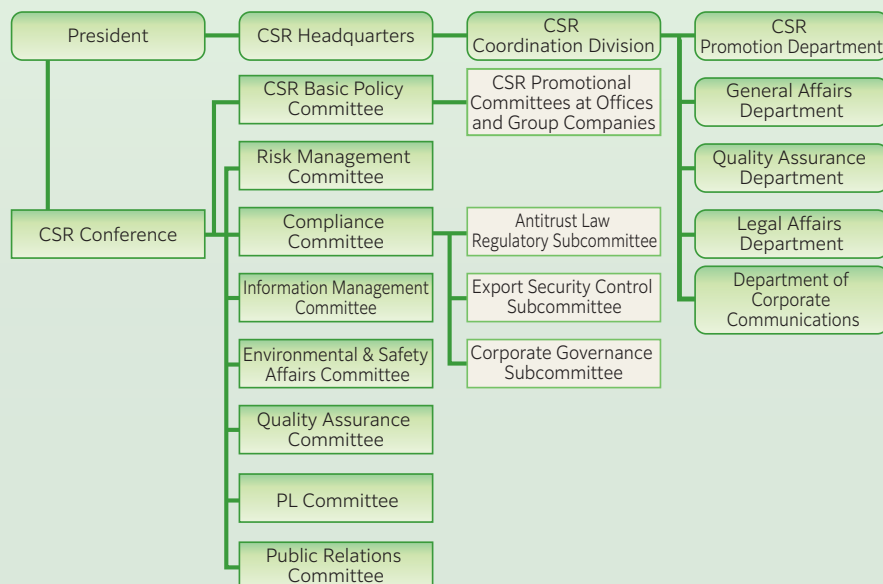
CSR Management Framework

The CSR Management Framework comprises the CSR Conference and eight committees.

Chaired by the President and held six times a year, the CSR Conference is the chief decision-making body on matters relating to CSR. The CSR Conference is held to review and finalize committee activities, initiatives, and annual activity plans, and to give necessary instruction based on progress reports.

The committees report to the CSR Conference and advance CSR activities in their specific areas. In October 2018, the Information Security Subcommittee, which had been under the Compliance Committee, was placed under the CSR Conference as the Information Management Committee to promote appropriate information management for the Zeon Group.

Zeon's CSR Management Framework



Committee functions

CSR Basic Policy Committee

Provides guidance and support for CSR Promotional Committee activities. Builds systems to support making social contributions.

Risk Management Committee

Responsible for systematically preventing potential risks and handling risks that emerge.

Compliance Committee

Education and training in legal compliance. Oversees three compliance subcommittees.

Information Management Committee

Plan and implement Group-wide information management and information security measures. This includes audits of information systems and information security education.

Environmental and Safety Affairs Committee

Plans and proposes environmental and safety measures and monitors their progress.

Quality Assurance Committee

Activities related to quality assurance. Reviews, takes action on, and make improvements to QA problems.

PL Committee

Manages prevention activities, training, and emergency response related to product liability.

Public Relations Committee

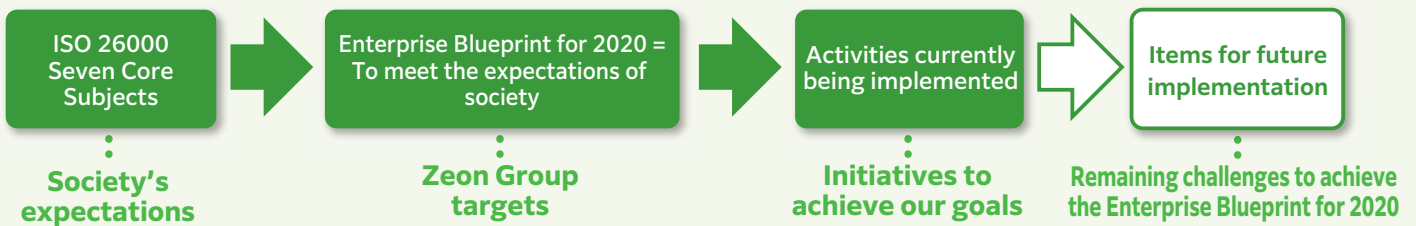
Deliberates on the strategy for the Zeon Group's PR activities, and on related activity planning, and discloses necessary information at appropriate times.

CSR Implementation Plan

The Zeon Group's CSR Implementation Plan has been formulated on the basis of ISO 26000, the international standard for CSR. The CSR Implementation Plan specifies the progress that needs to be made in order to realize the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020, in terms of ISO 26000's Seven Core Subjects. The CSR Implementation Plan shows what measures the Zeon Group is implementing in relation to the Seven Core Subjects, which embody society's expectations.

In the future, we will further the dissemination of the CSR Implementation Plan both within and outside the Zeon Group, and implement activities aimed at helping all stakeholders to understand Zeon's CSR measures.

Structure of Zeon Group's CSR Implementation Plan



Initiatives for the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020

While addressing the remaining challenges stated as "Items for future implementation" in the CSR Implementation Plan, we will monitor how close we are to the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020. We will then consider what we need to do next to achieve the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 and update the items for future implementation.

Enterprise Blueprint for 2020

Zeon makes the Future Today through the Power of Chemistry

Zeon will continue to contribute to the realization of customer dreams and a prosperous society through employees' individual growth.

Formulating the Enterprise Blueprint for 2030 CSR Matrix

As noted above, the Zeon Group formulated the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 and related targets in relation to ISO 26000's Seven Core Subjects, and has been implementing progress management. While it is anticipated that the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 will, broadly speaking, be realized by comparison with the situation 10 years ago when the Blueprint was formulated, there have been major changes in terms of what society now expects from business enterprises. With the growth of ESG investment, the focus on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other sustainability objectives, CSR perspectives have become diversified, and there has been a transformation in how issues are weighted and prioritized.

With this in mind, in order to establish new goals for 2030 and focus on the SDGs, the Zeon Group has formulated an Enterprise Blueprint for 2030 and new targets, so as to further develop the issues and targets that were enunciated in the Enterprise Blueprint for 2020. It is anticipated that the new CSR Matrix will demonstrate linkage with the 17 SDGs.

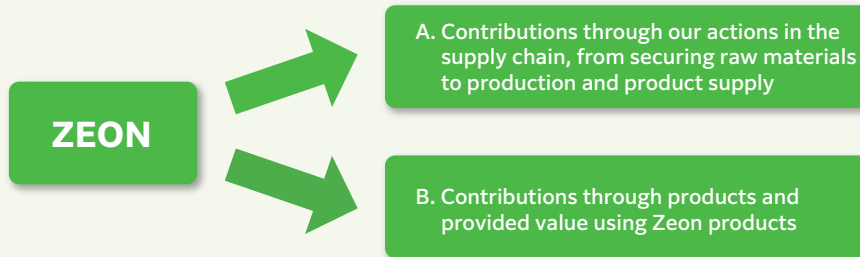
More specifically, ways in which corporate activities contribute towards the realization of the 17 SDGs will be identified, and the extent of the contribution made will be quantified. By reviewing the materiality and setting quantitative and qualitative goals linked to the company's business plan, we will implement progress management with respect to the realization of the Enterprise Blueprint for 2030.

Through the implementation of activities aimed at the realization of these goals, we aim to be able to share our results with the many other enterprises and organizations in the world that seek to make a contribution towards the SDGs.

Correlation between the SDGs and Zeon's business activities

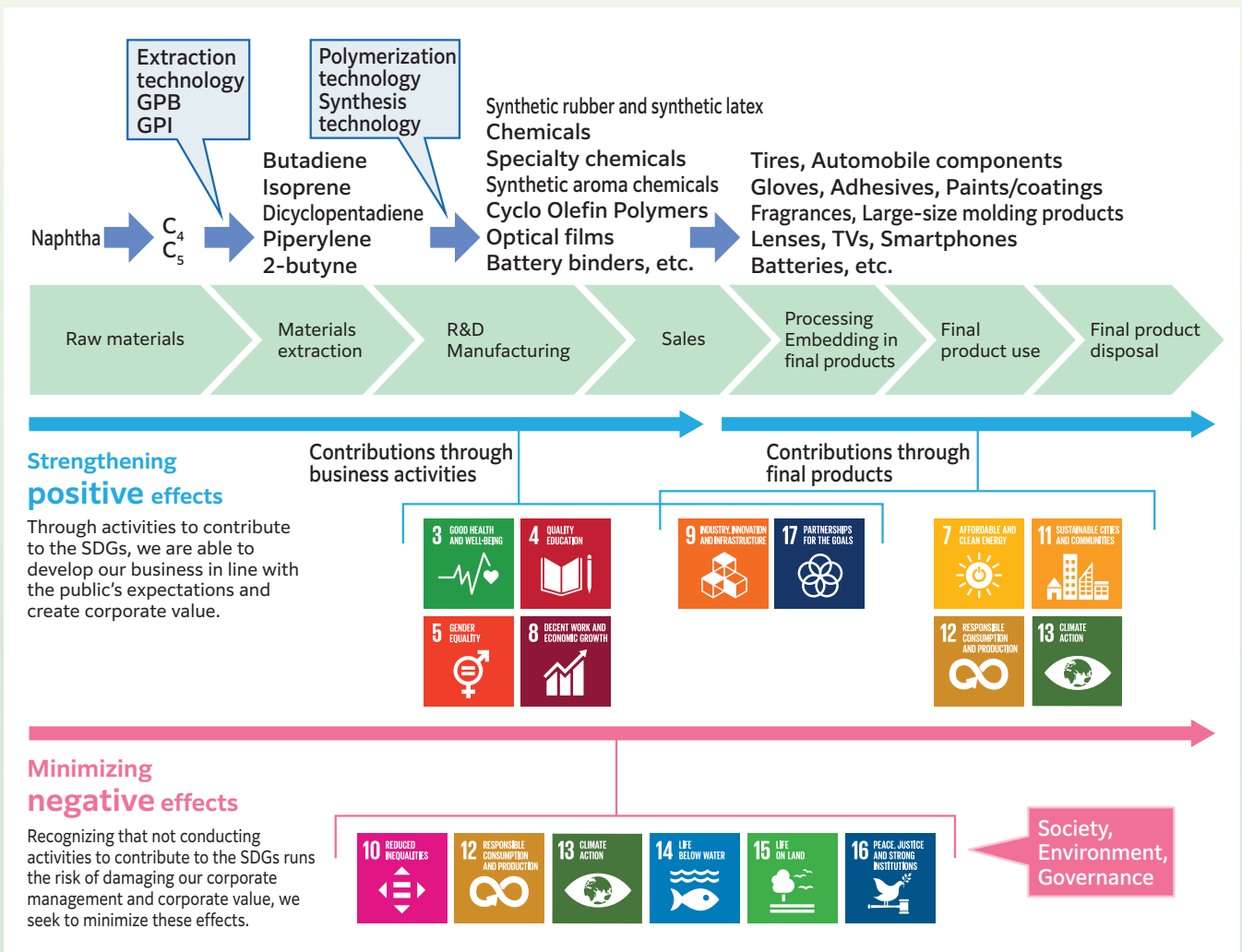
A large number of people and organizations are involved in the supply chain, from obtaining the raw materials to production and product supply that form Zeon's business activities. In this process, there are areas where we can exercise our influence. Many of our products are also used in other products, including automobiles and buildings. There are ways in which our value can contribute to resolving issues faced by society.

Zeon is a company that provides materials to companies, and we contribute to resolving issues faced by society throughout all of our business activities.



17 SDGs in Zeon's value chain

This shows how the 17 SDGs are oriented in the Zeon Group's value chain. We will review this relationship for each business going forward.



Environment

Visit our corporate website for more information
 Environment
http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/environment.html



Environmental CSR Matrix (Excerpt)

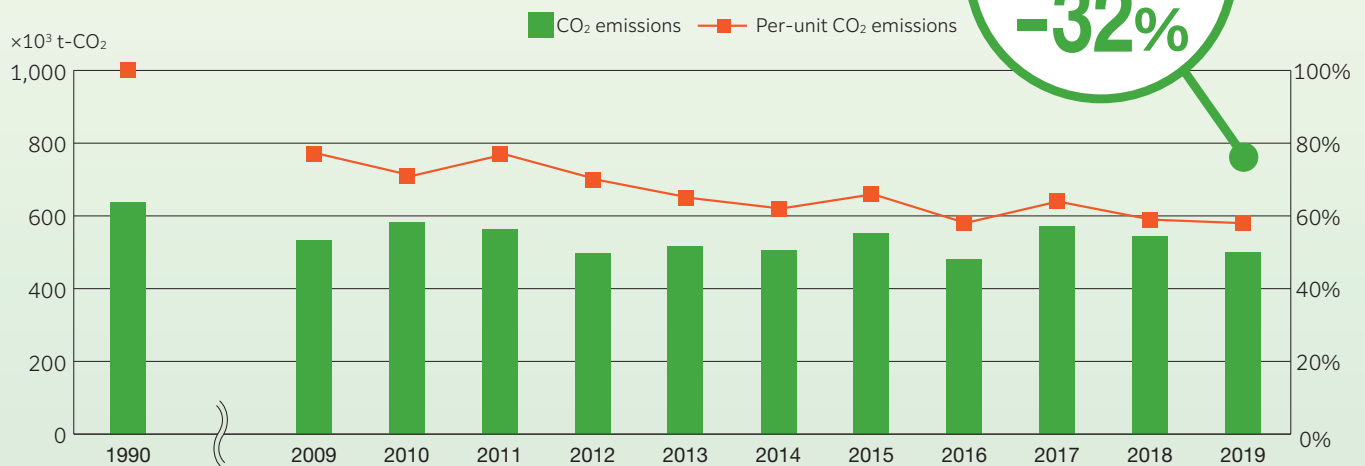
Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 To meet the expectations of society	Details of current activities (■: Completed, △: Ongoing)	Future initiatives and targets
Further improving how society sees us by reducing our environmental impact and promoting energy conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Reduce emissions of hazardous substances, reduce impacts on atmospheric and water environments, and conduct PRTR activities △ Improve energy conservation in Responsible Care audits, the Safety Management System, the Environment Management System based on ISO 14001, and the Energy Conservation Implementation Committee △ Develop and launch products that contribute to reducing environmental impacts and conserving energy (including S-SBR for fuel-efficient tires, low-temperature fixing toners, cleaning solvents and etching gases with zero ozone depletion potential, and binders for lithium-ion rechargeable batteries) △ Green procurement activities (check whether substances contain banned substances and substances that are regulated by laws and regulations and the RoHS Directive, etc.) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement activities group-wide to reduce environmental load 2. Conduct environmental management using the multiple systems noted on the left 3. Research and development that address environmental issues faced by society 4. Examine the sustainability of resource procurement including oil and water

Reducing environmental impacts

We comply with emissions standards for substances with environmental impact based on the Japanese Energy Conservation Act, Air Pollution Control Act, Water Pollution Control Act, PRTR Act, and agreements with local authorities (voluntary management standards).

We are taking steps to continue reducing our per-unit CO₂ emissions by an average of 1% per year compared with FY 1990.

● CO₂ emissions and Per-unit CO₂ emissions (FY 1990 comparison)



Developing environmentally friendly products

At Zeon, we are continuing to conduct R&D with the objective of developing and launching environmentally friendly products.

Up to FY 2018, we have successfully developed S-SBR for fuel-efficient tires, low-temperature fixing toners, cleaning solvents and etching gases with zero ozone depletion potential, and binders for lithium-ion rechargeable batteries. In the years ahead, we will continue to engage in R&D that attempts to address environment-related social issues.

Human Rights



Visit our corporate website for more information

Human Rights
http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/humanrights.html

Human Rights CSR Matrix (Excerpt)

Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 To meet the expectations of society	Details of current activities (■: Completed, △: Ongoing)	Future initiatives and targets
Sharing respect for human rights within Zeon Group and in the supply chain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The section on respect for the Zeon Group Human Rights Policy has been shared with all Zeon Group companies and Zeon Group business partners, and compliance with the prohibitions on child labor and forced labor are confirmed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Become a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact ■ Establish the Zeon Group Human Rights Policy △ Continue conducting CSR education including holding CSR informational sessions and confirming understanding through e-learning 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promote activities aligned with the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the Zeon Group Human Rights Policy throughout Zeon Group.

Ensuring compliance is established as the first priority of the Zeon CSR Policy, and we will meet the public's expectations by having all employees act with awareness of CSR. We endeavor to engage in fair operating practices, and our CSR Code of Conduct clearly defines related matters including compliance with antitrust regulations and a prohibition on entertaining and offering gifts to overseas civil servants.

The Compliance Committee advances Zeon's compliance efforts. The Compliance Committee has three subcommittees, namely the Antitrust Law Regulatory Subcommittee, the Export Security Control Subcommittee, and the Corporate Governance Subcommittee. Each subcommittee is performing its function.

In July 2019, we became a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact, and in August 2019 we established and released the Zeon Group Human Rights Policy. We strive to be a company that understands and accepts diverse values, and where no person is discriminated against based on gender, age, nationality, or other attribute.

● Compliance system



Fair Operating Practices



Visit our corporate website for more information

Fair Operating Practices
http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/suppliers.html

Fair Operating Practices CSR Matrix (Excerpt)

Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 To meet the expectations of society	Details of current activities (■: Completed, △: Ongoing)	Future initiatives and targets
Ensuring compliance and ethical corporate activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance awareness is established, and Zeon acts with high ethical standards based on being a model for society Information is disclosed quickly and appropriately, and market value has increased Appropriately manage confidential information including trade secrets and personal information Select business partners based on the CSR Procurement Guidelines and periodically confirm the Guidelines' status of implementation Promoting understanding on the handling of intellectual property rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Enact and implement the Management Rule of Insider Trading and Timely Disclosure △ Comply with internal regulations including the Export Security Control Rules △ Appropriately implement regulations to comply with the Act on Prohibition of Private Monopolization and Maintenance of Fair Trade (Antimonopoly Act) △ Compliance with the Subcontract Act and the Act for Securing the Proper Operation of Worker Dispatching Undertakings (prevention of falsified contracts) △ Build a system that prohibits bribes △ Conduct CSR education including holding CSR informational sessions and legal compliance inspections △ Promptly disclose information (websites, briefings) △ Operation of information management systems △ Purchasing following the CSR Procurement Guidelines ■ Institute regulations on intellectual property rights and intellectual property management 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing compliance education Shift from compliance to sustainability with focus on the SDGs (promote understanding among management and establish among employees) To enhance the corporate brand and value <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the website (IR, CSR information) Strengthen the information communications structure (PR) Communicate information responsive to ESG investing (including CDP) Raise compliance awareness in the supply chain by continuing to conduct the CSR procurement questionnaire

● CSR Procurement

We have established the CSR Procurement Guidelines and Requests to Suppliers, which integrate CSR perspectives into our existing QCD*, and are taking steps to ensure CSR procurement.

We are conducting a survey of human rights measures at our business partners, and are working to build a supply chain CSR survey database. Based on this database, we will survey whether there are problems including with the work environment (human rights, health and safety, etc.), environmental destruction, and conflict minerals, and will collect and disclose information about our supply chain.

Looking ahead, we will consolidate our approach to supply chain management and build a system for sharing our CSR policies in order to embed CSR procurement throughout the supply chain.

* QCD: System of production management that controls and improves quality, cost, and delivery.

Labor Practices



Visit our corporate website for more information

Labor Practices

http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/employee.html

Labor Practices (Employment) CSR Matrix (Excerpt)

Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 To meet the expectations of society	Details of current activities (■: Completed, △: Ongoing)	Future initiatives and targets
Balancing individuals' work and private life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance is achieved between individuals' work and personal life. Create workplace environments in which people are motivated to perform by promoting diversity, implementing fair hiring and personnel systems, and encouraging dialogue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Introduce flex-time systems ■ Advancement of measures to support raising the next generation ■ Childcare support systems (shortened working hours, overtime restrictions and exemptions, sick care leave, working daycare hours, etc.) △ Return-to-work program for employees taking childcare and caregiving leave △ Active hiring of women, non-Japanese employees △ Implementation of employment for people with disabilities △ Expand re-employment system for employees reaching the age of mandatory retirement △ Support for employee skills and career development △ Initiatives for harassment prevention △ MD Committee activities by women members 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Further pursue dynamic work styles Create an environment that encourages taking of child and family care leave Introduce a work-from-home system Promote diversity-oriented management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further expand employment not tied to gender, nationality, race, age, disability, or other attribute Appoint more women employees to higher positions Initiatives to prevent harassment and improve communication competence Advance employment of older persons Develop an education system and expanded curriculum

Employment and diversity

Zeon Group respects diversity and strives to be a company in which everyone in our diverse team of employees is able to fully demonstrate their capacities. Our employees today have a range of backgrounds and perform their duties regardless of gender, age, and nationality.

We conduct diversity training for all employees to help create the capacity for diversity understanding. We also support employees who are balancing work with raising children and have acquired the Kurumin mark in Japan in recognition of this, based on the Act on Advancement of Measures to Support Raising Next-Generation Children.

HR development

Zeon's concept of "being the worker I want to be" embodies "persons to continually evolve by pursuing high goals based on independent thinking." Personnels are encouraged to set goals to become the worker they want to be, and we are modifying our education and training systems to allow them to bridge the gap between the current reality and their goals and facilitate goal-driven actions on a daily basis. By fairly evaluating what employees have accomplished and rewarding them accordingly, we aim for them to set even higher goals. With every personnel continuing to improve and demonstrating this in actions, we can create an even more capable workforce across Zeon.

TOPICS

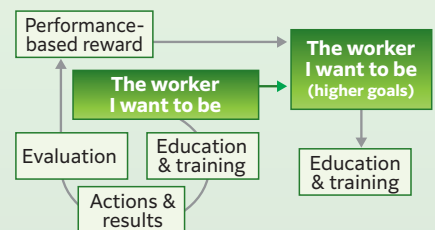
Advancement of women

In the action plan (plan period until March 2018) for general business operators in the Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace, we established targets for the issue of increasing the number of women employees. Based on our new plan, we will promote women's advancement from FY 2018.

New action plan targets

- Target 1: Achieve 30% women hires among new graduate hires
- Target 2: Conduct career plan workshops
- Target 3: Increase understanding for diversity management

● HR development at Zeon



Occupational safety

Labor Practices (Occupational Safety) CSR Matrix (Excerpt)

Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 To meet the expectations of society	Details of current activities (■: Completed, △: Ongoing)	Future initiatives and targets
<p>Promise of feelings of reward, safety, and security at work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place priority on individuals' physical and mental well-being, and support improved health Disaster prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All worksites have earned public trust by maintaining a safety record of zero incidents and accidents Safety education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Promotion of health management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure labor hours management to prevent excessive work Provide guidance on preventing lifestyle diseases and stress check tests Disaster prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Conduct emergency drills and other initiatives such as concluding disaster cooperation agreements △ Implement the Safety Management Improvement Master Plan △ Fully implement deterioration countermeasures and identify foolproof measures, and horizontally implement measures arising from cases of accidents at other companies and plants △ Eliminate safety incidents: Regularly conduct plant safety evaluations and audits Safety education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> △ Provide education to enhance accident prevention awareness, including education using accident case studies and hands-on training △ Promote the 5S's→3S's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further promotion of health and productivity management (Continue to be selected as a White 500 company, Enhance mental health education, and Implement further health promotion initiatives) Disaster prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement four safety activities conducted throughout Zeon Group in the supply chain Safety education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement the safety education and 3S's conducted throughout Zeon Group in the supply chain

A consistently safe work environment is the foundation of all production activities. We formulated our Safety Philosophy in 1997 based on the Responsible Care approach to guide our safety activities. Our Responsible Care Policy established in 1998 also clearly states, "Protecting the environment and ensuring safety are preconditions for all business activities and are the most important priorities."

Our goal is zero occupational accidents resulting in lost work time and zero serious accidents without lost work time. There were two lost-time occupational accidents in FY 2019. We are focusing on communication between worksite supervisors and workers, safety inspections, and hands-on education in order to achieve a safe and stable production system.

Safety and accident prevention

We conduct safety assessments and audits of plants, and provide training to enhance accident prevention awareness with the goal of achieving zero safety irregularities.

Each year, top management develops a Master Plan for Safety Management Improvements and leads initiatives to improve our Safety Management System based on the belief that ensuring safety is the greatest priority. Senior managers at Zeon visit plants on a regular basis to confirm the progress of improvement initiatives and hold informational meetings with workers to communicate directly with them. Top management visited plants over 46 days in FY 2019.

Safety in logistics

We are working to maintain our achieved goal of zero accidents in logistics.

At Zeon, we established Yellow Card Management Rules for transporting hazardous products. These rules require drivers to carry a Yellow Card*1 when transporting such products. We also conduct reporting and communication training for drivers, and each plant offers training on product handling to prevent accidents in logistics.

TOPICS

Holding the Zeon North Safety Conference (every May)

The primary business of Zeon North is plant engineering for the Zeon Group. Zeon North holds a safety conference for representatives of partner companies to deepen cooperation with them, enhancing safety awareness, spreading safety knowledge, and sharing information. Zeon North works together with all of its partner companies with the goal of building a culture in which all on-site workers have a strong awareness of safety and safety is always given the highest priority.



Zeon North Safety Conference



Zeon North Education Center

*1 Yellow Card: Document describing what to do if an accident occurs during transportation, as established by the Logistics Safety Management Policy of the Japan Chemical Industry Association. The document is called a Yellow Card because it is printed on yellow paper.

Community



Community
http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/community.html
 Site Reports
http://www.zeon.co.jp/csr_e/sitereport.html

We believe that contributing to the development of local communities and building strong relationships of trust are crucial to conducting stable business activities and creating improved products and services.

Zeon's approach to social contributions

We believe that social contributions are essentially carried out through our core businesses. As companies are members of society, however, the complex set of issues faced by society and a company's activities are not independent of one another. We are therefore undertaking social contribution activities outside of our core businesses to engage with society from a broader perspective.

In 2012, we launched CSR Core Projects, which are initiatives we selected from proposals submitted by Zeon Group companies. CSR Core Projects are activities that focus on social contributions outside the scope of our core businesses and provide employees with opportunities to turn their attention to social issues.

The Head Office plans various activities related to supporting reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake, as well as shared projects that are conducted across multiple plants and subsidiaries. Furthermore, plants and subsidiaries also conduct their own independent projects. We are developing activities in these three broad categories with a focus on their synergistic benefits.

● Social contributions at Zeon



Community CSR Matrix (Excerpt)

Enterprise Blueprint for 2020 To meet the expectations of society	Details of current activities (■: Completed, △: Ongoing)	Future initiatives and targets
Building positive relations through activities to foster coexistence with local communities	△ Develop CSR Core Projects (social contribution activities by Group as a whole, among locations, and at individual worksites) △ Maintain good community relations and have community exchanges • Sponsor and participate in community festivals and events including summer festivals at plants • Community cleanup activities • Plant tours (receive plant visitors, internships)	1. Develop the CSR Core Projects based on a defined Zeon Group activity policy Review social contribution activities (Whether to revise the recipients or the targets, and in the case of the targets, revise from the viewpoint of contributing to the 17 SDGs) 2. Maintain and expand exchanges with local communities 3. Through dialogue with stakeholders including local communities, identify expectations from society, the current level of meeting those expectations, and set targets

FY 2019 initiatives

① Activities with the local community

Each worksite and Group company engages in dialogue with the local community and conducts charity activities to become an established presence in the community and facilitate smooth business operations. Zeon Chemicals (Thailand) Co., Ltd. conducts communication activities with the local community, participates in local events, and makes charity donations.



2 Holding community events

Zeon places great importance on connections with local communities. Zeon's plants and Group companies hold various events including summer festivals and welcome opportunities to participate in community events.



Yamaguchi Broadcasting Co., Ltd

Every year, Zeon Corporation's Tokuyama Plant organizes the Zeon Waraku Odori Dance Festival. In FY 2020, the festival was canceled as part of our response to the COVID-19 epidemic. Instead of holding the festival, 1 million yen was donated to Shunan City.

3 Cleanup campaigns

With the goal of conducting activities that are beneficial and will please local communities, Zeon's plant and Group companies conduct community cleanup campaigns around their sites and beyond.



In Thailand, Zeon Advanced Polymix Co., Ltd. (ZAP) conducts volunteer cleanup activities not only in the vicinity of the plant, but also at local temples and neighboring public facilities.

4 Educational support

Zeon's plants and Group companies offer assistance to educational institutions with internships for high school, vocational high school, and university students, by welcoming plant tours for school groups, and by sending special instructors to give lessons at schools.



The Tohpe Corporation, holds plant tours for parents and children at its Ibaraki and Kurashiki plants.

5 Presentation of the PJ ZEON Award for outstanding academic papers

In 2005, Zeon Corporation established the PJ ZEON Award as part of the Award for the Outstanding Paper Published in the Polymer Journal (PJ Award), organized by The Society of Polymer Science, Japan (SPSJ). Every year, the PJ ZEON Award is presented to honor an outstanding academic paper published in the Polymer Journal. The purpose of the PJ ZEON Award is to encourage research by young scientists. Award-winners are chosen by a selection committee of third-party experts who have no connection with Zeon Corporation's business activities.

<https://main.spsj.or.jp/c15/pjzaward/pjzjyuichiran-e.htm>

The Award-winners have the opportunity to engage in discussion and exchange of ideas with Zeon Corporation's young researchers.



6 Chemistry classrooms

Based on the motto of "nurturing future Nobel Prize winners in chemistry," we are holding chemistry experiment classrooms in various areas to communicate the appeal of chemistry to children.



Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa participated in the 2019 Youth Science Festival in Yamagata. Children made aromatic air fresheners using our synthetic fragrances.

7 Volunteer tours to provide support for disaster-affected areas

Since 2012, Zeon Corporation has continued to organize volunteer tours to support recovery in areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011.



Four tours were held in FY 2019, with a total of 65 volunteers participating. Tour participants traveled to Ishinomaki, Minami-sanriku and Kesenuma to provide support for fisheries and agricultural work, while also visiting the local history museums to experience earthquake education programs.



Cover photo:

Zeon Corporation Takaoka Plant

Established in 1956, this plant is leading Zeon Group producing specialty synthetic rubbers and semiconductor-related products. The affiliated companies Optes Inc. and Zeon Medical Inc. are also located in the same area. This plant has an R&D focus, with the Precision Optics Laboratory, Production Technology Laboratory, and Medical Research Institute operating within it. This enables greater integration between research and manufacturing to shorten the product development timeline.

Main products

Specialty synthetic rubbers,
semiconductor-related products

ZEON

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