

Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa Co., Ltd.

Company Profile

Business Description

Manufacture and sale of perfumes and pharmaceutical and agrochemical intermediates, manufacture and sale of RIM blended solutions

Established in 1996 as a producer of fine chemical products, Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa began production of synthetic aroma chemicals in 1997 and reaction injection molding (RIM) compounds in 1998.

No. of Employees

As of March 31, 2021: 34 (32 men, 2 women)

Hiring in FY2020: 1 (1 man, 0 woman)



Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa Co., Ltd.

Product image



Product image
Perfumes made
with synthetic

Molded product
made with RIM
compound

Company Policy (Executive Message)

Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa is the only Zeon Group production base in northern Japan. With FY2021 being the first year of implementation of the new Medium-Term Business Plan, and given that, as a production company, the maintenance and improvement of the systems for ensuring stable, safe production is a key issue affecting our ability to fulfil our responsibilities, our company policy for FY2021 has been set as “maintain our record of zero incidents and zero accidents, and achieve our targets for the first year of implementation of the new Medium-Term Business Plan, looking ahead to 2030.”

Reflecting our Enterprise Blueprint for 2030 and the Medium-Term Business Plan, we have identified the following priority issues, and all employees will be working to address them.

1. Achieve zero incidents and no accidents, and provide support for employee health improvement
2. Eliminate the “3Ms” (*Muda, Mura, Muri*; Waste, Unevenness, and Overburden), and aim to enhance real operational efficiency
3. Undertake quality improvement from a customer-focused perspective
4. Aim to enhance problem-solving capabilities by pooling the collective wisdom of all employees
5. Complete contract research work and contribute toward the growth strategy of the business division to which we belong
6. Implement activities in line with society’s and employees’ expectations



President
Yoshiaki Aimura

Safety Initiatives

Policy

With a commitment to the basics, create stable, safe, and comfortable workplaces.

Specific Initiatives

Increased sensory awareness through hands-on education

• Provide controlled combustion and explosion experience with alkyl aluminum (category 3 hazardous substance), which we use in manufacturing, in cooperation with the fire department and a chemicals manufacturer, as a safe hazard experience activity.



Hands-on education

Strengthen awareness using experiential education

• We are introducing a system which enables employees to experience hazardous events safely and effectively, using virtual reality (VR) technology to recreate the senses of hearing, vision and touch, and using this VR experience to provide awareness-raising hazard experiences.



Environmental Impact Reductions

Policy

Maintain record of zero emissions, and conduct activities to reduce our environmental impact.

Specific Initiatives

1. Maintain record of zero emissions

- Recycle and reuse resources
- Practice thermal recycling

2. Reduce CO₂ emissions

- Reduce electric power consumption and evaluate the adoption of photovoltaic solar power systems

3. Environmental data

* "0" indicates less than 0.5 tons, and "0.0" indicates less than 0.05 tons

Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa Co., Ltd.		FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
Substances subject to the PRTR Act	No. of substances	4	5	6	5	6
	Consumption (tons)	1,576	4,544	2,787	3,880	2,474
	Emissions (tons)	0.6	1.5	1.0	1.4	0.5
Industrial waste	Amount generated before compacting (tons)	180	232	284	215	329
	Amount sent to landfills (tons)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water resource consumption (1,000 m ³) (industrial water + groundwater + waterworks)		14	18	16	14	16
CO ₂ emissions (tons)		1,716	2,089	1,927	1,804	1,837
Energy consumption (crude oil equivalent, kL)		720	876	864	792	807
Electricity consumption (1,000 kWh)		1,820	2,001	1,800	1,758	1,787

* In conjunction with the increase in production volume, CO₂ emissions and energy consumption have increased since FY2017.

Relationship with Employees

Policy

We aim to cultivate human talent who set themselves challenging goals, and implement education and training with a focus on day-to-day improvement activities.

Specific Initiatives

1. Invigoration of ZΣ cycle activities

The Zeon Group uses the name “ZΣ Activities” to refer to quality control activities. At Zeon Chemicals Yonezawa, we hold annual presentations to showcase the achievements of our ZΣ Activities, and the members of a representative ZΣ Activities team are sent to attend the Group-wide presentation; in this way, we aim to strengthen employees’ awareness of the need for ongoing improvement, and to enhance overall employee problem-solving skill levels.

2. Naseba-naru Awards (in-house commendations)

Naseba-naru Awards are given to employees who have demonstrated significant results, including implementing improvements and creating systems, safety and 5S’s, and corporate culture reforms. Six employees received the commendation in FY2018, five in FY2019, and four in FY2020. The meaning of Naseba-naru comes from a quote by Uesugi Yozan, the head of the Yonezawa domain during the mid-Edo Period, who is remembered for achieving financial and other reforms of the domain. He famously said, “If you put your mind to it, you can do it” (Naseba-naru in Japanese).

Relationship with the Local Community

We participate actively in activities that make a contribution to the local community, to fulfill society’s expectations.

Specific Initiatives

Participation in community events

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the experiment classes for children and Uesugi Snow Lantern Festival activities that we normally participate in were cancelled this year. However, we did participate in a career experience event at local high schools, using flasks and beakers for a distillation experiment with herbs, and providing a virtual experience of working at a chemical plant.

