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## **ZEON Corporation Advances its Environmental Safety Efforts at Kawasaki Plant Adjacent to the Tokyo Metropolitan Area**

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July 20, 2007

ZEON Corporation has installed an advanced industrial waste treatment facility at its Kawasaki Plant in the Keihin Industrial Complex. The plant is the first to incorporate a dry distillation type incinerator in Kawasaki City. It was certified as an industrial waste treatment facility by the city government on July 10 and will begin full operation on July 20.

The installation of the facility represents ZEON's ongoing environmental safety efforts to realize an "environmentally friendly plant in urban area".

The Kawasaki Plant was the first to commercially produce specialty rubber (acrylonitril butadiene rubber) in Japan in 1959. It is located in the Keihin industrial complex near the Tokyo Metropolitan Area and ZEON has been continuing its efforts to reduce emissions of hazardous chemical substances from the plant to the atmosphere.

In particular, as a specialty rubber plant, the Kawasaki Plant plays an important role to supply safety-critical components in meeting the recent economic strength of the automobile industry. ZEON has been paying close attention to the impact of production activities on the environment and expanded facilities that further reduced the emissions of chemical substances (facilities to reduce emissions of acrylonitril and butadiene were installed in April 2004 and January 2005, respectively). In February 2007, the Kawasaki Plant doubled the capacity of its wastewater treatment facility for treating all nitrogen components contained in wastewater.

As part of its resource and energy conservation efforts toward being an environmentally friendly urban plant, the plant also expanded its co-generation facility in December 2005 and has significantly boosted the efficiency of plant operations while reducing CO2 emissions.

As one of its environmental protection activities toward becoming an environmentally friendly urban plant, the plant installed an advanced industrial waste treatment facility.

This dry distillation type incinerator has the advantage of dramatically reducing emissions such as carbon monoxide, NOx, SOx, and dioxin compared with conventional furnaces by gasifying and burning industrial waste. The plant leverages the characteristics of this type of furnace and focuses on sound environmental design. While

providing the capacity for treating nearly the same volume of industrial waste as conventional facilities, the new plant emits one-tenth of the concentration of hazardous substances and reduces gas emissions by 40%. The Kawasaki Plant will continue to pursue additional environmental protection activities to become an environmentally friendly urban plant with the goal of steadily improving toward zero emissions. The plant is applying for a subsidy of 10% of the total investment (800 million yen) from Kanagawa Prefecture.

 **For further information**

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