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TOKYO, JAPAN . ZEON CORPORATION's new process solvent, Cyclopentyl methyl ether (CPME) was awarded the bronze prize in the CPhI Innovation Awards at CPhI Worldwide 2010 held in Paris on October 5th, 2010. It has been confirmed that CPME contributes to Process Innovation and Green Chemistry in pharmaceutical industry.

1) Process Innovation

In a process using traditional water-miscible ether solvents, a separate extraction solvent is necessary. On the other hand, CPME can be used not only as a reaction solvent but also as an extraction solvent because CPME is not miscible with water. (CPME can be used as a crystallization solvent as well if needed.) This means that CPME can shorten and simplify total processes, which contributes to Process Innovation. In addition, fixed cost can be reduced by saving cycle time and facilities.

2) Green Chemistry

CPME makes a quite clear separation of water phase and organic phase because it is not miscible with water, which means CPME can reduce waste water and waste solvents as well as total amount of solvents used. Accordingly, carbon dioxide emissions and variable cost can be also decreased. Another important property of CPME is low peroxide formation. CPME thus contributes to Green Chemistry.

ZEON began commercial production of CPME in 2005. After that, adoptions of CPME have been steadily increasing in pharmaceutical industry as well as electronic and fragrance ones, being used as an alternative to traditional ether solvents. This award would be conducive for the further growth of CPME demand. We declare continuous contribution to the progress of chemical industry and global environmental protection through market penetration of CPME.

More about CPME :

http://www.zeon.co.jp/business_e/enterprise/spechemi/spechemi5-13.html

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