

Air and Water Quality

We are continuing our efforts to reduce the burden on the environment, and when installing a new plant or expanding a plant, we try our best to prevent any increase in this burden through technological improvements. We will continue to make additional efforts in the future.

Progress on reducing atmospheric pollution includes improvements in SOx and NOx emissions. The Tokuyama Plant has achieved better SOx emissions through a switch to lower sulfur fuel for its boilers in 2008. Reductions in NOx emissions, however, are a consequence of lower production rather than improved technology.

In terms of water pollution, the shutdown of PVC production at Takaoka Plant has reduced the total volume of water discharges.

Waste water quality continues to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act and agreements with local authorities.

COD is a measure of organic compounds contained in

waste water and we have succeeded in reducing our emissions through operating practices that balance the load on activated sludge and because the shutdown of PVC production has reduced the load.

Regarding total nitrogen levels in waste water, new nitrogen elimination equipment was installed in 2007 to counter an increase in production at the Kawasaki Plant of products such as NBR (acrylonitrile and butadiene rubber) that are associated with high output of waste water by-products, and this showed results in 2008 in the form of a higher rate of nitrogen removal. We are working on further improvements and tighter management.

