

ZEON Group (Japan)

RIMTEC CORPORATION

Introduction to the RIMTEC CORPORATION

RIMTEC CORPORATION is a wholly owned subsidiary of ZEON Corporation headquartered in Tokyo. It has a subsidiary, ZEON Rim Co., Ltd., and laboratory located on the premises of ZEON Mizushima Plant's plant No. 2, and also has three overseas sales centers, one at Telene S.A.S., a subsidiary in France with an R&D arm, one at ZEON Trading (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. in Shanghai, China, and one at ZCLP in the U.S.

The company's core business is the global development and sales of PENTAM[®], METTON[®], and TELENE[®] liquid molding resins for reaction injection molding (RIM). These products use high-quality dicyclopentadiene (DCPD) as their main ingredient, which is extracted from C5 fractions* using ZEON Mizushima Plant's proprietary technologies.

RIM is an innovative means of producing large molded parts in which polymerization of DCPD and molding take place at the same time in the mold. Reaction injection molded DCPD-based plastics have a smaller environmental footprint than thermoplastics as they can be molded using only half the energy.



President Masanori Sakurai



* C5 fractions

Hydrocarbon molecules containing five carbon atoms. They are the byproduct of thermal cracking, or breaking down, of naphtha, and also include ingredients for raw materials of synthetic rubber and resin.

Environmental and Safety Activities

1. Energy Conservation

RIMTEC's Mizushima Plant is working with ZEON Rim to reduce their collective energy consumption. In 2012, as in fiscal 2011, the two sites turned off unused lights and devices, and engaged in measures to reduce industrial waste. In fiscal 2012, there was a temporary increase in waste due to the decommissioning of facilities with inferior energy efficiency. However, the disposal of these facilities will make it possible for these two sites to reduce energy usage by another 10%. They hope to contribute more to the global environment through efforts like these.

2. R&D for the Global Environment

Since plastics created with RIMTEC products consume less energy than thermoplastics, we will continue our contribution to the global environment through active research and development. In fiscal 2012, a decision was made to employ combined purification tanks in Suzhou, China. This will benefit the global environment as it will reduce energy usage and preserve water quality.

3. Environmental Data

RIMTEC CORPORATION		FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012
Substances covered by PRTR law	Number of substances	0	0	0	0	0
	Consumption (tons)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Amount emitted (tons)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Industrial waste	Amount generated (before volume reduction) (tons)	149	48	52	29	52
	Amount sent to landfill (tons)	66	1.9	3.6	3.4	15
Water resources (Industrial water + Ground water + Waterworks) consumption (1,000 m ³)		-	-	-	4.4	3.6
CO ₂ emissions (tons)		673	213	187	167	188
Energy consumption (crude oil equivalent, kL)		281	180	160	145	160

Activities with the Local Community

1. Participation in Omoshiro Taiken (Fun Experience)

RIMTEC, Okayama University and ZEON Mizushima had a joint booth at the Omoshiro Taiken (fun experience), an annual summer vacation event held at Techno Support Okayama. Around 1,000 people, mainly children accompanied by their families, experienced a mysterious liquid which changes into plastic.

Through these events, the company aims to convey to children, the innovators of the future, the enjoyment and the miracles of science, and also promote interest in creating things, which will thereby contribute to the industry's ongoing development.

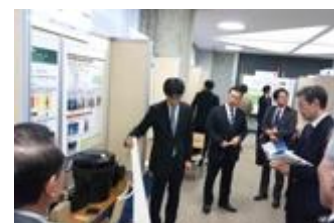


Children participating in Omoshiro Taiken

2. R&D through industry-academia collaborations

RIMTEC's Mizushima research lab is continuing joint research with the local Okayama University. In fiscal 2012, RIMTEC had its own booth at the Okayama University Knowledge Fair 2012, where it showcased the fruit of its research. People from all areas, including the corporate and government sectors, those associated with the university, and students, attended the fair and showed keen interest in RIMTEC's innovative technologies.

At Okayama University, research is being carried out through collaboration between industry and academia. The institute is briskly moving forward with contributions to industry through the development of new technologies. RIMTEC also plans to forge ahead with the development of new technologies through industry-academia collaborations.



RIMTEC booth at Okayama University Knowledge Fair in 2012

3. Creating New Industry in the Chugoku Region

To bring the results of our joint research with academia closer to practical deployment, in fiscal 2011 we began holding regular study meetings with Okayama University and the Chugoku Industrial Innovation Center. We continued these efforts in fiscal 2012 and hope to spur progress toward creating new industry founded on technologies developed in the Chugoku region, and in so doing revitalize the local economy.



One of many study meetings to be held with Okayama University and the Chugoku Industrial Innovation Center