

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.



President Masanori Sakurai

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.

*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 2011, the two sites were able to reduce their carbon footprint by 10% by turning off unused lights and devices, reducing industrial waste, and taking measurements on a regular basis. 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. This fiscal year, in Europe and Japan we commenced development for product applications in the wind power field to contribute more to energy conservation. The blades of the wind turbine depicted in the photo uses a plastic produced by RIMTEC.



This wind turbine uses a RIMTEC plastic

3. Environmental Data

RIMTEC CORPORATION		FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011
Substances covered by PRTR law	Number of substances	0	0	0	0	0
	Consumption (tons)	0	0	0	0	0
	Amount emitted (tons)	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial waste	Amount generated (before volume reduction) (tons)	263	149	48	52	29
	Amount sent to landfill (tons)	150	66	1.9	3.6	3.4
Water resources (Industrial water + Ground water + Waterworks) consumption (1,000 m³)		-	-	-	-	167
CO₂ emissions (tons)		878	673	213	187	145
Energy consumption (crude oil equivalent, kL)		366	281	180	160	-

Activities with the Local Community

1. Collaborating in Research with Academia

RIMTEC's Mizushima laboratory has assigned a researcher to conduct joint research at Okayama University. In fiscal 2011 we presented the results of our joint research at the university's "Knowledge Fair" where manufacturing innovation at RIMTEC drew the interest of local stakeholders and students with a future in science.



Exhibiting at "Knowledge Fair"

2. 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. As we continue these efforts in the coming years we hope to spur progress toward creating a 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