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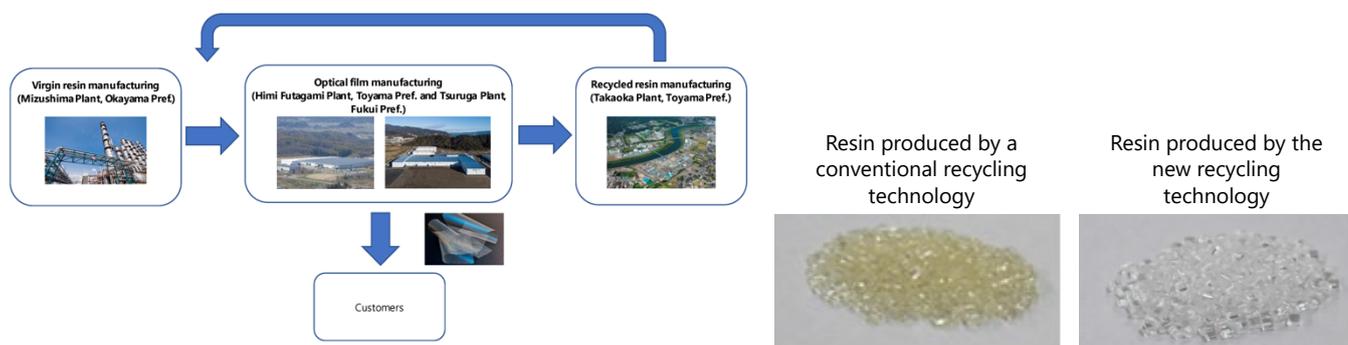
**Zeon Establishes Proprietary Technology for Recycling Cyclo Olefin Polymers
Recycling Plant to Come Online in 2024 at the Takaoka Plant**

Zeon Corporation

Zeon Corporation (President and CEO: Kimiaki Tanaka) has developed a proprietary technology for recycling cyclo olefin polymers (COP). The new recycling technology has enabled Zeon to overcome the longstanding challenge of maintaining transparency and high purity to produce recycled COP having a quality equivalent to that of virgin resin. Construction of a recycling plant with an annual production capacity of 6,000 tonnes will begin in October 2022 at the site of the Takaoka Plant in Toyama Prefecture toward the scheduled start of operations in August 2024. The amount of CO₂ emissions from the manufacture of recycled resin is approximately 12,000 tonnes lower than that of virgin resin.

Zeon’s cyclo olefin polymers (COP) have excellent optical and chemical properties (product names: ZEONEX® and ZEONOR®) and are used in a wide range of applications, from optical lenses and films to healthcare and biotechnology, and have garnered highly favorable reviews. Zeon has been using its proprietary melt extrusion technology to manufacture optical films (product name: ZeonorFilm®), which continue to enjoy robust demand from expansion in the market due to the growing size of displays. The new recycling technology developed by Zeon will be used to recycle waste resin generated when manufacturing optical films.

Plastic recycling has become a major societal challenge, and expectations were particularly high in the area of optical applications for establishing technology that can provide the required quality. The quality of recycled resin produced by the new recycling technology has been confirmed to be equivalent to that of virgin resin in terms of transparency and purity. Zeon plans to reuse the recycled resin to manufacture optical films in response to the robust demand that is expected to continue.



Zeon upholds its Corporate Philosophy of “Contributing to the preservation of the Earth and the prosperity of the human race” and endeavors to become “a company that lives up to societal expectations and the aspirations of employees,” as stated in its Vision for 2030 under the Medium-Term Business Plan that began in fiscal 2021. The new technology and operation of the recycling plant will not only lead to further differentiating its COP but will also contribute to realizing a sustainable society by reusing waste resin and reducing CO₂ emissions during manufacturing. In keeping with its name, derived from the Greek words “geo” (Earth) and “eon” (eternity), Zeon will contribute to environmental sustainability along with safe and comfortable living by providing innovative technologies, products, and services.

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