Sumitomo Chemical to Build Aluminum Titanate DPF Plant in Poland

Sumitomo Chemical has decided to build a new plant to produce aluminum titanate diesel particulate filters ("DPF") at its subsidiary Sumika Ceramics Poland Sp. z o.o., which was established this September. DPFs are used for filtering soot from the exhaust of vehicles with diesel engines. The plant is scheduled to begin operations in the third quarter of 2013.

In Europe, the Euro6 exhaust gas emissions regulation, one of the strictest in the world, is due to take effect in 2014. Under Euro6, the adoption of DPFs will be mandated as standard equipment mounted on diesel-powered vehicles in Europe. As the regulations going forward are intensified, this mandatory requirement is likely to extend to commercial and off-road vehicles as well.

Sumitomo Chemical's aluminum titanate DPF outperforms the current mainstream silicon carbide DPFs in various properties such as soot mass limit^{*1} and thermal shock resistance.^{*2} Since the Company successfully developed this proprietary aluminum titanate DPF in 2009, it has steadily advanced commercialization efforts by providing samples to automobile manufacturers and initiating construction in March 2011 of a mother plant at the Ehime Works in Japan with an annual production capacity of 170,000 units. Given that the Company's DPFs have already received a high assessment in evaluation testing by automobile manufacturers, Sumitomo Chemical plans to build the new plant in Poland and embark on full-scale sales in early 2014 in the European market where demand is expected to expand.

Sumitomo Chemical is promoting the initiatives of "Creative Hybrid Chemistry" which combines the Company's core technologies to create new technologies and products in an effort to contribute to resolving environmental problems and addressing other global-scale challenges. The Company intends to grow DPFs into one of its future core businesses by capitalizing on a variety of its advanced technological expertise, including the inorganic materials functional design technologies it has cultivated in its alumina products and other inorganic materials business, and the high-precision processing technology developed through the IT-related chemicals business.

*1. The amount of soot that can be continuously filtered.

*2. The DPF's ability to withstand sudden changes in temperature when it undergoes regeneration through incineration of the trapped soot.

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Company name:	Sumika Ceramics Poland Sp. z o.o.
Location:	Republic of Poland
Capital:	1.6 million PLN
Shareholding:	Sumitomo Chemical 100%
Established	September 30, 2011
Business fields:	Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF)
	manufacturing, sales, and technical
	services
President:	Yoshio Tomomasa (General Manager,
	Inorganic Materials Division, Sumitomo
	Chemical)