

Sumitomo Chemical Announces Startup of Taiwan MMA Sheet Subsidiary

Sumitomo Chemical has announced that its Taiwanese subsidiary for the manufacture and sale of methyl methacrylate (MMA) sheet, Sumipex TechSheet Co., Ltd. (Sumipex TechSheet), started operations this January 13th, following its acquisition of the MMA sheet business from Jih Mei Enterprise Co., Ltd. in Taiwan.

Sumitomo Chemical positions its MMA business as a mainstay of its Basic Chemicals Sector, and is actively developing this business focusing on Asia. The Company operates facilities for manufacturing MMA monomer and MMA polymer in Singapore and Korea, and has been expanding these facilities in stages. The MMA sheet business, a segment of the MMA polymer business, is expected to see increasing demand mainly for applications in optical materials for LCD displays, signboards, lighting, construction materials, and store fixtures. Sumitomo Chemical's MMA sheet operations have thus far centered on Japan and Thailand where the Company has a subsidiary, Sumipex (Thailand) Co., Ltd., and establishing the new Taiwan subsidiary will enable the Company to reinforce supply capabilities to meet the diverse needs of its customers in Asia, America, Europe and Oceania in a timely manner.

Sumitomo Chemical will continue to actively pursue the globalization of not only its MMA monomer business, but also downstream sheet operations in order to strengthen the competitiveness of and further expand its MMA business.

Overview of Sumipex TechSheet

Company name:	Sumipex TechSheet Co., Ltd.
Headquarters:	Nantze Export Processing Zone, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
President:	President Tsuyoshi Masuda
Capital:	NT\$ 273 million (approx. ¥740 million)
Ownership:	Sumitomo Chemical 100%
Established:	August 2008
Business:	Manufacture and sale of MMA sheet
Production capacity:	10,000 tons/yr.
Number of employees:	76 persons (as of January 2009)