ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Japan Chemical Industry Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

October 23 is Chemistry Day

Nikka-chan
JCIA's official character

* In this report, JCIA is an abbreviated term for the Japan Chemical Industry Association which is our official name.

Editor's Policy

The JCIA Annual Report is released each year to broadly inform all stakeholders, including members, of JCIA activities. In editing the report, we have endeavored to provide easy-to-understand reports on the activities of each committee and JCIA's various efforts to build a sustainable society. There are also plans to issue the JCIA Annual Report Reference Material, a compilation of various data related to JCIA activities, in fall or later.




Contents

Scope of the report

Activities of the Japan Chemical Industry Association

Period covered

This report is based on activities and initiatives in FY2023 (April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024).

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Inquiries

Public Relations Department
TEL 03-3297-2555 FAX 03-3297-2615
https://www.nikkakyo.org/

List of publications

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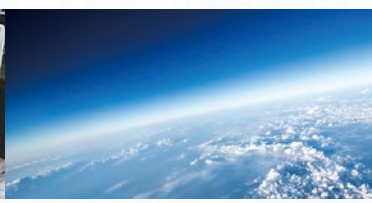



Top message

Contribute to the creation of sustainable societies by pursuing GX initiatives

As an essential industry that provides a stable supply of products necessary for society, the chemical industry must not only respond to social and economic issues, but also meet society's expectations as a solution provider that contributes to GX (Green Transformation), including the realization of carbon neutrality, and as a driving force in the creation of new environmental value.

In view of this, JCIA will promote activities under the three priority themes of "pursuing of GX initiatives," "promoting of international cooperation," and "steady implementing of safety and chemical management initiatives."

01

Pursuing of GX initiatives

With various GX initiatives already underway at Japanese chemical companies, we will be keeping a close watch on government activities and global trends in related fields. We will also be working with the government in formulating a roadmap to carbon neutrality by 2050 based on leveraging technological developments in support of carbon neutrality and promoting recycling economies.

In addition, to realize a carbon-neutral, recycling-oriented society, it is necessary to make large capital investments, switch raw materials and fuels, and incur commensurate costs, which require cooperation throughout the supply chain and institutional design to support these efforts. Most importantly, it is essential to foster a society that broadly accepts "environmental value," that is, the added value of products in terms of the environment, including the general consumers who use the final products.

As a means of facilitating the understanding of such "environmental value," we will conduct activities to promote the so-called "visualization," of carbon footprint (CFP), which enables quantitative evaluation of GHG emissions and contribution to environmental impact, utilizing the calculation guidelines compiled by the chemical industry. We will also be testing a registration system of recycled chemical materials to improve public recognition of recycled products and achieve recycling of chemical products as soon as possible, hoping through these efforts to communicate to society the importance and benefits of the chemical industry.

02

Promoting of international cooperation

As issues common to the chemical industry in Japan and around the world emerge toward the realization of a sustainable society, it is necessary to further promote international cooperation in resolving these issues.

We will continue to work toward the creation of an international framework for chemicals management, focusing on activities conducted at the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA).

We will also continue soliciting the opinions of our member companies and organizations and actively communicating these views when teaming up with the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a legally binding international treaty on ending plastic pollution and when working on concrete action plans for the chemical industry to establish a chemical product management system based on the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC).

03

Steady implementing of safety and chemical management initiatives

It goes without saying that safety and chemical management initiatives are the foundation and prerequisite for the survival of the chemical industry. The chemical industry bears a great responsibility to provide society with a stable supply of chemical products that are essential to our daily lives.

With regard to process safety and disaster prevention, the chemical industry, in particular, is facing challenges such as high facility age and labor shortages due to the declining birthrate and aging population, and we will support the introduction of smart security by developing systems that make full use of digital technologies and by assisting in training the human resources needed to sustain such systems.

We will continue our ongoing logistics safety efforts, such as keeping abreast of international regulations regarding the transport of hazardous materials, and we will be working to ensure that the "Voluntary Action Plan for Optimizing and Improving the Productivity of Chemical Logistics" we formulated at the end of FY2023 becomes more widely known and instilled.

In the area of chemical management, we will continue our efforts to promote risk-based chemical management that is integrated with the supply chain to provide safe and secure chemical products.

Focusing on the above three initiatives, we will make a sincere effort for the sustainable development of our association and the chemical industry in Japan.

岩田圭一

IWATA Keiichi

Chairman
Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA)

Japan Chemical Industry Association

About the Japan Chemical Industry Association

The Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA) engages in various activities with the aim of contributing to the sustainable development of human society. It does this by providing value to its members and the public, while at the same time monitoring changes in the environment surrounding the Japanese chemical industry and working with government bodies, related organizations, academic associations, and the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA).

JCIA at a glance

Name

Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA)

Established

April 1948: JCIA formed as a voluntary association
June 1991: Shifted to an incorporated association as a legal entity
April 2011: Shifted to a general incorporated association

Mission

JCIA seeks to promote the healthy development of the chemical industry through the research and study of the production, distribution and consumption of materials relating to the chemical industry. JCIA also focuses on the research and study of various issues relating to the technology, labor, environment and chemical safety of the industry, and on planning appropriate measures and actions for the economic prosperity of Japan and the betterment of the national standard of living.

Activities

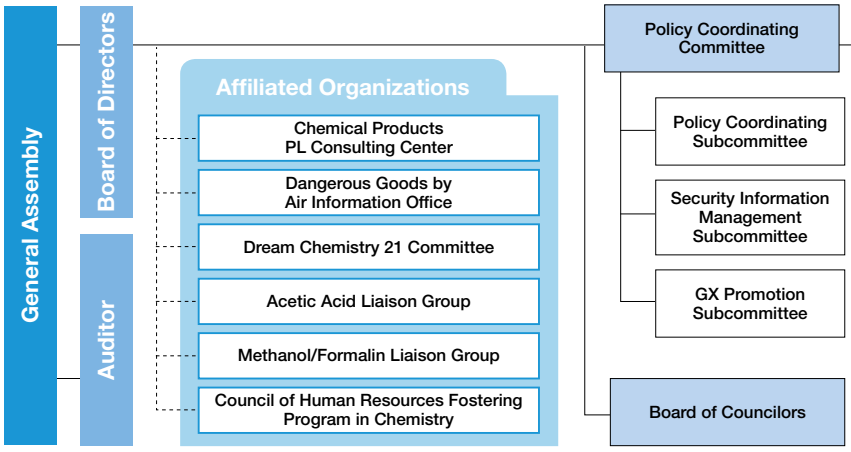
1. Research and study on the production, distribution and consumption of chemical products.
2. Research and study on issues concerning technology, labor, the environment, chemical safety, etc., as well as planning and promoting measures and actions.
3. Commendations for outstanding achievement in new technologies and safety records.
4. Collection and dissemination of information, communication and cooperation with related organizations in Japan and overseas.
5. Public outreach and advocacy activities, workshops and seminars.
6. Other operations in addition to the above that are necessary to achieve JCIA's mission.

Fiscal Year

From April 1 to March 31 of the following year

Organizational Chart of JCIA

The Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA) is organized into the General Assembly, the Board of Directors, Auditors, the Policy Coordinating Committee, the Board of Councilors, business-specific committees and the Secretariat. The General Assembly, which is composed of all JCIA member companies and organizations, is the supreme decision-making body. The Assembly resolves important issues related to JCIA management, as well as the business plan, budget and financial statements. The Board of Directors consists of the Directors and Executive Directors elected from among the member companies and resolves issues related to JCIA business and activities.



Board members of the Japan Chemical Industry Association (As of July 1, 2024)

Chairman (Representative Director)	IWATA Keiichi	SUMITOMO CHEMICAL COMPANY, LIMITED Representative Director & President
Vice Chairman (Representative Director)	HASHIMOTO Osamu	Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. President & CEO
Vice Chairman (Representative Director)	HASEBE Yoshihiro	Kao Corporation President and Chief Executive Officer
Vice Chairman (Representative Director)	GOTO Teiichi	FUJIFILM Holdings Corporation President, Representative Director & Chief Executive Officer
Vice Chairman (Representative Director)	NODA Kazuhiro	NIPPON SHOKUBAI CO., LTD. Member of the Board, President & CEO
Director	KUDO Koshiro	Asahi Kasei Corp. President & Representative Director
Director	SHIMAMURA Takuya	AGC Inc. Director, Chairman
Director	FUJII Kazuhiko	KANEKA CORPORATION President
Director	YAMACHIKA Mikio	JSR Corporation Senior Officer
Director	KATO Keita	SEKISUI CHEMICAL CO., LTD. President and Representative Director
Director	OGAWA Yoshimi	Daicel Corporation President
Director	INO Kaoru	DIC Corporation Representative Director, Chairman of the Board of Directors
Director	IMAI Toshio	Denka Company Limited Representative Director, President
Director	KUWADA Mamoru	Tosoh Corporation Representative Director, President
Director	SAWAMURA Koji	NOF CORPORATION Representative Director, President and CEO
Director	WAKUMOTO Atsuhiro	Nippon Kayaku Co., Ltd. President, Representative Director
Director	FUJII Masashi	MITSUBISHI GAS CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC. Representative Director, President
Director	FUKUDA Nobuo	Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation Representative Director
Director	IZUMIHARA Masato	UBE Corporation President and Representative Director
Director	MORIKAWA Kohei	Resonac Holdings Corporation Board Director, Chairman of the Board
Director General	SHINDO Hideo	Japan Chemical Industry Association Director General
Executive Director	ANDO Hiroshi	Japan Chemical Industry Association Executive Directors
Executive Director	HANDA Shigeru	Japan Chemical Industry Association Executive Directors
Executive Director	SUKATA Tokuo	Japan Chemical Industry Association Executive Directors
Executive Director	ISHII Hiroshi	Japan Chemical Industry Association Executive Directors
Auditor	TAKAMURA Mikishi	TOAGOSEI CO., LTD. President and Representative Director
Auditor	YOKOTA Hiroshi	Tokuyama Corporation Representative Director, President and Executive Officer

Committees

- Public Relations Committee
- International Activities Committee
- Economy and Tax System Committee
- Labor Committee
- Technical Affairs Committee
- Environment and Safety Committee
- Chemicals Management Committee
- Responsible Care Committee

Organizational Chart of JCIA Secretariat

Director General

Executive Directors

- General Affairs Department
- Public Relations Department
- International Affairs Department
- Department of Business/Economic Information
- Labor Department
- Technical Affairs Department
- Environment and Safety Department
- Chemicals Management Department
- Responsible Care Department

Toward a Sustainable Society

The chemical industry is tackling various issues to improve people's lives through the supply of a wide variety of materials, and to protect the environment, health, and safety across all stages from development and manufacture through consumption and disposal of chemical products.

In collaboration with industry, government, and academia, JCIA supports the chemical industry's efforts to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and communicates that chemical products and innovations contribute to the growth of a sustainable society.

Realization of a carbon-neutral society: Aiming to build a sustainable society

The chemical industry provides materials to all industries and has a responsibility to maintain a value chain and a stable supply. On the other hand, because the chemical industry uses a large amount of energy during manufacturing, it is necessary to work on reducing CO_2 emissions during manufacturing at the same time.

At JCIA, we believe that "carbon neutrality in the chemical industry means not to consume any more carbon in the ground, but to make good use of the carbon that is currently on the surface of the earth by recycling." The chemical industry is an industry that can supply society with products made from CO_2 through its technology and technological development capabilities, and can contribute to the realization of a carbon-circulating society, the maintenance of the domestic value chain, and the enhancement of international competitiveness.

In response to the "GX League Basic Concept" announced by the government in February 2022, the GX Implementation Conference held in July 2022, and the "Basic Policy for Realization of GX" approved by the Cabinet in February 2023, we recognized that GX promotion is an important issue that should be addressed by the entire association, and established the GX Promotion Subcommittee under the Policy Coordinating Committee which is chaired by the head of JCIA. The GX Promotion Subcommittee will keep a close eye on government trends and global developments and disseminate information in a timely manner. In addition, we will work with the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry to study a roadmap toward 2050 CN that is consistent with various measures and promote global warming countermeasures, based on the perspective of technology trends (carbon cycle, hydrogen/ammonia conversion of fuels, transition roadmap, CCUS, etc.), energy issues, and contributions to the global environment throughout the life cycle, with a view to becoming carbon neutral (CN).

To achieve CN, it is important not only to reduce CO_2 emissions through our own production activities, but also to simultaneously reduce CO_2 emissions in all social activities from raw material production and transportation, assembly processing and distribution, and product use to disposal.

When considering the reduction of CO_2 emissions in the life cycle of chemical products from the perspective of the chemical industry, it is important to organize by type: "decarbonization during manufacturing of own products," "reduction during use by downstream industries and the users by improving functionality of own products," and "shift to decarbonized products through innovative products = shift in industrial structure," and this will enable us to identify business areas that contribute to growth. While the creation of highly functional and innovative our products does not necessarily lead to a reduction in CO_2 emissions in the chemical industry itself, but rather to an increase in

Examples of types of CO_2 emission reductions and reduction contributions in the chemical industry

1. Reduction through decarbonization during the manufacture of own products

Chemical industry	Parts manufacturer	Assembling manufacturer	User
GHG **Reduced** Same functions	GHG and None of the part functions remain unchanged	GHG and None of the product functions remain unchanged	GHG and None of the product functions remain unchanged

- **The concept of** not only **the calculation** but also **the reduction of scope 1 and 2 of the company's responsibility has almost been established.**
- **It is difficult to appeal as a GX market because the benefits are not clear to downstream industries and the users.**

2. Reduction in downstream due to higher functionality of own products (lighter weight, longer life, etc.)

Chemical industry	Parts manufacturer	Assembling manufacturer	User
GHG **Normally slightly increased*** **Improved functionality**	GHG **Normally slightly increased** **Improve** parts functionality	GHG Normally invariant **Improve** product functionality	GHG **Reduced** **Improve** product functionality

* It can be reduced in the case of improvements that produce the same functionality with fewer materials

- **The benefits are easy for the user to understand.** On the other hand, **upstream industries may conversely increase GHG emissions.**
- Information sharing with downstream industries is essential to reduce GHG emissions and improve product functionality.

3. Substitution of decarbonized products through innovation (gasoline cars → EVs as an example)

Chemical industry	Electrical parts manufacturer	Assembling manufacturer	User
Significant increase in GHG **due to increased production of battery components**	**Significant increase** in GHG due to **increased battery production**	**Significant increase** in GHG due to **increased EV production**	**Increase** in GHG due to switching to EV vehicles
Steel industry **Decrease** in GHG **due to reduced production of engine parts**	**Machinery parts manufacturer** **Decrease** in GHG **due to reduced production of engine parts**	**Assembling manufacturer** **Decrease** in GHG **due to reduced production of gasoline-powered vehicles**	**Significant decrease** in GHG **due to reduced use of gasoline-powered vehicles**

- The possibility that the development of innovative products **will cause a significant change in industrial structure** and that **society's overall GHG emissions will drop dramatically for the same functionality enjoyed by the user.**
- However, **upstream industries are divided into marginal emission increase and marginal emission decrease depending on the industry.**
- Cooperation across all relevant stakeholders is essential.

***Emission reductions at disposal due to raw material conversion are not shown in the above figure because they apply to all cases.**

emissions, it is an initiative that can make a significant contribution to the reduction of CO_2 emissions in society as a whole.

The value of products with reduced environmental impact is realized at the stage of use, and it is important for society as a whole to recognize, understand, and bear the costs associated with the increased value that CN brings to society (increased costs for R&D investment, capital investment, and fuel and material selection, etc.). By visualizing, evaluating, and communicating the effects of environmental impact reductions at each stage of the life cycle, the role of each product manufactured by an industry in addressing global warming becomes clearer, enabling the selection, planning, and promotion of measures with greater environmental impact reduction effects.

In March 2023, JCIA released the "Guidelines for CFP Calculation of Products in the Chemical Industry" as a document that serves as a foundation for companies in the chemical industry to conduct CFP calculations for their products. Furthermore, we have started to establish a CFP calculation promotion support system within the industry, and are studying the creation of product-specific CFP calculation support tools, such as a collection of FAQ case studies and a sheet for sharing CFP information among companies. We have also received the "Product Carbon Footprint Calculation Tool CFP-TOMO®," which enables accurate and easy CFP calculation based on these guidelines, free of charge from the developer, Sumitomo Chemical Company, and are supporting the promotion of CFP calculation at each JCIA member company.

Initiatives for plastic pollution issues (Establishment of JaIPLE)

Addressing the problem of plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, is an issue that needs to be addressed in a coordinated global effort. Measures to address the problem of plastic pollution are being discussed at the "Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution," which was established based on a resolution adopted at the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA- 5.2) held in February 2022. Under these circumstances, the chemical industry established JaIPLE in April 2023 as a forum for sharing information and conducting industry-wide activities to proactively address this issue.

In addition to sharing the status of the INC response with JaIPLE members, JCIA also submitted the opinions of JaIPLE participating organizations to the Japanese government. In addition, we cooperated in the planning and operation of an online seminar by the Japanese government on the promotion of plastic resource circulation for developing countries in Asia.

SDG initiatives

Overview and progress

In 2018, JCIA established the SDGs Subcommittee and began activities to support JCIA members' initiatives toward achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The subcommittee members have been engaged in working group activities to think and learn together, holding study sessions, and introducing SDG activities of member companies. In December 2018, we launched a website dedicated to the SDGs, and in October 2020, we published examples of SDG activities (22 examples) from member companies as a collection of SDG case studies to show stakeholders that the chemical industry is making considerable contributions toward achievement of the SDGs.

Website

https://www.nikkakyo.org/sdgs/page/overview.html

Case studies

https://www.nikkakyo.org/sdgs/page/case.html

In addition, we shifted to a network for exchange the SDG information (opinions), in which any JCIA member can participate, and the SDGs Subcommittee was suspended in April 2021. The SDG information conducts activities in two main areas: Working Group Activities, which are voluntary study groups of volunteers, and an information exchange and study session on topics of interest to participating members. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Japanese government and associations related to chemicals, we are striving to promote SDG activities by JCIA members.

In FY2023, we continued the working group activities on "Understanding Human Rights Due Diligence and Internal Deployment" started in 2022, and compiled a report on what we learned through study sessions by lecturers from the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and interviews with pioneering companies, and shared the information in the SDGs contact network.

Activities as a Member of the International Community

JCIA is a member of the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), representing the Japanese chemical industry. On the subject of 'Energy and Climate Change' in particular, which the ICCA has identified as one of the major themes, we play an important role as the Chair in harmonization of the chemical industry's global message on its contributions to responding to climate change. In addition, we participate in international chemical industry expert meetings, as well as programs to develop human resources and convey chemical management know-how for the development of the chemical industry in East and Southeast Asia.

ICCA (International Council of Chemical Associations) Activities

ICCA was established in 1989 by the chemical industry associations of Japan, the United States, Europe, and Canada. Currently, its full members now include chemical industry associations from North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Oceania, and the Persian Gulf States, bringing the total membership to approximately 50 countries and regions.

The organization consists of four core Leadership Groups and five Cross-Cutting Groups, which are responsible for implementing strategic initiatives to solve issues in their respective fields, as well as for policy recommendations and other activities. See the ICCA website for more information.

ICCA Energy and Climate Change Leadership Group (E&CC LG) Activities

E&CC LG works to gain the understanding of the international community on global energy and climate change issues by proactively communicating not only the chemical industry's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but also the role and achievements of the chemical industry as a solution provider.

In 2023, at COP28 in Dubai (UAE), we held a presentation and panel discussion on the chemical industry's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and disseminated information on the chemical industry's contribution by presenting research results on pathways to achieve climate neutrality and investment results by the chemical industry to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The study of pathways to achieve climate neutrality is in the final stages of review and is scheduled for completion by the end of 2024.

ICCA Chemicals Policy and Health LG (CP&H LG) Activities

CP&H LG addresses the challenges of sound management of chemicals and sustainable development of the chemical industry. In FY2023, at ICCM5 in Bonn, Germany, we expressed opinions of the chemical industry to governments for adoption of the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC), the successor to SAICM, and presented ICCA's ambitions to demonstrate our contribution to the achievement of the GFC. JCIA participated in ICCM5 as a member of the ICCA delegation and expressed its opinions to ensure that the GFC reflects the wishes of the industry. The chairman of JCIA was also a panelist at a high-level event hosted by ICCA. In addition, we worked with the PLG to respond to the second session of the INC by promoting the development a database of chemicals used in plastics. In 2024, in addition to developing a plan for the implementation of the GFC by the chemical industry, we will continue our response to the fifth session of the INC.

Activities of the ICCA Plastics Leadership Group (PLG)

At UNEA 5.2 in February 2022, a resolution was passed to establish an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding on plastic pollution. Following the first session of the INC held in Uruguay at the end of November 2022, the PLG participated in the second session held in Paris at the end of May 2023 and the third session held in Nairobi in November 2023 to express industry views and exchange views with government representatives and relevant stakeholders. JCIA also acted as a member of the PLG and submitted its opinions from industry to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of the Environment. We will continue to work toward the 5th session of the INC to be held in November 2024.

RCLG Semi-annual Meeting

The RCLG is the organization within the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) responsible for promoting RC activities. The RCLG usually holds a two-day face-to-face meeting twice a year, in the spring and fall, when representatives of national associations gather in one of the member countries. The 2023 event was held in Washington D.C. on April 4-5, and in Mumbai, India, on October 17-18, in a hybrid face-to-face and online format. The main agenda items discussed were the KPI enhancement project and future development plans for the RC self-assessment tool. JCIA also reported a summary of RC activities in various Asian countries.

ICCA ASEAN Regulatory Cooperation Platform (ARCP) Activities

The ASEAN Regulatory Cooperation Platform is a regulatory cooperation platform targeting the ASEAN Economic Community and is an activity under the ICCA Global Regulatory Cooperation umbrella. The goal is to promote activities focused on risk-based chemicals management and to apply ICCA's global policy on regulatory cooperation to chemicals regulations that are being developed in the region. JCIA participates in this project led by the Singapore Chemical Industry Council as a member of the organization along with the American Chemistry Council (ACC) and the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic). A workshop on GHS, new substance notification systems and risk assessment was held in Bangkok, Thailand in November 2023 for government and industry officials from ASEAN countries.

APEC Activities (Chemical Dialogue)

APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) is a framework for economic cooperation by 21 economies in the Asia-Pacific region. JCIA participates in the Chemical Dialogue, a sub-forum of the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment. The Chemical Dialogue is a forum for representatives of regulators and industry that aims to identify solutions to the challenges faced by the chemical industry in the Asia-Pacific region. Together with promoting trade and improving the levels of sound management of chemical substances through supporting expansion of regulatory cooperation and harmonization in the region, it also promotes understanding of the roles of the chemical industry in providing innovative solutions for sustainable economic, environmental, and social development. It also serves as a venue for effective cooperation between industry and government to improve chemical product stewardship and safe use.

AMEICC Activities

The ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee (AMEICC) is a subordinate organization of the AEM-METI that implements practical economic and industrial cooperation in the ASEAN region. The Chemical Industry Working Group, which met online in August 2023, reported on chemical management policies, approaches to plastic pollution, and ARCP activities.

Participation in OECD Conferences

JCIA participated in various conferences held by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)—Chemicals and Biotechnology Committee, Working Party of National Coordinators of the Test Guidelines Program, Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials, Working Party on Hazard Assessment, Working Party on Exposure Assessment, Working Party on Risk Management, and Advisory Group on Emerging Science in Chemicals Assessment—as a member of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC), an advisory body to the OECD representing the private sector. In doing so, we gathered and communicated useful information for members as well as expressing their views.

■ ICCA Organization Chart (as of July 1, 2024)

https://www.icca-chem.org/

ICCA General Assembly (General Assembly)

ICCA Board of Directors (Board of Directors)

ICCA Association Roundtable (Associations Roundtable)

Energy and Climate Change Leadership Group (E&CC LG)	Chemical Policy and Health Leadership Group (CP&H LG)	Responsible Care Leadership Group (RCLG)	Plastics Leadership Group (PLG)
CEO Sponsor Keiichi Iwata (Sumitomo Chemical)	CEO Sponsor Jim Fitterling (Dow)	CEO Sponsor Karen McKee (ExxonMobil)	CEO Sponsor Peter Vanacker (LyondellBasell)
Chair Takashi Furukawa (Sumitomo Chemical)	Co-Chair (Europe) Martin Kayser (BASF)	Chair Jeffrey Kovacs (ExxonMobil)	Co-Chair Greg Skelton (SABIC)
Vice-Chair Ignacio Hernandez Bonnet (Shell)	Co-Chair (USA) Chris Wallace (ExxonMobil)	Vice-Chair Yoshizumi Sasaki (Sumitomo Chemical)	Co-Chair Jihane Bal (Dow)

Cross-Cutting Groups

Communication	Microplastics	Trade	Global Regulatory Cooperation	Capacity Building

JCIA's Human Resource Development

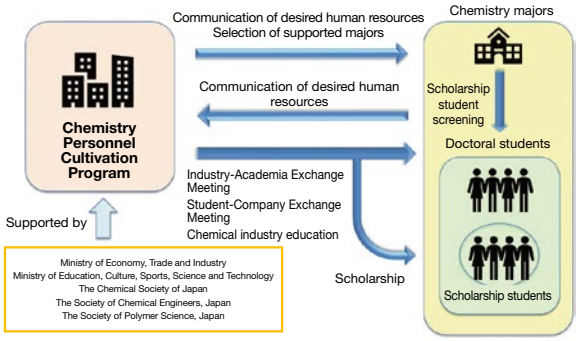
In order for the chemical industry to contribute to economic growth and the realization of a sustainable society through the stable supply of products and services and creation of innovations, and to develop sustainably as an industry, the development of human resources is important. For elementary, junior high, and high school students, we hold educational events to stimulate interest in chemistry, and for university and graduate students, we hold exchange events with companies and provide chemical industry education, as well as scholarships. In addition, for adult members, we also hold seminars and training courses on numerous topics including safety and disaster prevention, occupational health and safety, and chemical management to promote the development of the next generation of human resources who will carry the future of the chemical industry.

Chemistry Personnel Cultivation Program (for undergraduate and graduate students)

Summary:

JCIA promotes the Chemistry Personnel Cultivation Program in order to train young people, who takes an important role as the foundation for strengthening the international competitiveness of and promoting Japan's chemical industry. The program provides information on the human resource needs of the chemical industry to graduate-level chemistry majors throughout Japan and supports doctoral candidates in fields that meet those needs. Currently, 32 JCIA member companies are participating in this program, and the following activities were conducted in FY2023.

Overview of the Chemistry Personnel Cultivation Program



Offering scholarships:

Scholarships of 200,000 yen per month were awarded to 31 doctoral students recommended by the supported majors. This scholarship is awarded for three years until the completion of the program.

Promoting exchanges program between universities and our member companies:

The Industry-Academia Exchange Meeting 2023, a venue for exchanges with universities and companies, was held face to face and online in October. At the meeting, nine scholarship recipients who are in the second year of their doctoral course, gave presentations on their research and two doctors, who now work at our member companies, shared their experience at the companies.

The forum was attended by 25 members from member companies and 39 faculty members and students from universities, who engaged in a lively question-and-answer session on the research presentations by the scholarship recipients. In addition, a scholarship recipient who has been employed by a chemical company gave a lecture on what is required of a doctoral student in a company, their attitude toward work, and what they hope students will work on during their school days. After the forum, a reception was held with the participation of member company participants and presenters. Students expressed their impressions, saying, "Unlike usual academic associations, it was refreshing to hear questions based on the perspective of companies, so it was a good opportunity for me to review my own research." and "Listening to the presentations from companies gave me a clearer image of what it is like to work at a company."

Supporting job search activities:

JCIA held the Student-Company Exchange Meeting 2023 in Tokyo and Osaka in November and December respectively to support the job search of doctoral students. Forty doctoral students from supported majors and a total of 30 member companies participated in the event, which featured presentations by students on their research, as well as company presentations by participating companies. Participants visited the poster presentations of students and company booths of their respective interests and deepened mutual exchanges.

Scene from the Student-Company Exchange Meeting in Tokyo

Providing chemical industry education:

With the cooperation of member companies, we offer the Chemical Industry Course to some supported majors in order to deepen undergraduate and graduate students' understanding of the chemical industry. Employees who are active on the front lines of chemical companies serve as lecturers, giving lectures on the past, present, and future of the chemical industry from their perspective as solution providers, the themes that companies are currently focusing on, and the appeal of the chemical industry as they perceive it. In FY2023, the program continued from the previous year, with face-to-face lectures held at Osaka Metropolitan University and the University of Tokyo. The course is positioned to help deepen understanding of the chemical industry, and participants expressed such opinions as "In research, we, researchers, tend to think of innovation as the first academic discovery, but I was able to rediscover the difficulty of the process of finding valuable technologies and creating products from them," and "After hearing about the industrialization process, I will be looking for a job with a view to making a contribution to society in the field of chemical engineering."

Calling for applications and screening supported major:

In September, there was a call for the 14th applications for support in

FY2024. At the Screening Committee meeting held in December, five majors (four re-selected and one new) were selected to receive support starting in FY2024.

The Chemistry Personnel Cultivation Program has been highly praised by industry, academia, and the government as an initiative that educates and makes use of people with advanced science knowledge ahead of other industries. In FY2023, 11 scholarship recipients in supported majors completed their doctoral program, and nine of them were employed by companies. Of those, four were hired by our member companies.

In addition, the total number of scholarship recipients in the Chemistry Personnel Cultivation Program has reached 119, and 93 of them are active in industry, including 49 who have been employed by our member companies.

Through the Chemistry Personnel Cultivation Program, we will work to further strengthen the partnership between industry and academia and move forward with more extensive support activities.

Chemistry Personnel Cultivation Program website
https://www.nikkakyo.org/Jinzai_ikuseiProg/

Dream Chemistry 21 Project (for elementary and junior and senior high school students)

Consisting of JCIA, the Chemical Society of Japan, the Society of Chemical Engineers Japan, and the Japan Association for Chemical Innovation, the Dream Chemistry 21 Committee hold events appropriate for children of all ages to convey to them wonder and enjoyment of chemistry and to encourage their interest in chemistry. In FY2023, the "Kids' Chemistry Experiment Show" was held in Tokyo for the first time in four years as an interactive event to "touch, create, and think" about chemistry, with approximately 1,500 participants, mainly elementary school students. Various events were held or supported according to age groups, such as the "Why? What? Science Experiment Lab" for elementary school students, the "Chemistry Grand Prix" for junior high and high school students, and the "Dispatch of Students to Represent Japan at the International Chemistry Olympiad" for junior high school and high school students.

Please refer to page 22 of this report (Activities of the Dream Chemistry 21 Project in FY2023) for details of activities in FY2023.

Dream Chemistry 21 Project official website
https://www.kagaku21.net/

Industrial Safety Course (for working people)

The Industrial Safety Course is jointly sponsored by JCIA, the Petroleum Association of Japan, and the Japan Petrochemical Industry Association. The course, led by Dr. Atsumi Miyake (Professor Emeritus, Yokohama National University), is open to members of the three organizations and aims to develop future managers, administrators and safety promotion specialists who understand safety in the petroleum and chemical industries. In FY2023, face-to-face opportunities were increased, with lectures conducted in an online format and group discussions and presentations conducted in a group format. Twenty-four students from 22 member companies of the three co-sponsoring organizations participated in a total of 13 lectures given by invited lecturers who provide guidance to the safety and security activities of the three organizations and from related ministries and agencies. Lectures were held at a pace of almost once a week, except during the year-end and New Year holidays, and students learned the basics of industrial safety, the background of accidents that have occurred in the past, advanced safety initiatives in the industry, safety education and awareness, etc., as well as deepened their ideas on the ideal direction of safety in the petroleum and chemical industries through face-to-face group discussions. The group presentations and closing ceremony that were held in a face-to-face format in March also provided an opportunity for the students to interact with each other and to realize the importance of face-to-face exchanges in building a network of people.

List of lectures and seminars

Name of lecture or seminar	Mission	Frequency
Security Export Control Seminar	Provide introduction to export of products and manufacturing technologies based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act	Once a year
Training for Chemical Plant Production Site Leaders	Learn about the mindset required of production site leaders at chemical plants and the concept of process safety capabilities to achieve safety at production sites, not only through lectures but also through case studies and exchange of opinions among participants	Four times a year
Safety Management Seminar For Transportation of Dangerous Goods	Acquisition of knowledge on land, sea, and air transportation of dangerous goods	Once a year
Chemical Risk Forum	Training of practitioners in risk-based chemical substance management (annual series of 10 educational seminars)	May to February of the following year (10 times/year in total)
Issues in International Commerce Seminar	Explain the anti-dumping system, rules of origin, unfair trade practices report, EPA/FTA, and so on	Once or twice a year
Industrial Safety Course	Develop managers who can understand future safety in the oil and chemical industries, and safety experts who have a broad purview (13-part lecture series)	November to March of the following year (13 times/year in total)
Human Resources & Labor Affairs Staff Development Seminar	Cultivate leaders in the HR and labor affairs divisions who are responsible for the next generation of workers (a series of 8 seminars held every second year)	May to December (8 times/every other year in total)
Lecture on the Importance of Standardization	Teach and spread the importance of standardization through lectures that have a different theme every year	Once a year
Risk Assessment Seminar (using BIGDr.Worker)	Learn about risk assessment methods for workers Learn how to perform risk assessment including mixtures by utilizing BIGDr.Worker	Twice a year
Risk Communication Training	Improvement of communication skills in community dialogue (ability to understand the other person's position and values and to respond appropriately to unexpected questions)	Once a year

Responsible Care Department

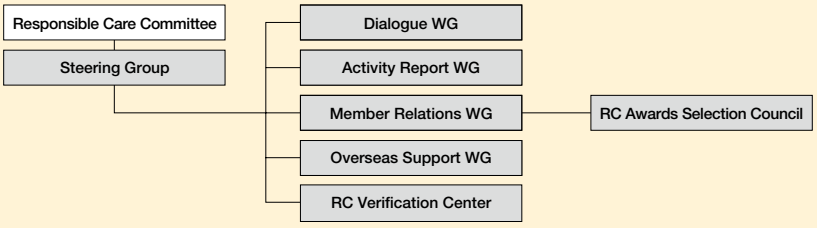
Activity Report: Responsible Care (RC) Committee

MESSAGE

▶ Committee Chairman, **HOSHINO Kenji**
Executive Officer, UBE Corporation

Contributing to the Continuous Improvement of RC Activities and the Realization of a Sustainable Society

Based on our goal of contributing to the realization of a sustainable society, we will strive to further raise awareness of RC activities and strengthen the presence of the chemical industry through continuous improvement of our RC activities and deployment of open activities. While the situation surrounding the chemical industry is changing drastically, including global environmental issues, we were able to return our activities to the face-to-face method in FY2023 due to the reduction in the number of the COVID-19 pandemic. In Japan, we are actively developing various activities to meet the needs of our members, and overseas, we are expanding the scope of our RC activities by further supporting the RC activities of our member companies in Asian countries.



Note: WG/Working Group

Activity Outline

The purposes of the RC Committee are to support member's RC activities, to help improve further society's trust in members and in the chemical industry, and to contribute to the sustainable progress of the chemical industry and of society. Toward this target, the Committee focuses its efforts on supporting the continuation of RC activities and tackling the important tasks of stimulation and expansion of the range of these activities.

Focus

RC member exchange meeting and study sessions

The RC Committee holds a two-part member exchange meeting consisting of the JCIA Responsible Care (RC) Award lecture and subcommittees to share best practices among various RC activities that members are engaged in.

The themes of the FY2023 subcommittee meetings were "Management of GHG and other environmental data and promotion of reduction activities," "Efforts to pass on technology and develop leaders," "Communication with contractors to eliminate accidents and disasters," "Measures against natural disasters (earthquake, tsunami, flood measures)," and "Measures to establish a safety culture." Six to seven people participated in each of the subcommittees, introducing their company's initiatives and exchanging opinions, before concluding the session with a report from each subcommittee on the results of their discussions.

In addition, the member exchange study sessions are designed to gain insights into RC activities through lectures by RC activity specialists and small group exchanges of opinions, and to use these insights as a source of motivation for future RC activities.

In FY2023, two study sessions were held in December and February, and the first session consisted of a lecture on "machine safety initiatives in the chemical industry" followed by group work on "measures to prevent entanglement and entrapment accidents." The lecture included a comparison of chemical plant safety and machine safety, and the group work session featured a lively exchange of opinions on the activities of each participating company and the causes of and countermeasures against occupational accident cases. In the second study session, after a lecture on "improving the effectiveness of risk assessment of machinery and operations," participants were divided into five small groups for discussions on "risk assessment of machinery and operations," and exchanged opinions on their company's approach to risk assessment and on the risk assessment of preliminary tasks.

We have held study sessions on a variety of topics, including fostering a culture of safety, human resource development, efforts to improve local disaster preparedness, and the use of risk management for RC. We plan to continue to hold study meetings on themes to promote RC activities in the future.

In both the member exchange meetings and study sessions, a questionnaire is sent to participants in advance to ensure that group discussions can proceed effectively.

Overseas Support Activities

We hold lectures for Japanese executives and workshops (WS) for local staff to support RC activities of local subsidiaries in Southeast Asia. Until FY2022, the lectures were held only online as a countermeasure against the COVID-19 pandemic, but in FY2023, the lectures were held in a face-to-face on-site format while some of the lectures were held online. In Thailand and Indonesia, the lectures and workshops were held jointly with local Japanese chambers of commerce. In Bangkok in August, 49 people attended the lectures and 71 people participated in the workshops, and in Jakarta in January, 26 people attended the lectures and 27 people participated in the workshops. In Malaysia, with the cooperation of local subsidiaries of JCIA member companies, the first local face-to-face meetings were held in Kuala Lumpur in the central region and in Johor in the southern region, with 14 participants in the lectures and 16 participants in the workshops. In the workshop sessions in particular, there was a friendly atmosphere, with active and lively exchanges of opinions and enthusiastic presentations.

In addition, all e-learning materials that have been prepared for overseas training in local languages (18 courses in English, Thai,

Indonesian, and Vietnamese) completed ahead of schedule in FY2023, and we will consider using these materials on demand, etc. in the future.


Scene from the lecture (Thailand)


Scene from the workshop (Indonesia)

TOPICS

01 Face-to-face community dialogue meetings held in five districts

The Responsible Care (RC) Committee held RC community dialogue meetings with plant neighbors and chemical company officials in seven districts across the country from November 2023 to early February 2024.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, regional dialogue meetings with the traditional face-to-face meetings with a larger number of people were not held since FY2019, but in FY2023, we were able to hold them in five districts including Kawasaki, Okayama, Oita, Sakai/Semboku, and Iwakuni/Otake for the first time in four years.

In each district, plant tours were conducted and lectures by experts were also held, leading to lively question-and-answer sessions and candid exchanges of opinions. In the two districts of Yamaguchi Nishi and Niigata Kita, where dialogue meetings were held in written form, the continuation of “dialogue” was achieved through the effective use of written documents, such as written feedback of responses and explanations to the preliminary questionnaire.

02 Face-to-face consumer dialogue meetings held

The RC Committee holds “Consumer Dialogue Meetings” in Tokyo and Osaka to provide a forum for candid exchange of opinions between consumer groups and chemical companies. In FY2023, the 27th Tokyo Area Consumer Dialogue Meeting was held on December 11 at Kao Corporation’s Sumida Plant, followed by the 20th Osaka Area Consumer Dialogue Meeting on December 19 at Mitsui Chemicals’ Osaka Plant.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting had been held online for some time. However, for the first time in four years, we were able to hold a face-to-face meeting at a member company’s office. During the first half of the day, participants toured and received an overview explanation of the plant and research center where the event was held, and were introduced to RC activities, while the second half of the day consisted of topics presented by the companies, a Q&A session on each topic, and a general exchange of opinions by all attendees.

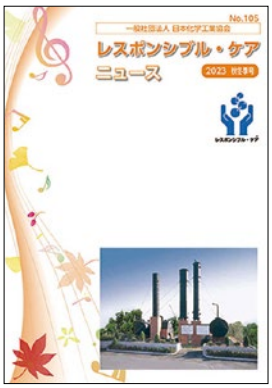
03 RC Verification Activities

RC activities are the basis of the activities of chemical companies.

While protecting this foundation, each company engages in corporate activities by taking elements of the SDGs and ESG in order to achieve sustainable growth over the long term, and publishes the results to society through annual reports and sustainability reports. JCIA conducts verification activities with the purpose of enhancing the quality and reliability of each company’s report. In FY2023, six RC member companies were audited for report verification, including online verification. In addition, two companies were audited for activity verification and one company was audited for GHG verification. As a result, the cumulative total number of reviews completed since the verification activity began in 2002 has reached 267 reviews.

04 Publish “Responsible Care News” three times a year

The December 2023 Fall/Winter issue of “Responsible Care News” marked the 105th issue of the quarterly publication. Various RC activities have almost returned to the level before the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the number of pages of “Responsible Care News,” which had been reduced due to the voluntary restraint of activities, can finally be published on 16 pages as before, starting with the 105th issue.



Environment and Safety Department

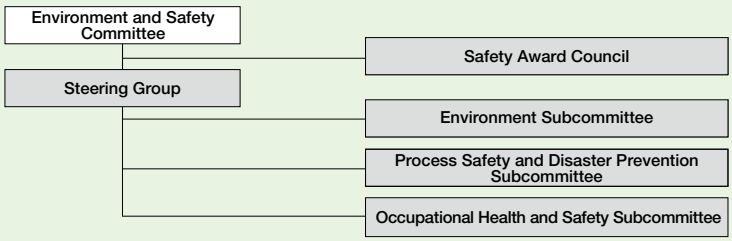
Activity Report: Environment and Safety Committee

MESSAGE

▶ Committee Chairman, **SHIMPO Naobumi**
Corporate Officer, Resonac Holdings Corporation

Safety and Environmental Considerations during Manufacture of Chemical Products are the Top Priority

We are addressing various issues related to the environment, health, and safety in the chemical industry under the Principles of JCIA regarding the Environment, Health and Safety, with environmental protection, process safety and disaster prevention, occupational health and safety, and distribution safety as important issues. In addition, we will keep abreast of the latest domestic and international trends and actively disseminate information to our members in order to keep them informed, as well as to voice our opinions in consideration of the situation of the chemical industry. Through the implementation of voluntary activities, we will produce appropriate results, thereby continuously enhancing the trust of society in the chemical industry as a whole.



Activity Outline

The Environment and Safety Committee promotes environmental protection, process safety and disaster prevention, occupational health and safety, and distribution safety, which are the pillars of responsible care. The committee supports the autonomous activities of its member companies by sponsoring various lectures and safety awards, and it also disseminates and shares useful information from administrative authorities and related organizations through its three subcommittees, and collects members' opinions and requests and submits them to administrative authorities and other organizations.

Focus

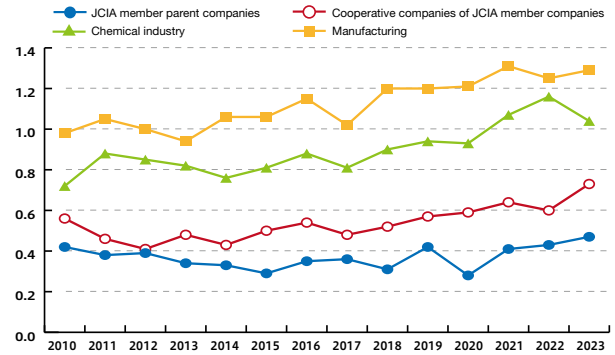
Environmental Protection Initiatives

The initiatives of the Environment Subcommittee include collecting the latest information on revisions to laws and regulations, sharing this information with the subcommittees and other groups, steadily reflecting it in the environmental protection activities of member companies, and collecting the opinions of the chemical industry and submitting them to the government and other related organizations. On the other hand, as part of our voluntary efforts to reduce environmental impact, in addition to the substances subject to notification, which were substantially added to the Act on Confirmation, etc. of Release Amounts of Specific Chemical Substances in the Environment and Promotion of Improvements to the Management Thereof (Chemical Management Act), we have established our own survey substances and are promoting voluntary reductions. JCIA has also established a voluntary control plan for hazardous air pollutants and is working to further reduce emissions. With regard to resource recycling, we have set voluntary targets for waste and are working to reduce emissions, reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills, and promote recycling, etc., and the results of these efforts are presented in the Annual Report Materials section.

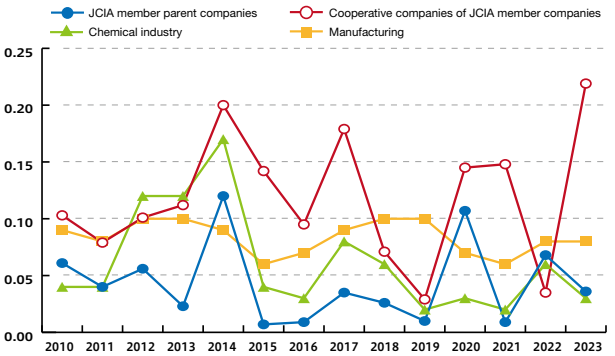
Workplace-Accident Prevention Initiatives

The pillars of JCIA's occupational accident prevention activities are cooperation in the promotion of the 14th Occupational Accident Prevention Plan (14th Prevention Plan) and other occupational health and safety administrative measures, and the sharing of important and up-to-date information among member companies. In particular, in the midst of major changes to the autonomous management of chemical substances in the workplace, we carefully share and disseminate information transmitted by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare to our member companies, absorb the opinions of our members, submit them to the government, and cooperate to make the situation even better. The Occupational Health and Safety Subcommittee, which is the primary stage of its activities, focuses on sharing information with member companies by surveying trends in legal revisions related to occupational health and safety and providing information based on that survey, as well as communicating the opinions of the member companies to the government. In addition, JCIA will continue to compile the survey on occupational accidents as our

Frequency rate (The frequency of occurrence of industrial accidents.)



Severity rate (Working days lost due to workmen's accident.)



voluntary activity, and will also work to reduce the number of accidents involving entanglement and falls in the manufacturing industry in line with the 14th Occupational Safety & Health Program.

Safety and Accident-Prevention Initiatives

In order to prevent accidents, we are making efforts based on the three pillars of support for voluntary efforts by member companies, support for the introduction of smart industrial safety, and cooperation with administrative authorities and related organizations.

As part of support for the voluntary efforts, the Security and Disaster Prevention Subcommittee held an accident case study meetings to share safety accident cases related to the chemical industry and individual cases at member companies, and held a total of six lectures by private sector and academic experts on “dust explosion,” which had occurred frequently in other industries up to FY2022. In addition, we renewed the “Training for Chemical Plant Production Site Leaders” with the aim of improving industrial safety competency, and provided support for human resource development in terms of both safety infrastructure and safety culture, with staff from the Environment and Safety Department serving as instructors.

To support the introduction of smart industrial safety, we held related lectures and worked on the study of guidelines by the Control System Cyber Security Working Group. In terms of cooperation with administrative authorities and related organizations, in relation to the revision of the High Pressure Gas Safety Act that came into effect at the end of 2023, we participated as an observer in the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry subcommittee and held several meetings to exchange opinions between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and member companies in order to reflect the views of the chemical industry.

TOPICS

01 Lecture on Scenario Non-presentation Disaster Prevention Training

The scenario non-presentation disaster prevention training is a disaster prevention training program requested by the Liaison Council of Three Ministries on Disaster Prevention of Petroleum Complexes and Other Facilities, which aims to improve the ability to make more practical decisions in a variety of emergency situations. The theme of this year’s lecture was the introduction of actual examples of such training and the application of smart industrial safety, which had been requested by many of the attendees up to last year. Approximately 270 people from inside and outside the JCIA participated in the event, and the Q&A session on the examples was particularly lively, showing the high level of interest shown by those involved.

02 The Safety Symposium

The purpose of the Safety Symposium is to deepen understanding of common occupational safety issues such as fostering a safety culture through panel discussions and introduction of safety activities by companies that have received the JCIA Safety Award. In FY2023, for the first time in four years, stakeholders gathered at the venue in a hybrid format combined with online delivery, with over 300 people in attendance.

In the first part of the event, presentations on safety activities were given by four plants, including the Shibukawa Plant of Denka Company Limited, which won the Grand Prize. The second part was a panel discussion on the theme of “How to maintain accident-free workplaces, focusing on the role of top management,” with Mr. Suzuki, chairman of the JCIA Safety Award Council (professor emeritus at Okayama University), and representatives of award-winning companies as panelists.

The presentation of case studies of activities (hybrid format)

03 Revision of Laws Related to Occupational Health and Safety

The revision of laws and regulations related to the Occupational Health and Safety Act in May 2022 has significantly changed the way chemical substances are managed in the workplace, from regulatory to autonomous management. In response, JCIA participates as a member of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare’s study groups and working groups to share and disseminate the latest trends and information to its member companies, as well as to compile opinions and submit them as the opinions of the chemical industry. In addition, we have prepared educational texts and protective equipment selection manuals for those in charge of management, and are involved in spreading awareness and education activities, as well as participating in the Chemical Protective Glove Research Group to promote the selection and use of appropriate protective equipment for those working in the field.

04 Lecture held at the Environment and Safety Committee

In June 2023, the Central Environment Council issued a report on the future of water and atmosphere environmental administration for the next 10 years or longer.

The JCIA Environment and Safety Committee invited Mr. Seiji Tsutsui, Director, Environmental Management Division, Water and Air Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, to give a lecture on “Future Water and Atmosphere Environmental Administration” on February 6, 2024, covering issues such as the simultaneous achievement of carbon neutrality, circular economy, and revitalization of nature, as well as measures for achieving integrated environmental, economic, and social improvement.

05 Status of Study on Proper Disposal of Low-concentration PCB Waste

The deadline for disposal of low-concentration PCB waste is set by the Act on Special Measures concerning Promotion of Proper Treatment of PCB Wastes at March 31, 2027. The proposed future institutional response to this deadline compliance was recently presented as “no extension of the deadline for disposal,” “disposal and treatment of in-use equipment, etc., to the extent possible,” and “consideration of measures to be taken after the disposal period for sealed equipment, etc.”. The direction of the policy for dealing with low-concentration PCBs will be organized by the end of FY2024, including the formulation of treatment plans for holders of products that use large amounts of low-concentration PCBs.

Chemicals Management Department

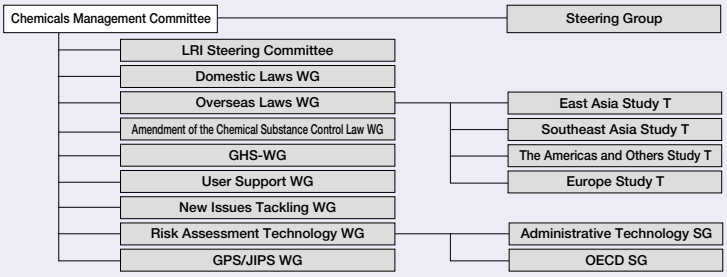
Activity Report: Chemicals Management Committee

MESSAGE

▶ Committee Chairman, **AKAHANE Yoshio**
Executive Officer, Mitsubishi Chemical Group Corporation

Establishing chemicals management as a business strategy

The basic policies are to strengthen support for chemicals management in business activities and to further spread and expand voluntary contributions from the industry. We are doing a variety of activities, such as dispatch of information related to chemical management to member companies and compliance to the revision of related laws and regulations in Japan and overseas. Regarding legal compliance in Japan, JCIA participates in governmental committees and working groups on behalf of the chemical industry, and offers opinions to relevant authorities. JCIA also aims to strengthen our support activities with the aim of establishing and disseminating more efficient and sophisticated risk assessment technologies.



Note: WG/Working Group SG/Subgroup T/Team

Activity Outline

In addition to disseminating information on trends in chemicals management regulations in Japan and abroad and submitting opinions to administrative authorities based on the opinions and requests of our members, we also promote GPS/JIPS and support research that leads to the safety and security of chemicals. In particular, we worked on the European proposal for REACH restrictions on PFAS, the Fifth Meeting of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5), and the submission of opinions to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution.

Focus

Trends in Domestic Chemicals Laws and Regulations, and Our Responses

In addition to promptly providing information related to domestic chemical management regulations to our members, JCIA collects the opinions of our members and submits them to the administrative authorities.

In accordance with the Chemical Substance Control Law, JCIA confirms the validity of the risk assessment of the priority assessment chemical substance in cooperation and collaboration with the related organizations and the member companies that handle the substances concerned, submits the opinions to the authorities, and provide information about the results of deliberations. In addition, as five years have passed since the last amendment of the Chemical Substance Control Law and the enforcement status of this law is to be inspected, JCIA also re-launched the working group (WG) and the Task Force (TF) for amendment of the Chemical Substance Control Law in FY2022 and started to review this law. In FY2023, we participated in a committee organized by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry to review the status of enforcement of the Chemical Substance Control Law, and submitted the members' opinions. In addition, a questionnaire survey was conducted among the members regarding requests for the legal revisions, and issues for consideration were organized.

In accordance with the Industrial Safety and Health Act, JCIA published the revised "Examples of SDSs that comply with the revised cabinet order/ministerial ordinance for the Industrial Safety and Health Act" in FY2023. In addition, together with the Environment and Safety Department, we participated in the "Expert Panel on Chemical Substance Management" organized by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and submitted our members' opinions regarding the determining concentration standard values. The concentration standard values for methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate were relaxed from those initially proposed because we had submitted the opinions regarding these substances in FY2022.

We promptly catch trends in chemical regulations related to the "Act on the Assessment of Releases of Specified Chemical Substances in the Environment and the Promotion of Management Improvement," "Poisonous and Deleterious Substances Control Act," "Act on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Products Including Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices," and "Narcotics and Psychotropics Control Act," etc., and provide the information to our members.

Trends in International Chemicals Regulations, and Our Responses

In addition to keeping abreast of the latest trends in chemicals management regulations in each country and providing information to our members, we strive to understand the status of responses and concerns of our members, and when necessary, we gather the opinions of our members and submit our views to the policymakers. In FY2023, we held four seminars on regulatory trends in Europe and submitted opinions to policymakers in Europe, South Korea, Vietnam, India, and other countries. In particular, in response to the proposal of PFAS restriction under EU-REACH, we exchanged information with Japanese and foreign industry associations and submitted our members' opinions to ECHA twice. For India, we shared issues with industrial associations in each region and jointly prepared and submitted position papers. We also cooperate with Japanese authorities by providing information and exchanging opinions on regulatory trends in Europe and the efforts of our members to gain a prior understanding of industry concerns.

GHS Trends, and Our Responses

In addition to providing basic training, in an annual chemical risk forum course, on JIS Z 7252:2019 (Classification of Chemicals Based on

Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals [GHS]) and JIS Z 7253:2019 (Hazard Communication of Chemicals Based on GHS-Labelling and Safety Data Sheet [SDS]), both of which are Japanese GHS standards based on the 6th Revised Edition of UN GHS, we also support GHS utilization through means such as responding to inquiries from members.

In addition, both JISs will have been in effect for 5 years in 2024, and therefore, the Industrial Standardization Act requires consideration of their revision, and the GHS-WG and the JIS Revision TF are working on the revision. We have decided to adopt the 9th Revised Edition of the UN GHS, and in FY2023, we held a study group for drafting JIS draft documents with the experts and proceeded with the revision work focusing on the changes in the UN GHS, and prepared draft documents of the JIS.

TOPICS

01 LRI Activities

The Long-range Research Initiative (LRI) is an initiative launched by the ICCA to study the effects of chemical substances on human health and the environment as a global voluntary initiative underway through cooperation among chemical industry associations in Japan, the United States, and Europe.

In FY2023, we updated our mid-term research strategy with reference to the results of exchanges of opinions with members of the Science Advisory Council and surveys of research trends, and based on the strategy, we have solicited research proposals for NAMs (New Approach Methodologies) and prediction methods for human exposure, environmental risk assessment, safety assessment of chemicals with new properties, and evaluation methods to solve issues in regulatory use, and have adopted two new proposals.

The findings of LRI research are reported at the annual research meeting, which was held on August 25, 2023. In addition to reports on the results of completed research projects and progress reports on research projects in progress, experts from industry, government, and academia were invited to discuss the theme of “Current Status and Future of Risk Assessment Methods” at the symposium. In addition, the JCIA LRI Awards have been established to honor researchers for their outstanding research achievements, and in FY2023, the 9th LRI Award of the Japanese Society of Toxicology was given to Professor Motohiro Nishida (Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyushu University), and the 8th LRI Award of the Japanese Society for Alternatives to Animal Experiments to Associate Professor Kazutomo Iijima (Graduate School of Engineering, Yokohama National University).

02 FY2023 JIPS Awards

Grand Prize: Resonac Holdings Corporation, from left to right: Ikeda, Ogawa, Nishioka, Yoneda

Outstanding Award: Kao Corporation, Mizooku

JCIA presents the JIPS Award to member companies that have made outstanding efforts in voluntary activities related to risk assessment and risk management of chemicals in consideration of the supply chain (JIPS activities). The JIPS Awards for FY2023 were reported at a meeting of the Chemicals Management Committee held on February 29, 2024, with Resonac Holdings Corporation winning the Grand Prix Award and Kao Corporation winning an Outstanding Award. In addition, Kao Corporation gave a special lecture titled “Kao’s GFC Initiatives.”

03 Chemical Risk Forum and Risk Assessment Seminar (for adults)

JCIA has operated the Chemical Risk Forum as a training forum for workers who conduct risk assessments of chemicals since 2008. In FY2023, a total of 10 sessions were delivered online, which included various activities, such as lectures on risk assessment fundamentals, training on tools necessary to conduct risk assessments, and information on topics such as trends in regulations both in Japan and overseas. The general course, which participants could freely choose to attend at the venue or online, and the in-house online course, which could be widely used for in-house training, were offered to a total of approximately 4,000 participants from a wide range of business fields.

Furthermore, the Risk Assessment Seminar was held jointly with the Chemical Risk Forum, with a total of 70 people attending the elementary course and the practical course, which correspond to the worker risk assessments required by the Industrial Safety and Health Act. The elementary course provided the knowledge and risk assessment methods necessary for chemical management, while the practical course introduced simplified measurement methods and explained the key points of the revision of the Industrial Safety and Health Act and how to respond to them.

04 Chemical management in the Supply Chain

To promote appropriate chemical management in the supply chain, JCIA has provided support for development of an appropriate management infrastructure related to domestic and international promotion of the chemSHERPA, a scheme to facilitate sharing of information on chemical substances contained in products, operated and managed by the Joint Article Management Promotion-consortium (JAMP). We also responded to the Global Automotive Declarable Substance List (GADSL) prepared and maintained by the Global Automotive Stakeholders Group (GASG), whose membership represents automakers, auto parts makers, and chemical companies in Japan, North America, and Europe through means including submittal of opinions on its maintenance and management, from the standpoint of the chemicals industry. Furthermore, we also cooperated in maintenance and preparation of international standards through participation in organizations including the Japan committee and working group for the TC111 international environmental standard on electric and electronic devices, being advanced by the electric and electronics industry, including the Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA). We participated in the study and requirements definition for a new information communication scheme (tentatively named CMP: Chemical and Circular Management Platform).

Technical Affairs Department

Activity Report: Technical Affairs Committee

MESSAGE

▶ Committee Chairman, **KAWASE Mastsugu**
Director, Senior Executive Officer, Asahi Kasei Corporation

Initiatives for a Carbon-neutral, Carbon-circulating Society

Under the Keidanren Carbon Neutral (CN) Action Plan, which was revised in FY2023, we will continue to make various efforts to achieve the FY2030 target for CO_2 emission reductions and to realize CN by 2050. In addition, we will promote the role of the chemical industry as a solution provider that contributes to the reduction of CO_2 emissions in a wide range of areas through its products and technologies to realize a carbon-recycling society and to promote greater social recognition. As the Technical Affairs Committee, we will strive to achieve these goals by further deepening cooperation among our members.

- Technical Affairs Committee
  - Steering Group
  - Chemical Recycling WG
  - Carbon Neutral Action Plan WG
  - Global Warming Countermeasures WG2 (CFC substitutes)
  - Energy Measures Task Force
  - LCA WG
  - Chemical Standardization WG
  - Technology Awards Selection Council

Note: WG/Working Group

Activity Outline

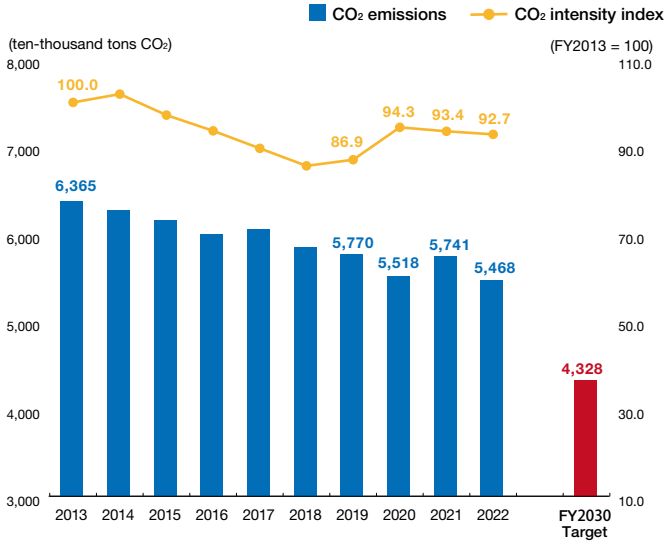
We are participating in activities related to the prevention of global warming and the realization of a recycling-oriented society, and are tackling the issues. We also promote the chemical industry as a solution provider in global warming by responding to the government's GX policy, CR standardization and registration system, support for improving LCA response capability, and activities in the E&CC LG.

Focus

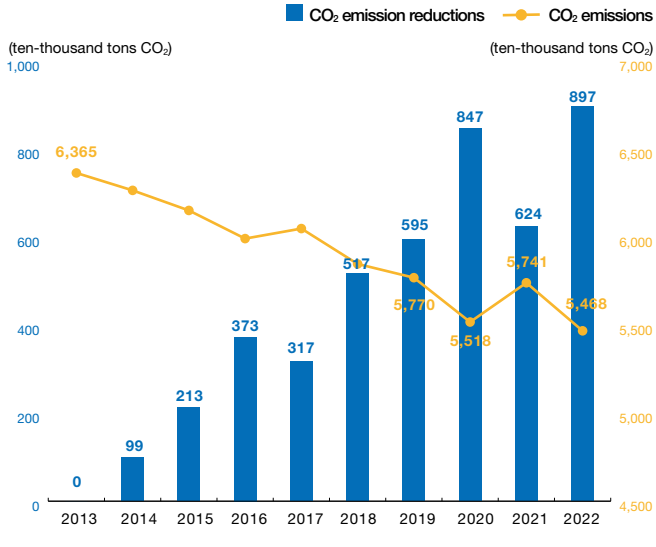
Carbon Neutral Action Plan FY2022 Results

The FY2030 target for CO_2 emission reductions under the carbon neutral action plan is a 32% reduction compared to FY2013 (base year). Results for FY2022 show a reduction of 8.97 million tons (14.1%) from FY2013, and a reduction of 2.73 million tons (4.8%) from FY2021. This represents a 44% progress toward the FY2030 reduction target. The CO_2 intensity index improved by 0.7 points from FY2021 to 92.7. In addition, as in previous years, we were able to conduct a survey with a 100% collection rate of questionnaire forms, thanks to the cooperation of participating companies. The investigation report is submitted to Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), and is discussed and appropriately evaluated by the "Third-Party Evaluation Committee" of Nippon Keidanren and the "Chemicals and Nonferrous Metals Working Group of the Industrial Science and Technology Policy Council" of METI.

CO_2 emissions and intensity index



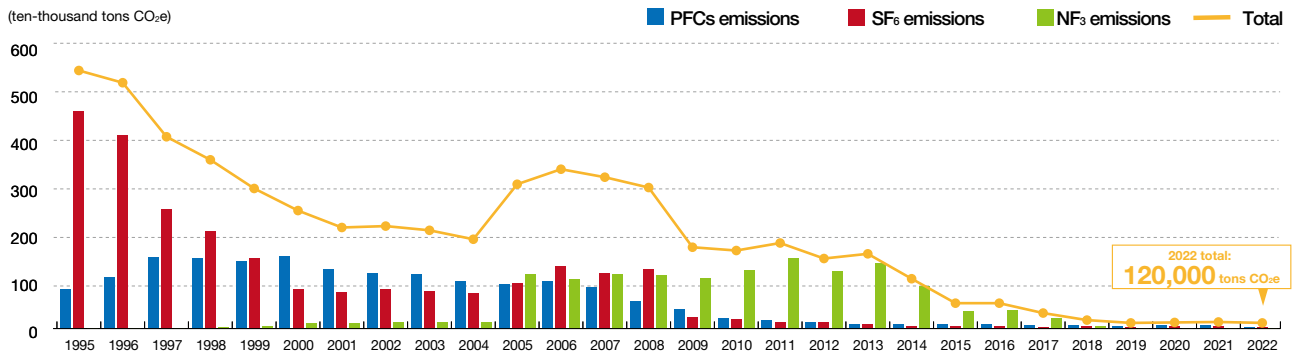
CO_2 emission reductions and emissions



Achieved 2030 Targets for Three CFC Substitutes

Efforts to reduce emissions of three gases (PFCs, SF_6, and NF3) by 2022 compared to the base year of 1995 achieved the 2030 target for all three gases (PFCs: 98% against 90% reduction by 2030; SF_6: 99% against 90% reduction by 2030; NF_3: 99% against 85% reduction by 2030). Efforts to reduce emissions during the production of three gases were reported as a target-achieving industry by the Working Group on CFC Measures of the Subcommittee on Chemical Substance Policies of the Council for Industrial Safety and Health.

PFCs,SF_6, and NF_3 emitted during manufacturing process



TOPICS

01 Activities Related to LCA

Based on the "Guidelines for CFP quantification of products in the chemical industry," which were formulated and published in March 2023 to enable companies in the chemical industry to accurately calculate and disclose their carbon footprints (CFP), we have started to establish a support system for promoting CFP quantification in the industry, and have been studying the creation of tools to support CFP quantification by product, including a collection of FAQ examples and a sheet for sharing CFP information among companies.

We have also received the "Product Carbon Footprint Calculation Tool CFP-TOMO®," which enables accurate and easy CFP calculation based on these guidelines, free of charge from the developer, Sumitomo Chemical Company, and are supporting the promotion of CFP calculation at each JCIA member company.

These activities were highly regarded as a pioneering social implementation of CFP in other industries, and Sumitomo Chemical Company and JCIA jointly received the Award of the Director-General of the Industrial Science and Technology Policy and Environment Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry at the 20th LCA Japan Forum.

02 Initiatives to Promote Green Transformation (GX)

In order to obtain government support for the chemical industry to achieve carbon neutrality (CN) in 2050, the 2nd Subcommittee on Resource Recycling and Economy, organized by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, discussed the ideal resource-recycling society in the chemical industry, chemical recycling efforts and issues to be resolved, and policy requests to realize a resource-recycling society in the chemical industry.

In addition, at the 2nd Study Group on GX Product Markets that Contribute to Demand Generation to Strengthen Industrial Competitiveness and Achieve Emission Reductions, we explained our approach to CN as a chemical industry and the issues that need to be resolved to achieve CN.

Recognizing that the implementation of GX is an important issue for the JCIA as a whole, the Global Warming Long-Term Strategy Study WG under the Technical Affairs Committee was renamed the GX Promotion Subcommittee and reorganized under the Policy Coordinating Committee to study a roadmap toward the 2050 CN that is consistent with various measures and to promote global warming countermeasures.

03 Chemical Recycling (CR)

Based on the concept that it is important to build a sustainable society by utilizing all carbon sources and recycling them into a wide range of chemical products, not just plastics, we believe it is important to design strategic international rules and ensure consistency in the efforts of each company, and we are promoting CR by discussing strategic standardization and domestic certification systems with an eye to market creation and social implementation.

The CR International Standardization TF is taking the initiative in Japan to develop international standards to increase the use of chemically-recycled products as raw materials for basic chemicals and to promote the use of chemically-recycled products, which are difficult to use on the basis of economic rationality alone. From the perspective of promoting carbon resource circulation, the CR Domestic Certification System TF is promoting the early launch of the registration system to confirm the recycling rate in order to improve social recognition of recycled products, including chemical recycling, and to realize social implementation of recycling of chemicals in Japan as soon as possible.

Public Relations Department

Activity Report: Public Relations Committee

▶ Committee Chairman,
KOGA Meiko
Executive Officer,
SEKISUI CHEMICAL CO., LTD.

MESSAGE For Rasing the Presence of Chemistry and the Chemical Industry

The chemical industry, which supplies products with a wide variety of functions, is expected to contribute to the realization of carbon neutrality by 2050 as a solution provider for various issues. The Public Relations Committee will widely disseminate information on JCIA's activities and the "Yume Kagaku-21" project, and will communicate with society to convey the value of innovation produced by the chemical industry and to contribute to the acceleration of its implementation in society.

Public Relations Committee
Chemistry Day Promotion WG

Note: WG/Working Group

Activity Outline

The Public Relations Committee shares information about the chemical industry's efforts to achieve a sustainable society and JCIA's major activities through the media. The committee also uses chemistry-related participatory events and SNS to communicate the usefulness and attractiveness of chemistry to young people.

Focus

Communication with Society Through the Media

JCIA disseminates information through press conferences, press releases, press coverage, and its website. In FY2023, we disseminated information in a timely manner on the international standardization of chemical recycling, trends and responses to domestic and international chemical laws and regulations, dissemination of quantitative assessment methods such as LCA and Carbon Footprint of Products, and the "Voluntary Action Plan" of chemical associations for proper distribution, in order to promote a broad public understanding of the issue. In addition, we actively introduced Responsible Care activities, LRI activities, safety-related seminars, and chemistry personnel cultivation programs in our monthly newsletter, "PR Net," and continuously disseminated information about them.

Promoting "Chemistry Day" on SNS

In September 2023, JCIA's Public Relations Department opened an official SNS account and began posting short videos. The concept of the videos is "power, possibility, and fun" of chemistry. From September 23 to October 23, 10 videos were posted in sequence to promote "October 23 is Chemistry Day" to SNS users through the viewing of the videos. The JCIA Public Relations Department's SNS continuously disseminates information with the aim of stimulating awareness, interest, and concern about chemistry and improving the attractiveness and presence of chemistry. We hope you will take a look.

TOPICS

01 SNS Seminar Held

On June 6, 2023, the Public Relations Committee held a seminar on "Using Digital Media in Public Relations (SNS Basics)" to provide useful information for member companies' PR activities. As SNS has become a common tool for transmitting and collecting information, the participants confirmed the latest trends in the main types and characteristics of SNS, key points of operation and risks, and exchanged opinions on issues related to SNS operation.

02 Issuance of Publications

We introduce the chemical industry and JCIA's activities to our members and a wide range of stakeholders through ANNUAL REPORT, CHEMICAL INDUSTORY OF JAPAN and PR Net. The publications are available on the JCIA website, so please check it out.

Activities of the Dream Chemistry 21 Project in FY2023

The Dream Chemistry 21 Committee, consisting of JCIA, the Chemical Society of Japan, the Society of Chemical Engineers Japan, and the Japan Association for Chemical Innovation, has designated October 23 as Chemistry Day and the week including that day as Chemistry Week to implement and support related events. The committee also organizes various events to convey the wonder and fascination of chemistry to children and to encourage their interest in the field.

EVENT

Summer Kids' Chemistry Experiment Show 2023

From August 5-6, the "Summer Kids' Chemistry Experiment Show 2023" was held at the Science Museum in Tokyo. This experimental show is a participatory event for elementary school students to experience the "wonder, fun, and enjoyment of chemistry." Although the event had been suspended since 2020 due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was held for the first time in four years in FY2023, with admission management based on a pre-registration system. A total of 1,500 people visited the venue over the two days and enjoyed learning about chemistry through experiments and quiz shows under the guidance of researchers and teachers from 15 companies and 1 organization* that exhibited.

*Asahi Kasei, Evonik Japan, Kao, Sumitomo Chemical, Denka, Toagosei, Tosoh, The Chemical Society of Japan Promotion and Exchange Committee, Nippon Kayaku, Nippon Paint Group, Hodogaya Chemical, Mitsui Chemical Wounders of Chemistry, Mitsubishi Chemical Group, UBE, Resonac (in Japanese syllabary order)

Why? What? Science Experimental Lab

This is a participatory event for 1st to 4th graders to experience the wonders of chemistry and think about why and how things happen. The event is held six times a year (in odd-numbered months), and each time, experiments, crafts, and observations are conducted with teachers from junior high schools, high schools, and universities as instructors. In FY2023, approximately 230 elementary school students (capacity of 240 students) experienced the fun of chemical experiments through six sessions. In addition, parent tours, which had been suspended due to measures against the COVID-19 pandemic, resumed in September.

Chemistry Grand Prix

The "Chemistry Grand Prix" is a nationwide competition in which junior high and high school students compete in chemistry every year (co-hosted with the Chemical Society of Japan). A total of 2,884 applicants participated in the first round of selection (mark-sensing examination) on July 17, 2023, and 81 of the top-scoring applicants advanced to the second round of selection on August 29-30, 2023. In the second round, applicants took a written test involving experiments, and the five applicants with the highest overall scores were awarded the Grand Prix Award. In addition, the top-scoring winners of the Grand Prix were sent to represent Japan at the International Chemistry Olympiad.

Dispatch of Students to the International Chemistry Olympiad

The International Chemistry Olympiad is an international chemistry competition where high school students from around the world compete in chemistry and deepen their friendship. At the 55th International Chemistry Olympiad held in Switzerland (Zurich) from July 16-25, 2023, 348 high school students from 89 countries and regions participated, and four students representing Japan achieved excellent results, winning two gold medals and two silver medals. On July 26, the representative students paid a courtesy visit to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and received the Minister's Award.

Kid's Chemistry Channel

With the cooperation of JCIA member companies and organizations, we produce and stream chemistry experiment videos to introduce children to the fun, enjoyment, and role of chemistry.

International Affairs Department

Activity Report: International Activities Committee

Committee Chairman,
KAMEZAKI Takahiko
Director and Executive Vice President,
Tosoh Corporation

MESSAGE Gathering Information on Trade Issues and Dealing with Unfair Trade

While free trade agreements and Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) such as TPP11 (CPTPP) and RCEP are expected to be utilized, the environment surrounding international trade is changing, including the consideration of introducing trade controls by the WTO and others (e.g., plastic regulations), market-distorting industrial subsidies, and business and human rights. In this changing environment, we will work with the government to propose the intentions of chemical companies regarding the use of EPAs, correction of unfair trade, trade remedy measures, and requests for tariff revision. We will also work on realization of a sustainable society and development of the chemical industry through ICCA activities and interaction with business associations in China, South Korea, etc.

International Activities Committee
Steering Group

Activity Outline

The committee strives to ascertain trade issues related to the chemical industry and provide information to member companies. In addition, JCIA is addressing international issues by lobbying authorities to reflect the intentions of the domestic chemical industry, strengthening relations with overseas chemical-related organizations such as China and South Korea through chemical industry conferences, etc., and participating in the management of ICCA.

Focus

Japan-China Chemical Industry Conference Held in China

In September 2023, the 6th China-Japan Chemical Industry Conference was held in Ningbo (People's Republic of China).

This conference has been held since 2015 by the JCIA, the Japan Petrochemical Industry Association (JPCA), and the China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation (CPCIF) with the aim of developing both sides through strengthening relations between the Chinese and Japanese chemical industries.

Held as part of the China Petroleum and Chemical International Conference (CPCIC), this was the first time in four years that the event was held in person due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and JCIA Chairman Fukuda gave a lecture on the role of the chemical industry in the future at the CPCIC plenary session.

The Japan-China Chemical Industry Conference was attended by 26 participants from Japan, including Mr. Iwata, Vice Chairman of the JCIA and President of the JPCA, as well as top executives from Japanese chemical companies and Japanese subsidiaries in China, and many important figures from the Chinese chemical industry, including Mr. Li, Deputy Chairman of CPCIF, and after introductions from both sides on the current state of the chemical industry in Japan and China, carbon neutrality, and efforts to address the plastics issue, a lively exchange of opinions took place.

This meeting provided an opportunity to deepen mutual understanding between the Japanese and Chinese chemical industries and to confirm our commitment to continue exchanges toward further development and a sustainable society.

TOPICS

01 The 14th Japan-South Korea Annual Meeting was held in Seoul.

In November 2023, the 14th Japan-South Korea Annual Meeting was held in Seoul (South Korea). This meeting has been held annually since 2010 by JCIA and the Korea Chemical Industry Council (KOCIC) with the aim of developing the chemical industries of both countries and maintaining and strengthening relations between them. In this face-to-face meeting, the first in four years since the online meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic, the participants introduced the policies of both countries regarding hydrogen and ammonia, and exchanged views on measures taken by the Japanese and South Korean governments and industries in response to the European PFAS regulation. In addition, regarding Responsible Care activities, Japan reported on the use of best practices (in the fields of occupational health and safety and disaster prevention), and South Korea reported on major trends in the revision of safety-related laws in South Korea, and opinions were exchanged.

02 Holding a Hybrid Seminar on Rules of Origin

In December 2023, a seminar was held to explain the Rules of Origin. In order to apply for lower tariff rates (EPA preferential rates) on imports and exports with Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) partner countries, it is important to understand the rules of origin, so we invite lecturers from Tokyo Customs and hold this event every year jointly with the Kansai Chemical Industry Association. Approximately 160 people participated via a hybrid format, and in order to ensure that as many people as possible received meaningful information, a recording of the seminar was made available on a trial basis to those who registered for the seminar at a later date. On the day of the seminar, there were an overview of the EPA, an explanation of how to check EPA preferential tax rates and Rules of Origin, case studies using chemicals as examples and lively Q&A session. There were also an explanation on the requirements for authorized operators under the AEO (Authorized Economic Operator) system and examples of how the system is used.

Department of Business/Economic Information

Activity Report: Economy and Tax System Committee

▶ Committee Chairman,
YOSHIDA Osamu
Executive Officer,
Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.

MESSAGE

New Growth for the Chemical Industry in a Rapidly Changing Social Climate

The economic environment surrounding the chemical industry is becoming increasingly uncertain, with trends in resource prices due to the situation in Ukraine and the Middle East region and the impact of fluctuations in financial and exchange markets on raw material and product prices. On the other hand, prompt action on various issues such as GX promotion to achieve carbon neutrality, innovation creation, and DX promotion is required for new growth of the chemical industry. In response to these challenges, we will strive to make proposals on regulations and systems, such as the tax system, and disseminate useful information for operating businesses.

Economy and Tax System Committee
- Tax Administration Subcommittee
- Security Export Control Investigative Subcommittee

Activity Outline

As various deregulation and tax system revisions are made for the development of the Japanese economy, in order to respond to these developments and make it possible for the chemical industry to achieve further growth, we gather and share information on the economy and tax system and make recommendations and requests for policies. We also implement responses to current issues related to the economy and business as appropriate.

Focus

FY2024 Requests for Revisions to the Tax System

In FY2023, we have identified the four priority request issues on the right to promote capital investment for the creation of breakthrough innovation and decarbonization that will contribute to growth toward achieving carbon neutrality (CN). We also conducted joint request activities in cooperation with other industry associations, and especially in FY2023, we worked with the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry to create a new tax system, including participation in study groups and cooperation in providing data from member companies for the design of the system. As a result, the "Taxation System for Promoting Domestic Production in Strategic Fields" and the "Innovation Box Taxation System" were established as requested by the JCIA.

We will continue to request the expansion of systems that contribute to further GX investment promotion and innovation acceleration in the chemical industry, while also taking into account economic security and other social trends.

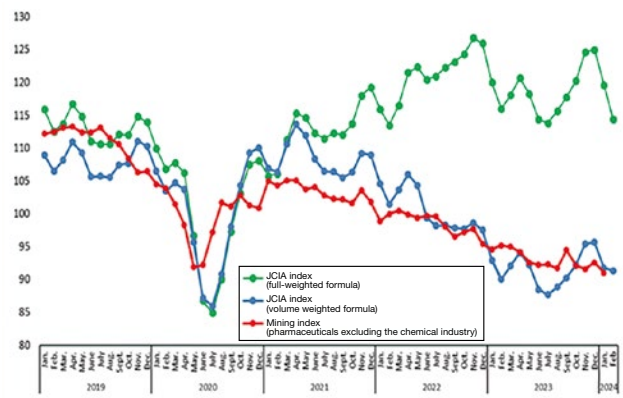
■ JCIA's Key Requests for Taxation in FY2024

1. **Development of a tax system to promote capital investment (including running support)**
   - Extension and expansion of the application period for the CN investment promotion tax credit
   - Review and reduction of depreciable property tax, etc.
2. **Expansion of the tax system to promote innovation such as research and development**
   - Extension and expansion of the applicable deadline for the open innovation promotion tax credit
   - Creation of an innovation box tax system, etc.
3. **Development of tax system related to international taxation**
   - Reducing the burden on companies in dealing with new international taxation rules, etc.
4. **Review tax system consistent with carbon pricing policy in GX promotion**

TOPICS

01 Revision of the JCIA Index

■ **Index of shipments of major chemical products**



The base year of the JCIA index was changed from 2015 to 2020 in line with the revision of the base year of the mining index of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which is a key statistic.

In addition, the JCIA index was revised to better reflect the actual business conditions by changing the calculation method from a value-weighted formula to a volume-weighted formula.

02 Security Export Control Seminar

The Security Export Control Investigative Subcommittee holds briefings on the importance of security trade control and key points for the development of a voluntary export control system, in cooperation with the relevant divisions of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.
In FY2023, we added a lecture on the protection of confidential corporate information and held it online jointly with the Kansai Chemical Industry Association, and the number of participants was 541, much higher than in previous years.

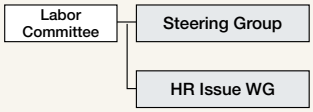
Labor Department

Activity Report: Labor Committee

Committee Chairman,
TAKEDA Makoto
Managing Director,
Nippon Kayaku Co., Ltd.

MESSAGE Continuing to Promote Support for Human Resource Development and Provision of Information to Member Companies

In FY2023, we established the HR Issue WG to discuss and make recommendations under the theme of "What is the path forward for the people and organization of Japanese companies looking ahead to 2030 - Part 2." The training for production site leaders was held four times with a revamped program. In addition, we continuously collect and disseminate information on wages, bonuses, and various labor information, and hold regular information exchange meetings with labor union organizations. We will continue to promote the sharing of meaningful information and provide human resources development support for member companies.



Note: WG/Working Group

Activity Outline

Our main activities are to support human resource development through human resources & labor management staff development seminars, training for production site leaders, and the HR Issue WG, to provide opinions to the government on labor-related policies and legal revisions through the Japan Business Federation, and to maintain appropriate relations through regular information exchange with labor union organizations.

Focus

Activities of the HR Issue Working Group

The HR Issue WG activities are held every two years, in which participants from various companies derive specific issues to be considered regarding personnel and labor issues common to the chemical industry, discuss them based on surveys, and compile recommendations on how to respond to them. In FY2023, under the theme of "What is the path forward for the people and organization of Japanese companies looking ahead to 2030 - Part 2," we tackled the issue of how people and organizations should respond to various possible "major shifts" in the world and society, topics not covered in the previous fiscal year (FY2021).

The WG consisted of 16 participants from 14 companies, who were divided into two groups. Since September, in addition to monthly plenary meetings, each group has held breakout sessions and reported the results of their activities at the Labor Committee meeting in February 2024. The first group analyzed the growing necessity and current status of women's empowerment and identified issues under "further promotion of women's empowerment in the chemical industry" with "diversity" as the starting point. The group also discussed the issue, conducted a survey of leading case studies in other industries, and proposed ways to achieve the ideal state of the chemical industry. The second group focused on "HR technology" and set the theme "Transformation of HR functions with a view to the next 10 years and the use of HR technology," then conducted a survey of leading case studies in other industries on how HR technology can be used to solve problems faced by HR departments, and made recommendations on how to incorporate the use of HR technology into HR policies. The recommendations are posted on the JCIA member website.

TOPIC

Training for Chemical Plant Production Site Leaders

The Training for Chemical Plant Production Site Leaders was started in FY2016 for member companies as well as companies that have difficulty holding training sessions independently, and is currently held four times a year. The training program has been implemented since FY2022 with a focus on "mindset" as a field leader and "security capabilities" based on safety infrastructure and safety culture. In FY2023, in-person training was revived with the reclassification of the COVID-19 pandemic as a "Class 5" disease and was held in Tokyo in June and August. We also held a web-based training in October and an in-person training in Osaka in March so that participants from remote areas could attend. In addition, in conjunction with the training session, a "Chemical Risk Assessment Talk" was streamed on YouTube for the participants to learn.

The training sessions are not limited to listening to lectures, but also include video case studies of accidents and group discussions to deepen understanding by referring to the opinions of other workplaces and applying them to their own workplaces. Furthermore, the content of the training is designed to clarify the changes in participants' awareness before and after the training, as well as specific practices to be implemented in their own workplaces after the training.

In FY2023, a total of 109 people participated in training during the year. We will continue to hold the training sessions in FY2024.

Introduction to the Chemical Products PL Consulting Center

Background of Establishment

When the Product Liability (PL) Act was promulgated in 1994, the Chemical Products PL Consulting Center was established as an independent organization within JCIA because of the need to create an out-of-court dispute settlement system that draws on specialized knowledge of each product field.

https://www2.nikkakyo.org/plcenter

Activities

The Center consults on a wide range of issues related to chemical products sought from not only consumers but also businesses and Consumer Affairs Centers nationwide from a professional perspective.

The Center's activities are reported to the relevant departments in the monthly "Activity Note" and made available to the public on the website. In addition to posting the contents of all consultations and responses, the website also includes related information such as "Special Notes" and "Topics" to disseminate chemistry-related information each month. The annual activity report is also released on the website.

The Center also emphasizes on providing information that can help prevent chemical product accidents as well as providing information to consumers through lectures and publishing and distributing educational booklets. Visiting lectures are available for both consumers and businesses, and we do our best to tailor our lectures to the request of the client. As for educational booklets, we edit the contents of the monthly Activity Note to create reader-friendly booklets that are easy to pick up and read. Currently, seven volumes are available, and in FY2023, we newly published "Seasonal essay on Chemistry."

The Activity Note, the Annual Activity Report, and the publishing booklets, which are reported to the relevant departments and published on the website, can be viewed on the Center's website. The updates on the website is also announced by news mail. (Register your email address at pl@jcia-net.or.jp)

Chemical Products PL Consulting Center

Phone consultations

Weekdays: 9:30–16:00
Number of consultations: 234 cases (results for FY2022)

Newsletter distribution

New information is provided through news email.

Register your email address at pl@jcia-net.or.jp

On-demand lecture dispatching

- For consumers
- For businesses

Lecture in Nagoya (November).

Provision of educational materials

■ Activity Note (Monthly report)

Consultation info

Special Notes

Column

All consultations received by the Center and the answers to them are stated here.
It also includes Special Notes and Column introducing topics related to chemistry.

■ Publishing booklets

"Seasonal essay on Chemistry"
(published March 2024)

Reorganized the contents of the Activity Note for enhanced readability.

■ On-demand lectures in FY2023

Date of implementation	Subject	Client
June 11, 2023	"Looking at familiar cosmetics as chemical products: In anticipation of the season when ultraviolet rays become stronger"	NACS Chugoku Branch Advisor Training
July 21, 2023	"How to deal with chemical products and how to respond to consultation" (available on the web)	Kanagawa Consumer Affairs Center
November 9, 2023	"How to deal with the chemical products around you"	Regional Environmental Measures Division, Nagoya City Environment Bureau
November 15, 2023	"How to deal with the chemical products around you"	Suzuka Kameyama Consumer Affairs Center
December 20, 2023	"How to deal with the chemical products around you"	Osaka Municipal Consumers' Center
December 21, 2023	"How to deal with the chemical products around you"	Koto Ward Consumer Center

Three JCIA Awards

Each year, the JCIA awards the “JCIA Safety Award,” which recognizes business sites that have implemented excellent safety activities and set a good example; the “JCIA Technology Award,” which recognizes the creation of innovative and outstanding science, technology, and products that have greatly contributed to the development of society as a whole and to environmental improvement; and the “JCIA Responsible Care Award,” which recognizes business sites, departments, groups, and individuals that have contributed to the spread and revitalization of Responsible Care activities.

Recipients of the three JCIA awards for FY2023

48th JCIA Safety Award

These awards are conferred on chemical plants that have achieved high-level safety records through occupational health and safety and process safety and disaster prevention activities and are implementing extremely excellent safety initiatives, which serve as models for the industry. In addition to having the representatives of the awarded sites present their safety activities as best practices, a safety symposium is held in conjunction with the awards to discuss the major theme of “How to maintain accident-free workplaces” among the representatives of the sites, providing many members with reference for their safety activities.

Award	Award Winner
JCIA Annual Safety Award Grand Prize	Resonac Holdings Corporation, Hikone Kawase Plant
JCIA Annual Safety Award First Prize	Toray Industries, Inc. Gifu Plant
JCIA Annual Safety Award First Prize	Kao Corporation, Toyohashi Plant
JCIA Annual Safety Award First Prize	Asahi Kasei Construction Materials Corporation, Construction Materials Production Center, Neoma Foam Plant
JCIA Annual Safety Award First Prize	JNC Corporation, Moriyama Plant, JNC Filter Co., Ltd., Moriyama Plant
JCIA Annual Special Safety Award First Prize	SunAllomer Ltd., Research and Development Division

Grand Prize Resonac Holdings Corporation, Hikone Kawase Plant

I would like to express our deep appreciation for the honor of being awarded the JCIA Annual Safety Award Grand Prize.

We promote our business activities based on our health and safety policy, “safety and compliance take precedence over everything else.” We are very honored to have received this award in recognition of our company-wide shift from point-and-shoot safety patrols to interactive safety patrols that emphasize communication with employees, the fostering of a culture of praise promoted at workplaces, measures to raise safety awareness, and safety experience education initiatives.

We will continue to work together with our employees to ensure that we continue to have no further accidents in the future.

56th JCIA Technology Award

JCIA Technology Awards recognize companies that have contributed to the progress of the chemical industry and economic society through the development and industrialization of excellent chemical technologies in order to promote chemical technologies. JCIA awards the Grand Prize, the Special Technology Prize, and the Environmental Technology Prize, and values their excellent achievement.

Award	Award Winner	Awarded Theme
Grand Prize	Toray Industries, Inc.	Development and industrialization of composite spinning technology “NANODESIGN”
Special Technology Prize	Zeon Corporation	Development of a new production method for cyclopentanone and establishment of a five-membered ring chemical business
Environmental Technology Prize	Nippon Paint Marine Coatings Co., Ltd.	Development of “FASTAR,” a next-generation hydrolytic antifouling paint for the bottom of ships

Grand Prize Toray Industries, Inc., Fibers & Textiles Research Laboratories

Looking back on the technological transition of synthetic fibers, it seems that the pursuit of fiber technology has led to the birth of many revolutionary new materials and technologies. “NANODESIGN” is a technology that pursues the extreme limits of composite spinning technology, and we hope to continue to explore the possibilities of fiber materials and contribute to people’s comfortable and affluent lives by further deepening and developing this technology. Thank you very much for the honor of receiving the JCIA Technology Award Grand Prize.

18th JCIA Responsible Care (RC) Award

These awards, which are conferred on individuals or groups that have contributed to promoting RC activities, are aimed at further motivating and energizing the people involved in RC activities.

Award	Award Winner	Awarded Theme
Grand Prix Award	Asahi Kasei Corporation, Nobeoka Branch Office	Improvements machine safety activities toward “safe equipment manufacturing”
Jury’s Special Award	Kao Corporation, SCM Division	Risk Communication with Local Communities to foster safety
Jury’s Special Award	Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company, Inc., Yamakita Plant	Initiatives to coexist with local roots ~Continuous communication and contribution~
Outstanding Award	Mitsui Chemicals Sun Alloys Co., Ltd.	Activities by all employees to further strengthen the plant infrastructure
Outstanding Award	DIC Corporation, Chemical Substance Handling Management Improvement WG	Improving the management system for handling chemical substances

RC Grand Prix Award Asahi Kasei Corporation, Nobeoka Branch Office

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for receiving the RC Grand Prix Award. We are very honored to receive such a high evaluation of our efforts to “Improvements machinery safety activities toward ‘safe equipment manufacturing’.” Since FY2018, we have continued to face various issues of machine safety, develop human resources, and improve equipment with guidance from internal and external experts, and have now expanded our activities to the 18 factories we had targeted. We will continue to accomplish this activity together with everyone at the factories to eliminate serious occupational injuries.

Glossary

Term/abbreviation	Official name	Explanation
ACC	American Chemistry Council	
AEC	ASEAN Economic Community	ASEAN Economic Community. The ASEAN Economic Community is one of the three pillars of the ASEAN Community, together with the ASEAN Political Security Community (APSC) and the ASEAN Socio Cultural Community (ASCC). The 10 member states of ASEAN (Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Laos) to become a single economic bloc.
AMEICC	ASEAN Economic Ministers and METI Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee	AEM-METI (ASEAN-Japan) Economic and Industrial Cooperation Committee. A sub-organization of the ASEAN-Japan Economic Ministers' Meeting.
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (a framework for economic cooperation involving 21 countries and regions in the Asia-Pacific region).
ARCP	ASEAN Regulatory Cooperation Project	Regulatory cooperation project for ASEAN.
APRO	Asia Pacific Responsible Care Organization	Asia Pacific Responsible Care Organization (established in 2003 as an APRCC-supported organization). Currently chaired by Japan.
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations	Association of South-East Asian Nations. It is a regional cooperation organization for economic, social, political, security, and cultural affairs among 10 Southeast Asian countries. Its headquarters is located in Jakarta, Indonesia.
CCU	Carbon Capture and Utilization	A technology that captures CO_2 and uses it as a resource to make industrially useful substances such as olefins.
Cefic	European Chemical Industry Council	
chemSHERPA	Chemical information Sharing and Exchange under Reporting Partnership in supply chain	Information transmission scheme of chemicals in products
cLCA	carbon- Life Cycle Analysis	Carbon footprint and life cycle assessment. The CO_2 emissions during the life cycle (material sampling, manufacturing, distribution, use, and disposal) of final product using chemical products and that of final product using comparative products are compared, and that difference is considered as emissions that increase when those chemical products were not used and calculated as net contribution to avoided emissions.
CLP	Classification, Labelling and Packaging of substances and mixtures	A regulation on the classification, labeling and packaging of substances and mixtures in the EU based on the GHS.
CN	Carbon Neutral	When the volume of CO_2 emissions accompanying people's daily activities and CO_2 absorption are in balance. The aim is to achieve effective zero emissions of CO_2, the cause of global warming.
COP	Conference of the Parties	"COP" itself means "Conference of the Parties." Usually, COP refers to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
CPCIF	China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation	China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation.
CR	Chemical Recycling	Abbreviation for chemical recycling.
E&CC LG	Energy and Climate Change Leadership Group	Energy and Climate Change Leadership Group, An organization within ICCA.
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement	Economic Partnership Agreement
GADSL	Global Automotive Declarable Substance List	List of substances already restricted or planned to be restricted worldwide by countries and published by the GASG with the possibility of being contained in automotive products.
GASG	Global Automotive Stakeholders Group	Organization constructed and established by representatives of automotive, automotive parts, and chemicals manufacturers in Japan, Europe, and United States for the purpose of continuously exchanging and sharing information through the supply chain of the global automotive industry in order to achieve reductions in the environmental load through the life cycle of automotive.
GFC	Global Framework on Chemicals	An international framework for chemical substances. Adopted as the successor to SAICM at the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-5) held in 2023.
GHG	Greenhouse Gas	Greenhouse Gas
GHS	Globally Harmonized System of classification and labelling of chemicals	Globally harmonized system concerning classification and labeling of chemicals. System for classifying chemicals by type and degree of hazard according to globally unified rules with labeling to make the information understandable at a glance and provide a safety data sheet. Issued from UN in 2003.
GX	Green Transformation	Abbreviation for Green Transformation.
ICCA	International Council of Chemical Associations	International Council of Chemical Associations
ICCM	International Conference on Chemicals Management	International conference on the management of chemical substances.
JaCVAM	Japanese Center for the Validation of Alternative Methods	Japanese Center for the Validation of Alternative Methods. An organization established at the National Institute of Health Sciences, Center for Biological Safety and Research, with the objective of contributing to the introduction of new alternative methods for animal testing as administrative testing methods that contribute to the promotion of the 3Rs (reduction, refinement, and replacement) regarding animal testing, while ensuring public safety in the safety assessment of work-related substances such as chemical substances, to the extent possible.

Term/abbreviation	Official name	Explanation
JaIPLE	Japan Initiative for Plastic on Environment	Japan Initiative for Plastic on Environment.
JIPS	Japan Initiative of Product Stewardship	Risk evaluation considering the supply chain and voluntary approaches by the industrial field on the basis of risk management.
KOCIC	Korea Chemical Industry Council	Korea Chemical Industry Council.
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment	Method for objectively and quantitatively evaluating the environmental impact of all stages, from acquisition of materials for the product through production, use, disposal, transportation, etc.
LRI	Long-range Research Initiative	Long-term independent research (activities that provide long-term support for research on the effects of chemical substances on human health and the environment, based on funds contributed by LRI member companies). This is a cooperative effort among the chemical industry associations (JCIA, ACC, and Cefic) between Japan, the U.S., and Europe.
NAMs	New Approach Methods	A term used to describe a broad range of new methods, such as in silico approaches, in chemico and in vitro test methods, and exposure information in hazard assessment. High-throughput screening includes high-content methods as well as various omics technologies.
NF_3	Nitrogen trifluoride	Nitrogen trifluoride is a type of greenhouse gas.
NITE	National Institute of Technology and Evaluation	National Institute of Technology and Evaluation.
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.
RC	Responsible Care	Responsible Care. Activities wherein each company handling chemical substances voluntarily secures the environment, safety, and health in all processes of development of chemical substances, manufacturing, distribution, use, final consumption, disposal, and recycling and then discloses the outcome of activities and communicates with society.
RCEP	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership	A regional free trade agreement consisting of 15 countries (Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, Vietnam, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Japan, China, Korea, Australia, and New Zealand), primarily Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members. Signed November 2020.
RCLG	Responsible Care Leadership Group	Responsible Care Leadership Group, An organization within ICCA.
REACH	Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals	Regulation on registration, evaluation, authorization and restriction of chemicals.
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management	Compiled by the 2006 International Conference on Chemicals Management, this is a strategic approach toward international chemical management with 2020 as the target year.
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals	Seventeen goals until 2030 concerning poverty, starvation, energy, climate change, industry and innovation as agendas of 2030 for sustainable development were adopted by the UN in September 2015. Successor of Millennium Development Goals.
SDS	Safety Data Sheet	Safety data sheet for chemical substances, containing information describing the safety of chemical substances. Formerly called MSDS in Japan.
SF_6	Sulfur hexafluoride	Sulfur hexafluoride is a type of greenhouse gas.
TPP11	Trans-Pacific Partnership or Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement	The TPP Agreement was signed by 12 countries in February 2016, but after the US declared its withdrawal in January 2017, the agreement was broadly agreed at the TPP ministerial meeting in Vietnam in November 2017. 11 ministers signed the agreement in March 2018, and it entered into force in December 2018.
TF	Task Force	Special team established to tackle particular urgent issues.
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly	Decision-making bodies of UNEA (United Nations Environment Assembly) and UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme).
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds	This is a general name for volatile organic compounds that evaporate into the air. It includes various substances such as toluene, xylene, and ethyl acetate.
WS	Workshop	A participatory, interactive group learning experience in which participants do not only listen to the instructor's talk in a one-way manner, but rather participate in the discussion or experience it themselves.
WTO	World Trade Organization	An organization that handles global trade rules between countries.
WG	Working Group	Working group organized for promoting investigations and planning of particular problems.
Carbon footprint	Carbon Footprint of Products	A method to quantitatively determine the amount of greenhouse gas emissions related to products and services throughout their life cycle, from resource extraction, procurement of raw materials, manufacturing, processing, and distribution to disposal and recycling.
Carbon Pricing	Carbon Pricing	General term for efforts to encourage reductions in emissions by attaching a price to carbon emitted by companies, households, etc. and placing a burden proportional to the volume emitted.
Product Stewardship	Product Stewardship	Activities to ensure the health and safety of people and minimize the impact on the environment through the whole product life cycle.

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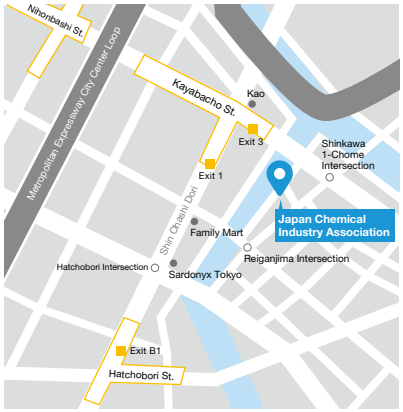

Kayabacho St. (Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line, Tozai Line)
Approximately 3 minutes on foot from Exit 1 or Exit 3

Hatchobori St. (JR Keiyo Line)
Approximately 8 minutes on foot from Exit B1

Contact

General Affairs Department
TEL 03-3297-2550 FAX 03-3297-2610

Public Relations Department
TEL 03-3297-2555 FAX 03-3297-2615

International Affairs Department
TEL 03-3297-2576 FAX 03-3297-2612

Department of Business/Economic Information
TEL 03-3297-2559 FAX 03-3297-2606

Labor Department
TEL 03-3297-2563 FAX 03-3297-2606

Technical Affairs Department
TEL 03-3297-2578 FAX 03-3297-2606

Environment and Safety Department
TEL 03-3297-2568 FAX 03-3297-2606

Chemicals Management Department
TEL 03-3297-2567 FAX 03-3297-2612

Responsible Care Department
TEL 03-3297-2583 FAX 03-3297-2615

Chemical Products PL Consulting Center
TEL 03-3297-2602 FAX 03-3297-2604

Dream Chemistry 21 Committee
TEL 03-3297-2555 FAX 03-3297-2615

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Nikka-chan
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Japan Chemical Industry Association

7F Sumitomo Fudosan Rokko Building, 1-4-1 Shinkawa, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0033
TEL 03-3297-2555 FAX 03-3297-2615

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