

# Chemical Substance Control

## ■ Comprehensive Chemical Substance Control

At the TEL Group, we control the chemicals used for production and those used in our products appropriately and thoroughly, to prevent significant impact on the environment and on human health. To this end, we conduct risk assessments of the noxious properties of chemicals, based on an understanding of the actual circumstances involved. We have also developed and implemented a system at each plant involving the review and registration of chemical substances as they are first used.

## ■ Compliance with the Pollutant Release and Transfer Register Law (Law Concerning Reporting, etc. of Releases to the Environment of Specific Chemical Substances and Promoting Improvements in Their Management)

The Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) Law was enacted in 1999 as “Laws Concerning Reporting, etc. of Releases to the Environment of Specific Chemical Substances and Promoting Improvements in Their Management.” The law went into effect in April 2000. Since then we have been required to regulate the balance of substances subject to the PRTR. At the TEL Group, each plant conducted a survey of the chemical substances subject to the PRTR. As a result of which it was found that 35 of such substances were being used throughout the TEL Group. Each plant is currently looking into the usage and emission volume of such substances into the environment, while promoting overall improvements in the management of such substances.

## ■ Examples of Reductions in the Use of Chemical Substances

At the Saga plant, the use of isopropyl alcohol (IPA) has been completely terminated in the vapor-drier inspection process during the manufacturing of cleaning system. The amount of IPA used in the manufacturing process of coater/developers has also been reduced by switching to pure water. The switch has so far resulted in 66% reduction of IPA use per product.

## ■ Development of an MSDS Database

We manage and employ Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) using a computer system at each plant that reviews and registers chemical substances when they are first used. In addition, we have also been developing an online database that will enable group-wide access to MSDS data. This database currently contains information on around 500 chemical substances used at 5 plants (Tohoku, Sagami, Saga, Kumamoto, and Koshi). Information on the remaining plants is currently being compiled into the database.

