



## Response to international chemical substance management

Chemical substances are being subject to stricter control on a global basis. At the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in 2002, a target was set as part of the international agenda to “use and produce chemicals in ways that minimize significant adverse effects on human health and the environment by 2020,” in an effort to realize sustainable development. Based on this agenda, countries around the world including emerging countries are being encouraged to adopt and firmly establish risk-based management of chemicals and implement GHS.\* In terms of chemical substances, there is a rising trend requiring control of relevant risks from the standpoint of the entire supply chain, i.e. from manufacture to disposal, while also being required to disclose information on the risks caused by chemical substances and their control to the general public, including customers and consumers.

The NOF Group is implementing control of chemical substances in line with this trend to tighten controls over chemical substances by complying with the laws of each country and region. To this end, since fiscal 2020, NOF has introduced and built a company-wide SDS creation support system, and has begun centralized management of SDS throughout the company.

## Meeting domestic requirements

In Japan, prior notification of new chemical substances is mandatory, pursuant to the Act on the Regulation of Manufacture and Evaluation of Chemical Substances (Chemical Substances Control Act) and the Industrial Safety and Health Act.

In order to make proper notifications, when beginning production of a new chemical substance, the Responsible Care & Plant Investment Department confirms compliance with laws, and such substances remain under strict control as internal audits are conducted to ensure that there are no excesses beyond the volume that has been authorized for manufacture or import. NOF also trains its responsible personnel regarding related regulatory matters in order to keep them up-to-date with the latest information.

In terms of reports on the actual quantity of general chemical substances manufactured, we practice appropriate control with the cooperation of our clients.

We also positively disclose information on the risks and other negative aspects of chemical substances through the Japan Initiative of Product Stewardship, which is the chemical industry’s institution for voluntary activities for the control of chemicals.

In addition, we participate in the Long-Range Research Initiative (LRI) implemented through the

Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA), support research that leads to safety and security from a viewpoint that a company should “meet the needs of society,” and work together to solve social issues.



Education on new chemical substances  
(Advanced Technology Research Laboratory)



Education on new chemical substances (Oita Plant)

\*Abbreviation for Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, which classifies the hazardous properties of chemicals according to certain globally standardized criteria and displays them in an easy-to-understand manner using pictorial labels and other means.



## Compliance with REACH

REACH\* is a comprehensive system of registration, evaluation, authorization, and restriction of chemical substances within the EU. REACH aims to protect human health and the environment, and to maintain and enhance competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry, among others, and includes almost all chemical substances exported to the EU within its jurisdiction.

The NOF Group engages in active exports to the EU region and complies with REACH in accordance with the export volume of the chemical substance involved. We practice appropriate compliance by obtaining the latest information from industrial associations and related authorities.

## Other countries and regions

There has been increasing legislation of late for stricter controls over chemical substances not only in the US but also in Asian countries and regions such as South Korea, China, and Taiwan, and we are gathering the latest information regarding exports to such countries, and practicing appropriate compliance, when the situation arises.

## Proper management of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)

The NOF Group properly stores and manages polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) waste in accordance with the Law Concerning Special Measures Against PCB Waste, and disposes of such waste by commissioning disposal operators as prescribed by laws and regulations.

All treatment of high-concentration PCBs has been completed as of the end of March 2023, the final deadline for treatment. As for low-concentration PCBs, we have completed the survey of all equipment containing PCBs, including PCB components contained in paint coatings, and are systematically replacing the equipment and changing the coatings to meet the treatment deadline of the end of March 2027.

## Compliance status to acts related to the environment

There was no violation of acts related to the environment.

\*Acronym for "Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals". REACH represents the EU's quality control regulations on chemicals and is applied to the registration, evaluation, authorization, and restriction of chemicals.