TRI consolidates its Chemical and Plastic Products Business Unit into Fuji-Susono and Oita. ~For enhancing production efficiency and product development capability~

Tokai Rubber Industries, Ltd. (TRI) (Head office: Komaki City, Aichi Prefecture, President: Yoshiaki Nishimura) has decided to restructure and consolidate the functions of its Chemical and Products Business Unit into 2 bases—the Fuji-Susono Plant (Susono City, Shizuoka) and TRI Oita Advanced Elastomer, Ltd. (Oita AE: TRI’s 100% subsidiary located in Bungo-Takada City, Oita).

This Business Unit manufactures roll and blade components for office equipment such as printers and copiers and supplies them mainly to precision equipment makers. Since 1984, its businesses have been gradually expanding with its production bases spreading in 3 places—the Komaki Plant (Komaki City, Aichi), the Fuji-Susono Plant, and the Oita AE—and its development and sales departments away from each other in the Komaki Plant and the Tokyo Branch (Minato Ward, Tokyo) respectively. However, there have been calls for intensified cooperation among development, production, and sales departments in order to increase profitability through cost reduction.

Therefore, we will consolidate these 4 bases into 2 for the purpose of releasing high functional products in Japan and other developed nations as well as improving our cost competitiveness in emerging economies. We can especially look for increased production efficiency, sped-up product development processes and enhanced technological capability by moving our sales, development, and production departments into one place.

Investment in the restructuring is estimated to be around 1.6 billion yen including building construction and the relocation of production facilities in the Fuji-Susono Plant. We will also transfer to the Fuji-susono Plant or other departments approximately 240 employees who are currently working at the Head Office’s Komaki Plant and the Tokyo Branch.

**<Consolidation Schedule>**

April, 2012・・・Production facility transfer started
End of September, 2012・・・Consolidation completed

**<Outline of the Fuji-Susono Plant>**

Location : 1220-8 Hiragaki Suyama-aza Susono City, Shizuoka
Payroll : Approx. 580 (As of December, 2011)
Area : Site—approx. 124,000 m²
Building—about 49,000 m² in total
Establishment : 1990
Production Items : Precision parts for office equipment, Automotive anti-vibration rubber

**<Corporate Profile of TRI Oita Advanced Elastomer, Ltd.>**

Location : Kanae-dai 1, Bungo-Takada City, Oita
Capital Stock : 450 million yen
Payroll : Approx. 530 (As of December, 2011)
Area: Site—approx. 108,000 m²
  Buildings—about 39,000 m² in total
Establishment: 1998
Production Items: Precision parts for office equipment

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