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6-1, Ohtemachi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.

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Update on the current situations at the Shin-Etsu Group's plants impacted by the Great East Japan Earthquake

We would like to express our heartfelt sympathies to all of the people who were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake that occurred on March 11, 2011. We fervently wish for the early recovery of the region affected.

The Shin-Etsu Group has posted eight reports on our website regarding the situations of the Shin-Etsu Group's production sites that were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. This press release contains the latest update on the current situations at the affected plants.

Shin-Etsu Chemical's Kashima Plant

1. The polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plant, where operations had been stopped since March 11, restarted operations in a part of the facility on April 28th using the plant's inventory of raw materials. In accordance with the restoration plan for the whole of the Kashima industrial complex, we are targeting the resumption of full-scale operations of Shin-Etsu Chemical's PVC plant for the end of May.

In the interim period until full-scale operations are resumed, with the cooperation of Shintech in the U.S. we will minimize the effects of the disastrous earthquake on our PVC business.

2. With regard to the optical fiber preform plant, the supply of utilities such as electricity and water has resumed, and because we have had the prospect of procuring raw materials to a certain extent, we have begun partial operations on April 18th. Going forward, we will gradually restart the equipment that has been stopped.

Shin-Etsu Handotai Shirakawa Plant

1. At the Shirakawa Plant, where operations had been stopped since March 11, from April 20th we restarted partial operations. Currently, we are accelerating the necessary restoration work, and going forward we will increase operations gradually. We are carrying out the restoration work with the aim of returning the production capacity at the plant to the level prior to the disastrous earthquake by end of June to July of this year.

2. At the same time, we are coping with the current situation by increasing production operations at each of the Shin-Etsu Group's worldwide silicon wafer production sites.

With regard to our outlook for the resumption as above, it is based on assumptions made as of this time, and thus please bear in mind that there is a possibility of a change, depending on such circumstances as the occurrence of aftershocks.

Moreover, with regard to the problem of the shortage of electricity expected during peak power consumption in the summer this year in the regional areas served by the Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Tohoku Electric Power Company, we will make company-wide efforts to reduce the consumption of electric power by utilizing the technologies and expertise we possess. Furthermore, we will cope with the power-usage situation by increasing the rate of utilization of our private power-generation facilities that are located at our Naoetsu Plant and Gunma Complex.

We will continue to do our utmost for early recovery, while always putting our first priority on safety. We will announce updated information when any changes occur.