

# Enhanced Chemicals Management

## Chemicals Management System

The Yokohama Rubber Group is strengthening arrangements for management of chemicals. Measures include the establishment in 2005 of the Chemicals Control Committee, the ensuring of proper abidance by the law, and the appropriate management of chemicals and communication of data on chemicals along the supply chain. Existing chemicals are managed primarily using MSDS, and voluntary activities to reduce use of PRTR substances are being pursued within the group.

## REACH Subcommittee Gets Down to Business

In order to strengthen compliance with REACH,<sup>1</sup> which has applied to products destined for Europe since June 2007, the REACH Subcommittee was established under the Chemicals Control Committee to begin looking into concrete measures, such as development of a database.

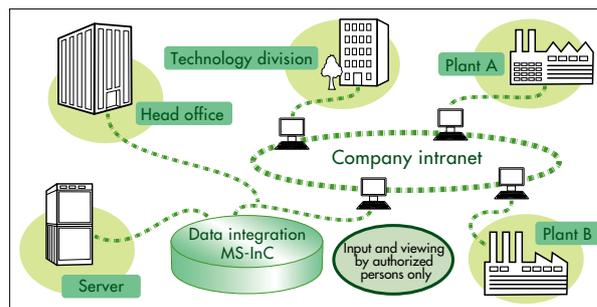
1. REACH: The Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals regulation of the EU.

## Launch of MS-InC-based Database Administration

Suppliers and supplies along the supply chain are surveyed to keep track of the presence, and quantity where present, of SOCs such as lead and cadmium in purchases of raw materials. The data obtained are centrally managed using the MS-InC system developed in-house by Yokohama Rubber. This system allows information to be shared by head office, design and development technology divisions, and all of the 8 plants in Japan.

\*MS-InC is an acronym derived from the underlined letters in "Material Management System Information of Chemicals."

### MS-InC in outline



## Reduction of Use of PRTR Chemicals

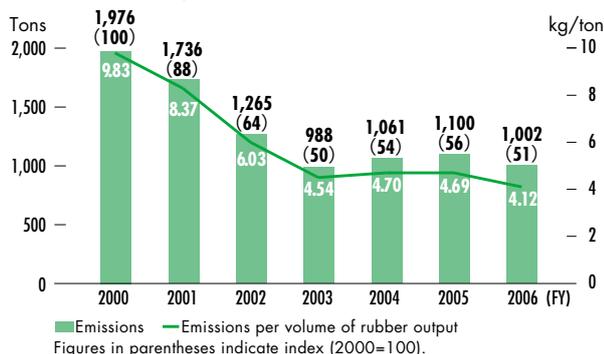
Use of volatile organic compounds (VOCs)<sup>2</sup> was cut by 49% compared with the base year for VOC limits (2000) in fiscal 2006 owing to reduced use of rubber volatiles containing the PRTR substances toluene and xylene. At the Mishima and Shinshiro Plants, cuts in toluene and xylene resulted in the impact on safety<sup>3</sup> improving for a second year running. In fiscal 2006, as a result of project activities to reduce toluene use, a

90% reduction compared with the level in fiscal 2000 was achieved. Use of trichloroethylene and HCFC Freon-141b in aircraft products will also be discontinued by September 2007.

2. VOCs: Organic compounds present as a gas when emitted or dispersed into the atmosphere.

3. A ranking of the impact on safety in terms of the effects on "human health" and "ecosystems" calculated based on Kanagawa Prefecture's "Guidelines on Assessment of Safety Impact of Chemicals." Details are available online ([http://www/ycr-pressroom.jp/env\\_en](http://www/ycr-pressroom.jp/env_en)).

### Emissions of organic solvents (VOCs)



### Toluene emissions (all establishments in Japan)

