

April 25, 2012
Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.

Explosion and Fire at Iwakuni-Ohtake Works (#3)

On April 22 (2:15am), a tragic explosion and fire occurred at Mitsui Chemicals' Iwakuni-Ohtake Works claiming the life of one employee and injuring persons from the local community and Works employees.

Mitsui Chemicals extends heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of the deceased and sincerest apologies to all who are suffering today, the injured, the residents of the local community, and all other persons affected by this tragic event. We recognize the gravity of this accident and deeply regret the suffering and concern it has caused.

Information update: (April 25 13:00): (changes are underlined)

The Company will issue updates as information becomes available.

1. Address and facilities involved in accident:

Please refer to April 23 news release.

2. Casualties/injured:

1 dead, 21 injured (details as follows)

Community residents: 10 injured

JX Nippon Oil & Energy (adjacent refinery) cooperating company employees: 2 injured

Mitsui Chemicals employees: 1 dead, 7 injured (2 seriously)

Cooperating company employees: 2 injured

3. Damage to buildings/homes:

Community buildings/homes: 482 (increase of 9 from April 23 15:00 report)

4. Other effects on community:

There is no report of leakage of hazardous substances or materials at this time.

Premises warehouses store catalyst waste which includes radioactive material. This material is stored in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Storage facilities are over 500 meters from the affected area and there has been no report of changes in either containers or radiation measurements as compared with those prior to the accident.

5. Damage to plants/facilities:

Damage to all 29 plants is as follows:

a. Substantial damage 2 plants (Iwakuni area: RS, CY)

b. Damage to exterior slate, glass, etc. (details unknown): 15 plants

(Iwakuni area: MPCR, HQ, 3GT, 1PET, 2PET, LC, 2LC, TPX, HM, 2HM, WAX, NWAX, PR, AFR, boilers)

c. Damage to exterior slate, glass, etc. with no damage to installations: 1 plant

(Ohtake area: MIP)

d. No damage: 11 plants

(Ohtake area: 1PZ, 2PZ, MC, BK, AL, Pellicles, MDP, OTY, 1MO, 2MO, H)

For explanation of abbreviations, please refer to the attachment.

6. Effect on operations:

Of all 29 plants, 2 plants are in operation.

Operations at the 1MO plant in the Ohtake area were not suspended.

Operations at the MIP plant in the Ohtake area have been resumed.

Operations at all other 27 plants continue to be suspended.

7. Effect on product supply:

Unknown at this point in time.

8. Causes and measures:

The authorities are currently conducting an official investigation as to the causes of the accident. The Company will fully cooperate with this investigation. In addition, on April 24, the Company formed its own [Accident Investigation Committee] comprised of members of the academia and external specialists to investigate causes of the accident and develop measures to prevent future recurrences.

Mitsui Chemicals has also formed task forces to respond to community resident concerns and implement appropriate safety measures.

List of abbreviations

Products	Usage	Plant Location	Plant Name
Resorcinol	adhesive agent for wood and tire	Iwakuni	RS
Acetone (By-product of resorcinol)	solvent, methyl isobutyl ketone raw material	Iwakuni	
Cymene	solvent, meta/para-cresol raw material	Iwakuni	CY
Meta/Para-cresol	vanish for wire enamel, laminates for PCB	Iwakuni	MPCR
Hydroquinone	polymerization retardant, anti-degradation agent for rubber	Iwakuni	HQ
Purified terephthalic acid	polyester fiber, polyester film, PET resin	Iwakuni	3GT
PET Resin (polyethylene-terephthalate)	PET bottle raw material	Iwakuni	1PET 2PET
LUCANT™ (hydrocarbon-based synthetic oil)	additives for lubricants	Iwakuni	LC 2LC
TPX™ (methylpentene copolymer)	mold releasing film, plastic wrap	Iwakuni	TPX
HI-ZEX MILLION™ (ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene)	battery separators, high-strength fiber	Iwakuni	HM 2HM
Hi-WAX™ EXCEREX™	pigment dispersant, processing aid	Iwakuni	WAX NWAX
FTR™	hot-melt adhesives, tackifiers	Iwakuni	PR
(Plant fire extinguishing material)	–	Iwakuni	AFR
(Plant utility)	–	Iwakuni	boiler
Catalyst	catalyst	Ohtake	1PZ 2PZ MC
MIBK (methyl isobutyl ketone)	solvent of paints, ink	Ohtake	BK
ARLEN™ (modified polyamide 6T)	electronic/ electric parts, automotive parts	Ohtake	AL
Mitsui MP (pellicles)	dust proof membrane applied on photomask during lithography process	Ohtake	pellicles
Milason	packaging material	Ohtake	MDP
Himilan Nucrel	packaging films, golf ball covering	Ohtake	
Gas pipes	gas pipes	Ohtake	MIP
(Tank yard)	–	Ohtake	OTY
(Plant utility)	–	Ohtake	1MO 2MO H

* Iwakuni: Yamaguchi Prefecture Ohtake: Hiroshima Prefecture