

Denka Presents at the 10th Japan-China Energy Conservation and Environment Forum an Agreement to License Its Technologies for Fused Calcium Carbide Transportation

Denka Company Limited (hereinafter "Denka") hereby announces that the Company and Sinochem International Corporation (hereinafter "Sinochem International"), a leading Chinese chemical trading company, participated in the 10th Japan-China Energy Conservation and Environment Forum, a public-private joint forum held in Beijing, China, on November 26, 2016, under the auspices of Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Japan-China Economic Association along with China's National Development and Reform Commission and Ministry of Commerce.

The forum included a signing ceremony jointly presented by Denka and Sinochem International for an agreement undertaken as a Japan-China cooperation project in which the two companies will promote technological collaboration and licensing involving the transfer of the former's automated ladle technology for transporting fused calcium carbide from furnaces. Among those attending the ceremony were Mr. Hiroshige Seko, Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Mr. Shoji Muneoka, Chairman of Japan-China Economic Association, Mr. Xu Shaoshi, Chairman of China's National Development and Reform Commission and Mr. Gao Yan, Vice Minister of China's Ministry of Commerce.

In China, calcium carbide manufacturers have been proactively modernizing their production facilities. Under the conventional manufacturing process employed until now, human operators must be present to manually tap off the fused calcium carbide, melted at a temperature of 2,000°C or higher, adhering to the furnace. This requirement unavoidably exposes workers to a dangerous high-temperature environment. Moreover, after the fused calcium carbide is removed, the human operators have to manipulate a wire spooler near the production line in order to execute the ladle transport of the fused matter.

Boasting a longstanding track record as a calcium carbide manufacturer, Denka has developed and upgraded a wealth of production technologies that mitigate workplace hazards and operator burdens, including an automated manufacturing system for calcium carbide that it introduced in 1978 ahead of any other company in the world.

In 2014, Denka and Sinochem International presented an agreement at the eighth convening of the aforementioned forum to license the former's automated fused calcium carbide tapping technology to Chinese businesses. The two companies have now stepped up their partnership to transfer the Run Around Carrier (RAC) method, a remote control technology for the ladle transport of fused ingredients.

This technology transfer is expected to help Chinese calcium carbide manufacturers improve workplace safety and promote labor saving while supporting stable operations and reducing energy consumption. In addition to signing the agreement with Denka, Sinochem International has entered into sub-licensing agreements with other Chinese calcium carbide manufacturers to promote the transfer of this technology and popularization of the RAC.

As a pioneer in Japan's carbide chemical industry, Denka will help achieve mutual development with the people of China by employing its accumulated technologies in the areas of production safety and environmental conservation as well as energy and labor saving. In these ways, we will actively contribute to workers' safety and the preservation of the global environment, thereby fulfilling our social responsibilities.



The 10th Japan-China Energy Conservation and Environment Forum
(China National Convention Center, Beijing, China)



A project signing ceremony

Left: Mr. Toshiaki Kawanishi, General Manager, Technology Planning Dept., Denka
Right: Mr. Glenn Qu, Assistant General Manager, Sinochem International

For inquiries: CSR & Corporate Communications Dept.
TEL: +81-3-5290-5511
E mail: csr-koho@denka.co.jp