

Denka Increases Silicon Nitride Production Capacity Nearly 1.5 Times through Strategic Investment



<Silicon nitride>

Denka Company Limited (headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; president: Toshio Imai; hereinafter, “Denka”) has decided to make a new capital investment in silicon nitride production at the Omuta Plant (Omuta-shi, Fukuoka) for the purpose of continuing growth in the environment and energy fields. The investment is aimed at additionally increasing production capacity by an extra factor of 1.5 times the level following the facility extension that is scheduled to onstream in the first half of 2023.

Denka's silicon nitride earns high marks in automotive applications in which high performance is required. Incorporating Denka's original high-temperature firing technologies and nitriding technologies, it excels in thermal conductivity, strength, heat resistance and lightweight characteristics. Following the expansion of the xEV market, its demand is climbing for use as heat dissipating substrates for inverters. In addition, conventional materials are being converted to ceramics as a measure against electric corrosion in motor bearing applications. Silicon nitride is expected to be in yet higher demand for these applications. It is hence urgent to establish a system for stable supply. As a leading manufacturer of silicon nitride, Denka will boost its production capacity to make itself better prepared for supplying it.

Denka defines the environment and energy fields centered on xEV and 5G as priority fields in its business strategy. It will be active in making strategic investments in silicon nitride and other functional ceramics.

With the SDGs as its compass, Denka aims to be an irreplaceable company for society, creating a better world for all through work Denka can perform better than anybody.

1. Overview of the investment

- Target of investment: Omuta Plant (1 Shinkai-machi, Omuta City, Fukuoka Prefecture)
- Purposes of the investment: Extension of manufacturing facilities for silicon nitride powder
- Commencement of operation: FY2025 (scheduled)

* This matter has no impact on consolidated financial results for FY2022.

For reference: Previous press release related to the subject matter (Denka's website)

· “Production Capacity increase of Silicon Nitride and Strengthens Functional Ceramics Business” November 5, 2020

https://www.denka.co.jp/eng/storage/news/pdf/305/20201105_denka_5g_xev_en.pdf

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