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Installation of New PET Film Manufacturing Equipment

Toyobo Co., Ltd., has made the decision to install new “hybrid-type equipment for the production of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) film” for use in both industrial and packaging applications.

1. Reasons for the Increase in Capacity

Along with the recent growth in use of smartphones and tablet PCs, the demand for industrial films for use in touch panels is forecast to expand rapidly. In addition, as a result of the rise in the awareness of the natural environment, usage of renewable energy has expanded, and demand for solar cells is expected to rise.

On the other hand, to respond to the robust increase in demand in the food packaging field foreseen in the years ahead, Toyobo is considering the consolidation and expansion of its packaging film manufacturing facilities.

In view of these circumstances, Toyobo has decided to newly install hybrid-type production equipment for PET film manufacturing that will enable it to respond to the demand for thin film products (of up to 100 micrometers in thickness) for both industrial and packaging uses.

As a result of the installation of this new production equipment, Toyobo will be positioned to respond to demand for industrial films in new uses, which is expected to expand going forward, as well as further strengthen its production systems as the No. 1 domestic supplier of packaging films.

2. Outline of the New Equipment

Location of the facilities: Tsuruga Film Plant (in Tsuruga City, Fukui Prefecture)

Production capacity: 22,000 tons/year per production train

Cost of equipment: Approximately ¥10 billion

Start-up date: October 2013

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