

Newly Established European Business Site of Flexographic Printing Flexographic Plate commence production in Italy

Sumitomo Riko Company Limited (headquarters: Nakamura-ku, Nagoya-shi, President and COO Tetsu Matsui) has announced that it will, as part of its new business development in Europe, establish a flexographic plate production site in Turin province, Italy.

The flexographic printing plates will be produced by Dytech-Dynamic Fluid Technologies S.p.A., a subsidiary of Sumitomo Riko. Operation is scheduled to start from beginning of 2018.

Flexographic printing is a kind of relief printing using rubber or synthetic resin as the plate material, and can be used with all kinds of inks and on all kinds of surfaces. In particular, because flexographic printing can use water-based inks, it is environmentally friendly and has been adopted in the fields of food, medicine and hygiene product packaging, where it is more likely to come into direct contact with the body. Going forward, demand for flexographic printing technology is expected to keep growing worldwide since it is good for printing onto cardboard boxes, which are increasingly in demand with the spread of internet shopping, and the soft packaging that is steadily replacing cans, bottles and paper boxes amid the trend toward the conservation of packaging material resources.

Having entered into the flexographic printing business in 2009, Sumitomo Riko has achieved high-resolution short-time printing with flat top dots using our core competence of high-polymer materials technology. We have also developed our own unique, environmentally friendly form of flexographic printing by a method that uses water and no solvents in the plate-making process (water-washable, unlike the previous mainstream method of using organic solvents (solvent-washable). This has cut the cost of solvents and energy and enabled us to lower running costs. We have also entered into the environmental solutions business with the development of our uniquely designed processor and waste water-free system, and our system of recycling the wash-out water produced during platemaking.

The European market, which accounts for 30% of Sumitomo Riko's flexographic business, is our most important market and expected to significantly grow in future. By building this new manufacturing subsidiary in Turin province, we expect its sales amount as approximately 14 million euro in fiscal 2018 with 5 million euro investment, and also we will be able to avoid exchange risks and shorten the time from order receipt to delivery, maximizing our group synergy and putting in place a structure that can quickly respond to the needs of our major European customers.

By newly launching our flexographic business in Europe and striving to cultivate a market there, Sumitomo Riko is aiming to grow into a Global Excellent Manufacturing Company.

Photosensitive water- washable flexographic
plate developed by Sumitomo Riko



<Outline of Dytech>

Name: Dytech-Dynamic Fluid Technologies S.p.A.
Address: Via Andrea Doria 15, 10123, Torino, Italy
Business: Manufacture and sale of automotive hoses
Capital: 30 million euros
Established: June 2001

<Outline of Sumitomo Riko>

Name: Sumitomo Riko Company Limited
Address: Global Headquarters: JP Tower Nagoya 1-1-1, Meieki, Nakamura-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi
Komaki Head Office: 1, Higashi 3-chome, Komaki, Aichi
Business: Manufacture and sale of automotive products (anti-vibration rubber products, hoses, sound controlling/insulation products, interior components) and general industrial products (precision resin blades and rolls; anti-vibration rubber products for vehicle body, housing, bridges and electronic equipment; high-pressure hoses and feeder hoses; rubber sealants, etc.)
Capital: 12,145 million yen
Established: December 1929
Parent company: Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd.
Employees: 23,790 (consolidated, as of March 2016)
Sales: 424,485 million yen (consolidated, ending March 2016)

[Reference]

Sumitomo Riko photosensitive water- washable flexographic plates

Website: <http://www.sumitomoriko.co.jp/aquagreen/>

[Contact Information]

Public Relations Department, Email:kouhou@jp.sumitomoriko.com
<http://www.sumitomoriko.co.jp/Englsh>