

### Management of Chemical Substances

DENSO carries out a thorough prior assessment—covering environmental, safety, and fire prevention considerations—using materials safety data sheets (MSDSs) whenever the Company considers using a chemical substance it has not used before or whenever it installs or improves chemical-handling equipment. In fiscal 1999, we carried out 1,007 such prior assessments of chemical substances and 2,324 prior assessments of equipment.

Adhering to the spirit of the Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR), we have taken the necessary steps to keep careful track of the volumes of chemicals contained in semifinished and other materials, the volumes handled in production processes, and the volumes released into the environment. At the same time, we are working to reduce the volumes of chemicals that we use, manage them in a proper fashion at all times, and prevent pollution of the soil, atmosphere, and water. We are also working to construct a comprehensive chemicals management system that includes information on chemical substances contained in our products. Simultaneously, we are aiming to expand the number of chemicals that are subject to rigorous management.

DENSO uses 24 of the 176 chemicals targeted by the Japanese Environmental Agency's PRTR Pilot Program. For more details on DENSO's handling of these substances, please refer to page 43, where the relevant data is set out for each plant.

### Eliminating the Use of Ozone-Depleting Substances

In the past, DENSO used CFC-113 (a designated chlorofluorocarbon) and 1,1,1-trichloroethane in the manufacture of electronic components and the processing of machine parts. Both of these substances are recognized as contributing to the depletion of the ozone layer. In advance of international regulations to protect the ozone layer under the Montreal Protocol, DENSO phased out the use of CFC-113 in December 1994 and 1,1,1-trichloroethane in August 1995.

From 1995, DENSO used HCFC-225 as a cleaning agent to remove flux (an auxiliary soldering agent) from automotive IC parts after soldering, as HCFC-225 has a lower ozone depleting coefficient than CFC-113. However, under international regulations, HCFCs

must be completely eliminated by 2020. In light of this, DENSO decided to develop the technology that would render the early elimination of HCFCs from the workplace possible. We committed to the joint development with other manufacturers of water-soluble cleaning agents, and, as a result, we were able to phase out HCFC-225 completely by the end of fiscal 1999, in line with our initial plans. With this success, DENSO workplaces now use no ozone-depleting substances whatsoever.

HCFC-225 Use

