

Nippon Carbide's Bid to Be a 'One & Only' Materials Leader

Nippon Carbide Industries positions electronics and safety as its key focus areas and contributes to the realization of a more innovative and more sustainable society through its "One & Only" products, such as functional chemicals, semiconductor mold cleaner, retroreflective sheetings and 3D emblems. *By Cian O'Neill and Paul Mannion*

The innovations of the latter half of the 20th century were driven by Japanese industry. "Made in Japan" became synonymous with reliability, safety, and freedom from worry. Founded in 1935 and commencing operations the following year, Nippon Carbide Industries was one of the companies that led this transformation. Its founding philosophy: "Contributing to the welfare of mankind through ultimate research in the carbide industry" lives on in the company's current group mission: "Creating new value with our technological capability, we help make society more prosperous."

President and CEO Takahisa Sugiyama states that Nippon Carbide Industries is committed to contributing to society while achieving sustainable growth by focusing on high-

value-added products that only the company can deliver.

A prime example is its retroreflective sheetings used in road signs and license plates. These products are engineered with highly precise optical simulation technology to ensure excellent nighttime visibility and offer outstanding weather resistance against UV exposure and harsh environmental conditions. In fields where safety and reliability are essential, the company's products have established a solid presence.

In the semiconductor sector, the company offers functional chemicals like azole compounds that enhance adhesion between copper wiring and insulating resins, and resist crosslinking agents that enable the formation of highly precise circuits. Its semiconductor mold cleaner is renowned globally for its sta-

ble cleaning performance. They are seeing increasing demand, especially in the Chinese market, where the semiconductor industry is expanding.

The company's 3D emblems, which combine design and durability, are expanding from motorcycles to the broader automotive market. In Europe and North America markets in particular, the company is promoting these products alongside retroreflective sheetings and high-performance films to automotive manufacturers.

In 2026, Nippon Carbide Industries will mark the 90th anniversary of its operations. Looking ahead, President Sugiyama says, "As we approach our 100th anniversary, we aim to remain a globally trusted company, one that embodies both innovation and the capability for sustainable growth."



Retroreflective sheet



Functional chemicals



Semiconductor cleaning materials



3D emblem