

Company News

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Public Relations
Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.
Tel: +81-6-6222-5551
Fax: +81-6-6222-2875

Ono Pharmaceutical Improves Efficiency of Its Production System

Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. has a production system comprised of three plants: the Fujiyama Plant (Fujinomiya City, Shizuoka Prefecture) and the Joto Plant (Higashinari-ku, Osaka City), where injectable drugs and oral solid medicines are produced and packaged through full-scale manufacturing systems; and the Awaji Plant (Higashiyodogawa-ku, Osaka City), a facility mainly used for packaging. Until now, several products manufactured at the Fujiyama and Joto Plants (FOIPAN, a drug for chronic pancreatitis, FOY 500, a drug for disseminated intravascular coagulation, etc.) have been packaged at the Awaji Plant.

To enhance production efficiency and cost competitiveness through the introduction of integrated production systems, Ono Pharmaceutical has decided to close down the Awaji Plant in the beginning of 2003 to integrate the operations of the Awaji Plant into those of the Joto Plant. The employees and production facilities of the Awaji Plant are scheduled to be moved to the Joto Plant by the end of this year. This will enable integration of auxiliary businesses, as well as decrease costs for plant facility maintenance, transportation between plants, packaging required for product transfer, testing upon receiving transferred products, etc.

After closing, the Awaji Plant will be reused by our affiliates, Oriental Pharmaceutical & Synthetic Chemical Co., Ltd. and Bee Brand Medico Dental Co., Ltd. Oriental Pharmaceutical & Synthetic Chemical, which manufactures original products and several products of Ono Pharmaceutical and other companies, is planning to partially transfer its packaging operations to the Awaji Plant to overcome space constraints at its present production plant and to prepare for future enhancement of commissioned production. Bee Brand Medico Dental is planning to use part of the Awaji Plant as its distribution center (for managing the storage and distribution of purchased products) instead of the company's currently rented warehouse.