Recovery status of Hachinohe mill (Resumption of third paper machine as of June 19)

Hachinohe mill (Hachinohe, Aomori Prefecture) devastated by the East Japan Earthquake resumed operation as of May 24. In May, two paper machines (one for white paper board production and the other for printing/business information paper) and one coater were resumed and the all of these machines are operated smoothly since then. Furthermore, we are pleased to inform you that the third paper machine has resumed the production as of June 19.

Notes

It is a large paper machine (for printing/business information paper) and by the resumption of this paper machine Hachinohe mill comes back to 35% of the original capacity before the earthquake.

Within the first half fiscal year (by the end of September 2011), as we announced on May 24, in total five paper machines and three coaters including the aforementioned paper machines and coaters will have been resumed and the production capacity will be recovered to about 70% of the original capacity. Consequently within the first half of this fiscal year, major product lines of Hachinohe mill except some grades will be ready to produce.

Hachinohe mill is expected to be ready for its full production as of mid November 2011 which is earlier by almost one month than original plan.