

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**New Asahi Glass “AsahiGuard E-SERIES” Fluorinated Water and Oil Repellent
Will Be Free of PFOA, PFOA Precursors and Related Substances**

[New products include no PFOA or related chemicals currently under regulatory scrutiny]

TOKYO – February 9, 2006 – Asahi Glass Co., Ltd., headquartered in Tokyo, today announced the introduction of AsahiGuard E-SERIES, a new line of telomer chemicals that serve as fluorinated water and oil repellents for textile and paper. These new products are free of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), PFOA precursors and related substances.

Recently, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has asked companies manufacturing telomer chemicals and fluoropolymers to participate in a global stewardship program. Participating companies would commit to reduce and work toward ultimately eliminating facility emissions and product content of PFOA, PFOA precursors and related higher homolog chemicals. These chemicals are now also drawing increasing attention in Japan and other countries. AsahiGuard E-Series products do not include any of these chemicals.

AsahiGuard E-Series products have already been certified in Japan under its Chemical Substances Control Law, and they have been cleared for commercial distribution and use under the U.S. Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), with the company to complete additional required testing. The company is also in the process of obtaining appropriate regulatory clearances for the introduction of AsahiGuard E-Series products in Europe, Canada and other countries. Regulatory clearances are also being sought to enable use in applications that come into contact with food products.

AsahiGuard E-SERIES is the latest incarnation of AsahiGuard, the groundbreaking fluorinated water and oil repellent first launched in 1971. AsahiGuard products are now

used in a wide range of fields to treat materials such as paper, non-woven fabrics, leather, textile and many others. Their superior water and oil repellency and durability, compared to paraffin and silicone-based water and oil repellents, have ensured their popularity and marketability.

To produce AsahiGuard E-SERIES products, Asahi Glass has commenced operations of a dedicated large-scale manufacturing facility at the company's Chiba plant in Japan. Additionally, Asahi Glass has launched marketing activities in Japan, the U.S. and Europe. The capacity provided by this dedicated facility represents approximately 25 percent of the current AsahiGuard manufacturing capacity.

Asahi Glass positions fluorine and specialty chemicals as a growing business and will continue to provide customers with high-quality solutions through high-performance fluorochemical products that meet the ever-diversifying needs of customers.

About Asahi Glass

Asahi Glass was established in 1907 and was Japan's first commercial manufacturer of flat glass. Since then, the company has expanded its operations to include chemicals, as well as glass for construction materials, automobiles and display glass for LCDs, PDPs and other applications. Capitalizing on its glass and fluorochemical technologies, the company also diversified into the electronics field.

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Glossary of Terms:

Note 1: PFOA

PFOA is used as a polymerization aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers and is present in trace quantities as impurities in fluorinated water and oil repellents.

Note 2: Precursors

Substances that change into other substances via decomposition. In this case, those chemicals that decompose to generate PFOA and/or related higher homolog chemicals.

Note 3: Related higher homolog Chemicals

Substances with a structure similar to PFOA (8-carbon) and larger carbon numbers. Examples include perfluorononanoic acid (9-carbon) and perfluorodecanoic acid (10-carbon).

Note 4: Chemical Substances Control Law in Japan

Law concerning the Examination and Regulation of Manufacture, etc. of Chemical Substances.