AGC Starts Sales of Non-Electric, Eco-Friendly Glass Door for Freezing Showcases

- Japan's first non-electric, anti-fogging glass door will be installed in new Seven-Eleven stores -

AGC Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.

AGC (Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.: Tokyo; President & CEO: Kazuhiko Ishimura) announces that the company will launch sales of a non-electric glass door for freezing showcases for the first time in Japan. This is a new product in the WINDOOR® E Series which consist of glass doors for freezing/refrigerating showcases, and is designed to conserve energy as it prevents the formation of dew condensation without using electricity. In recognition of its energy-saving performance, Seven-Eleven Japan Co., Ltd. has decided to install the glass door as standard equipment at its new outlets to be opened from now on. This non-electric glass door will help to reduce CO_2 emissions by about 1 ton per store annually as compared with the conventional glass doors that prevent fogging by using electricity. If it is installed in all Seven-Eleven outlets, total 13,000 tons of CO_2 emissions will be saved each year (*see note).

There are two types of showcases used in convenience stores and supermarkets: refrigerating showcases used to display products such as beverages, and freezing showcases for ice cream and other frozen food. For refrigerating showcases, non-electric glass doors have already been widely adopted. On the other hand, freezing showcases, which have a lower temperature setting, conventionally require electricity to warm up the glass surface to prevent the formation of dew condensation.

In recent years, energy saving in commercial facilities is drawing ever-increasing attention, as the business operators of a certain business size or above have been obliged to disclose their company-wide energy consumption and energy efficiency improvement targets since the revision of the Act on the Rational Use of Energy enforced in April 2010, amid the growing momentum to curb global warming. In particular, convenience stores with long shop hours are accelerating their efforts to reduce electricity usage by installing energy-saving equipment.

Under such circumstances, AGC had requests from convenience store chains to "develop a non-electric glass door for freezing showcases by enhancing the insulating performance" to help them further save electricity. To respond to this demand, AGC worked to improve the insulating performance of glass, and by using a special glass with high insulating property, the company successfully developed a non-electric, anti-fogging glass door for the first time in Japan. AGC will start the sales on January 21, 2011, expecting to achieve the target annual sales of 500 million yen in 2015.

As "a corporation contributing to a sustainable society," AGC will continue to develop a variety of new products to help to improve the indoor environment of residential houses, office buildings, commercial facilities and other establishments, and contribute to solving global warming issues.

*Note: Based on a sample calculation by AGC

◎Inquiries: Toshihiro Ueda, General Manager, Corporate Communications & Investor Relations, Asahi Glass Co., Ltd. AGC (Contact: Kenichi Oda; Tel: +81-3-3218-5260; E-mail: info-pr@agc.com)

Non-electric freezing showcase door (WINDOOR® E Series)

