



March 18, 2022

Notice regarding limits on shipments of helium products

Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation (“TNSC”, President: Kenji Nagata) hereby announces that it has decided to apply additional limits on shipments as follows.

1. Applicable products:
 - ① Gaseous Helium (cylinders, bundles, loaders, and trailers)
 - ② Liquid helium (Dewar)
 - ③ Various helium mixture products

2. Period: Beginning April 2022

3. Reason:

TNSC is currently requesting customers limit shipments of helium products and adjust delivery times due to the impact of the turmoil in U.S. overseas container shipments that has continued since the latter half of the previous year. However, since the beginning of this year, circumstances involving the procurement of helium have become even more severe due to equipment issues at the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and scheduled maintenance of production facility in Qatar, which are both major sources of helium. In addition, it is expected that harsh conditions for the helium supply chain will continue going forward due to factors including U.S. port labor negotiations beginning in July and periodic maintenance at ExxonMobil, a major U.S. source of helium, scheduled for August. Furthermore, with regard to new Russian sources of helium in which TNSC’s Group companies hold a direct mining interest, no dates for the start of operations have been set due to fires occurring at natural gas plants.

Due to the above reasons, TNSC is unable to make any predictions about the quantity of raw liquid helium it will secure, and has therefore reluctantly decided at this time to make additional limits on shipments of helium products from April onward.

Going forward, we will continue to collaborate closely with customers while making every effort to procure raw liquid helium. In line with this, we ask for customers’ understanding and cooperation with conserving helium usage and advancing proposals for alternative goods, etc.

Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation

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