

March 27, 2017

News Release

JX Nippon Mining & Metals Corporation

Corson Alloy Production Capacity Being Expanded

JX Nippon Mining & Metals Corporation (President: Shigeru Oi; “JX Metals”) has decided to install a new age-hardening furnace at its Kurami Works, in a move to boost Corson alloy production capacity.

A Corson alloy consists of copper with small amounts of nickel and silicon added, making the material stronger than pure copper while maintaining high conductivity. Recent years have seen rapidly growing adoption mainly in information and communication devices such as smartphones and tablets. Along with these mobile devices, as electronic devices of all kinds become more advanced and the IoT (Internet of Things) spreads throughout society, we can expect data communications traffic to expand greatly and servers and other electronic equipment to continue increasing. To meet the resulting further growth in demand for Corson alloys, which are used in connectors in electronic devices, JX Metals has decided to make the necessary equipment investment for expanding production capacity.

The age-hardening furnace to be newly installed is equipment that heats a Corson alloy at a fixed temperature for a long time, raising the strength as well as electrical conductivity. It features higher productivity than the existing equipment.

In addition to the age-hardening furnace announced here, the Kurami Works plans to put into operation a new model finishing mill in the second half of fiscal 2017, as announced in a December 26, 2016 news release, aimed at expanding production capacity of advanced foil products. JX Metals plans to continue boosting production capacity for products with demand growth potential, while working to maintain a stable supply of products also from the standpoint of business continuity planning (BCP).

Reference: Overview of Kurami Works and Schedule for Age-Hardening Furnace Introduction

Name	JX Nippon Mining & Metals Corporation, Kurami Works
Location	3 Kurami, Samukawa-machi, Kouza-gun, Kanagawa, Japan
Established	1964
Operations	Manufacture of precision rolled products
Schedule of new equipment introduction	Age-hardening furnace (1) Test operation: FY2017 4Q Full operation: FY2018 1H