

March 30, 2001

Aisin Expands Large Aluminum Product Operation in Associated North American Manufacturers

Aisin Automotive Casting Inc. or AAC (President: Shunzo Hattori), an overseas manufacturer of Aisin Seiki (President: Kanshiro Toyoda), will start to manufacture large aluminum die-cast products, such as automatic transmissions (AT) on April 1, 2001 to meet the growing demand of aluminum products in North America. This is the first time for Aisin to produce such products abroad.

AAC has been manufacturing engine parts such as water pumps, oil pumps, and pistons and supplying them to Toyota, Honda, and Nissan. The company will start to manufacture die-cast products for AT parts in the Toyota Camry, with plans of producing approximately 130,000 units in the first year and 400,000 units in 2005.

To start production, a 14,000 square meter aluminum die-cast plant was completed next to the existing 12,000 square meter plant in June 2000, and five 2,250-ton aluminum die-cast machines have been installed to reinforce production capability.

“That our customers have presented a quality award to Aisin and that our company has acquired certification of QS9000 last January are testimonies to the high quality of our products,” said Aisin. Before starting the first production of large aluminum die-cast products abroad, new production and quality criteria have been established to assure the casting quality in the processing and assembly work for Aisin customers.

“We will make every effort to receive more orders to expand the large aluminum product operation in North America,” Aisin added.

Details

AAC profile

Corporate name	: AISIN AUTOMOTIVE CASTING , INC.
Location	: London, Kentucky, USA
Established	: November 1, 1996
Capital	: \$72.1 million
Employees	: 310, including 25 Japanese (as of December 2000)
Sales	: \$60 million in 2000 (January 2000 – December 2000)
	Estimated sales for 2001 \$90 million
	Estimated sales for 2005 \$200 million
Major products	: Water pumps, Oil pumps, Pistons Large aluminum die-cast products (AT parts) Trans-axle cases, bulb bodies, rear covers, etc.
Customers	: TMMC (Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada) TMMK (Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky) TMMWV (Toyota Motor Manufacturing West Virginia) HAM (Honda of America Manufacturing) NMMC (Nissan Motor Manufacturing)
Characteristics	: Total manufacturing including casting, processing and assembly of aluminum products
Investment	: \$49 million in large aluminum die-cast operation



Birds-eye view of AAC

The new aluminum die-cast plant is at the upper right-hand corner.



Large aluminum die-cast machine at AAC

Inquiry	Fukuoka in the public relations group of the public relations & general affairs dept. in Aisin Seiki Co., LTD. TEL : 0566 (24) 8231
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