

# Furuya Metal Opens Plasma Pyrometallurgical Facility Supplied by Tetronics

The facility is being used to reclaim high levels of Platinum Group Metals from chemical and other industrial waste catalysts.

**London, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – Tetronics International, the global leader in the supply of Direct Current (DC) plasma waste recovery plants for the treatment of hazardous waste and metal recovery, is pleased to announce that Furuya Metal Co. Ltd., Japan has officially opened its new plasma facility supplied by Tetronics for the reclamation of Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) from spent catalysts.

Furuya has introduced the plasma pyrometallurgical facility in a newly constructed building at its Japanese Tsuchiura plant. Their newly established plasma process will enable Furuya to recover PGMs from low grade scrap catalysts with highly efficient technical recovery rates.

Tetronics' technology has been used for decades to recover Platinum, Palladium and Rhodium from precious metal bearing waste materials. With on-going development, Furuya, Mitsubishi Corp and Tetronics International have now jointly developed know-how to recover Ruthenium and Iridium from low grade scrap.

Plant operation started mid-August and Furuya expects scrap collection to start from next spring. For this project Furuya is expected to receive a subsidy from the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry under its 'Program for conserving consumption of rare metals'.

Speaking about the project, Furuya comments;

"This is an exciting time for us as the plant comes into operation. By introducing this new plasma facility, we are aiming to increase our income by Yen 200 million per year (Circa \$2 million per year).

Graeme Rumbol, CEO for Tetronics International comments;

"It has been a pleasure to support Furuya with this project. Our objective remains to ensure Furuya maximises their return from the plant as well as providing them with a competitive advantage that the industry leading recovery performance of plasma makes possible."









Catalyst wastes such as industrial catalysts from the chemical and petrochemical industries contain precious metals. Specifically the PGMs are valuable as a result of their low natural abundance, unique properties and the complex processes that are required for their extraction and refining from primary sources.

## **ENDS**

For more information about Tetronics International please contact Kate Colclough on +44 (0)1793 238 500 or visit: www.tetronics.com

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

#### **About Tetronics International**

- Tetronics International the global leader in the supply of Waste Recovery Plants. Tetronics' patented Direct Current (DC) Plasma Arc plant technology provides the closest solution to zero waste currently available.
- This sustainable "green" alternative for waste management uses ultra-high temperatures to melt, gasify or vaporise any waste material, in order to treat, recover or generate valuable commercial products.
- Tetronics' technology has been tried and tested over five decades and has been used globally in more than 80 plants across a wide and varied range of applications.

## About Furuya Metal Co., Ltd.

• FURUYA METAL produces industrial-use precious metal products, employing rare and valuable precious metals belonging to platinum group metals (PGM), including platinum (Pt), iridium (Ir)







and ruthenium (Ru). These precious metals are extremely difficult to work with, which is why the number of industrial precious metal manufacturers specializing in PGM worldwide is limited.

For more information about FURUYA METAL please visit their website: <u>http://www.furuyametals.co.jp/english</u>



