[A1]Ōkouchi Memorial Production Prize

Development and Mass Production of High-Sensitivity InSb Hall Elements

Awarding Organization:

Ōkochi Memorial Foundation

• Recipient:

Asahi Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

Citation:

Asahi Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.'s high-sensitivity InSb thin-film Hall element of the HW series, which is based on the vacuum deposition method, was the first in the world to have an annual production volume of more than 150 million units, and its mass production technology was awarded as a world-class technology.

Purpose of the Award:

The Ōkouchi Memorial Production Prize was established to honor individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to the field of production engineering and industrial technology, aiming to promote the advancement of Japan's industrial capabilities.

Value of the Prize:

It is one of Japan's most prestigious awards in the field of industrial technology. Receiving this prize signifies high recognition of technological excellence and innovation.

Article Summary

In 1987, Asahi Kasei was awarded the Ōkōchi Memorial Production Prize for the development and mass production of high-sensitivity indium antimonide (InSb) Hall elements.



Article Details

April 1, 1988

Our R&D Efforts Receive a Series of Prestigious Awards

Four outstanding technologies developed and commercialized by our company have recently garnered significant attention and high praise from external organizations. This spring, these technologies were recognized and awarded by academic societies and associations. We are pleased to present an overview of the awarded R&D themes, the purpose of each award, the achievements resulting from the research and development, and comments from the representatives who received the honors.

Development and Mass Production of High-Sensitivity Indium Antimonide Hall Elements Ōkōchi Memorial Production Prize

Our company's "Development and Mass Production of High-Sensitivity Indium Antimonide Hall Elements" was selected as a recipient of the 1987 Ōkōchi Memorial Production Prize, which is awarded to researchers and organizations that have achieved outstanding results in the fields of production engineering and technology.

This prize was established in 1954 to commemorate the achievements of the late Dr. Masatoshi Ōkōchi, former director of the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN). It is awarded annually to individuals and companies, and this year marks the 34th presentation. The award ceremony was held on March 11 at the Japan Industrial Club in Marunouchi, Tokyo, where twelve projects across four categories were honored.

Our company received the award in the category recognizing organizations with notable inventions and innovations. The award was presented to Asahi Kasei, with the lead researcher being Mr. Kohei Nonaka, Vice President of Asahi Kasei Electronics. His co-researchers included Mr. Ichiro Shibasaki, Deputy Director of the Electronic Components Development Office, Mr. Kenzo Harada, Plant Manager of the Asahi Kasei Electronics Nobeoka Factory, Mr. Yosuke Miyabe, Sales Director, and Mr. Shiro Hiruta, Senior Manager of the Technical Policy Office.

Mr. Nonaka and his team established an industrial technique for producing thin films of indium antimonide with high electron mobility and high sheet resistance using vacuum deposition. They developed a Hall element with a sandwich structure, placing this thin film between layers of strongly magnetic ferrite.

As a result, the Hall element features high input resistance, can be driven by constant voltage input, has excellent temperature characteristics, high sensitivity, and low power consumption. These attributes make it ideal for miniaturization and mass production, and it has been widely

adopted in motors for devices such as record players, microcassettes, and VTRs, significantly improving their performance.

Mr. Nonaka commented:

"This project began in 1974 in the AGF Development Department and has now reached an annual production volume of 200 million units. It has become an essential component in motors for VTRs, floppy disks, and other office automation equipment. I am deeply moved by this achievement. As a business now generating \(\frac{1}{2}\) billion in annual sales, I feel the heavy responsibility of ensuring stable production, cost reduction, and delivery management. Despite facing numerous challenges over the years, we overcame them thanks to the dedicated efforts of our factory, sales, and administrative teams, as well as the sincere cooperation of our direct employees in Nobeoka, including retirees. I am also deeply grateful for the support and guidance of our users. Upon receiving this award, we were praised for enabling the practical application of so-called Hall motors for rotational control through the emergence of this sensor. This recognition has renewed our commitment to further develop this work and create even more outstanding new products."

[A1] Ōkōchi Prize 1987, 大河内記念生産賞

https://okochi.or.jp/prize-year/fiscal-year34/

1988年3月に旭化成株式会社が受賞した

「大河内記念生産賞」高感度 In Sbホール素子の開発と量産化について

贈り主(団体):

大河内記念財団(Okochi Memorial Foundation)

受賞者(団体):

旭化成工業株式会社(Asahi Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.)

• 業績 (Citation):

旭化成工業株式会社の真空蒸着法に依る HW series の高感度 InSb 薄膜ホール素子が世界で初めて年間生産量が 1. 5 億個を超えた実績と量産技術が世界に冠たる技術として受賞した。

賞の趣旨:

大河内記念生産賞は、製造工学・生産技術の分野において顕著な業績を挙げた個人 または団体を顕彰するために設立された賞であり、日本の産業技術の発展に寄与す ることを目的としています。

賞の価値:

日本国内では非常に権威ある技術賞の一つであり、受賞は企業や研究者の技術力・ 革新性を広く認知させる機会となります。

記事要約

1988年4月1日社報あさひ:

1987年に「高感度インジウム・アンチモン・ホール素子の開発と量産化」にて、大河内記念生産賞を受賞。

記事詳細

社報あさひ

1988年4月1日

当社の研究開発が相次ぐ受賞

当社が研究開発し実用化して成果をあげている四つの優れた技術が、月々と社外から注目を浴び、高く評価されてこの春学会、協会など社外団体から表彰を受けることになった。 そこで受賞した研究開発テーマ、各省の趣旨、研究開発の実施による成果、受賞者代表の感想などまとめて紹介することにした。

高感度インジウム・アンチモンホール素子の開発と量産化 大河内記念生産賞

生産工学や生産技術分野で優れた成果をあげた研究者や団体に贈る大河内省の六十二年 度受賞対象に、当社の「高感度インジウム・アンチモン・ホール素子の開発と量産化」が選 ばれ「大河内記念生産賞」を受賞した。

同賞は理化学研究所所長を務めた故大河内正敏博士の業績を記念して、昭和二十九年に 創設され、年度ごとに個人、企業を表彰しているが今回は三十四回目。贈呈式は三月十一日、 東京・丸の内の日本工業倶楽部で行われ、四部門十二件が表彰を受けた。

当社が受賞したのは、発明考案で実績をあげた団体を対象とするもので、旭化成として賞を受けたが、その代表研究者は野中康平旭化成電子副社長で、共同研究者が柴崎一郎情報機材開発部電子部品開発室副参事、原田謙三旭化成電子延岡工場長、宮部洋介同販売部長、蛭田史郎開発・技術本部技術政策室参事となっている。

野中さんらは真空蒸着で高電子移動度とシート抵抗の大きいインジウム・アンチモンの 薄膜を工業的に製作する技術を確立、この薄膜を強い磁性のフェライトで上下からサンド イッチにした構造のホール素子を開発。

この結果、高い入力抵抗を持ち、定電圧入力による駆動が可能で、温度特性に優れ、高感度でかつ消費電力が低いということから、小型化、量産に適したホール素子としてプレーヤー、マイクロカセット、VTRのモーターなどに広くとり入れられ、大幅な性能向上をもたらしている。

野中さんの話「四十九年、AGF 開発部で始めたこの仕事が現在年産二億個に達し、VTR、フロッピーディスクその他 OA 機器モーターの必須部品となったことは感慨無量である。今売上高三十億円のビジネスとして、安定生産、コストダウン、納期管理等への責任の重さ

を痛感している。過去幾度かの難局に直面しながらも、工場・営業・管理部門の人達の克服への努力に加え、OBを含む延岡の旭化成電子直傭社員の人達の真摯な協力で乗り切れたこと、そしてユーザーのご愛顧、ご指導に深く感謝している。受賞に際し、『このセンサーの出現で、回転の制御を行ういわゆるホール・モーターの実用化が初めて可能になった』と評価され、これを機に改めてこの仕事の一層の発展と、更に優れた新しい製品を生み出す努力への決意を感じている」。