

TiO₂ (Titan Kogyo K.K.)

The production of TiO₂ for electronic components in 1985 was stagnant with users' rigorous price requirements.

However, due to the tight overseas market situation of TiO₂ and scared absolute reserves, the price will maintain the same level.

* Titanium Oxide

Production of titanium oxide in 1985 was 219,000 tons showing 6% increment versus previous year, but the domestic demand increased only by 1% with 158,000 tons production due to sluggish demand from paint, rubber and condensor sectors. Remarkable reduction was seen in the demand of barium titanate for condensor (48% decrease). On the other hand, export was greatly increased by 18% to 59,000 tons because of abundant supply caused by sluggish domestic demand. Although the total shipment amounted to 217,000 tons, the supply situation still remains tight.

1986 titanium oxide market is forecasted by the industry to increase by 2% for domestic market and decrease by 1% for export, based on the zero growth forecast for paint, rubber and synthetic fiber industries, 4% up for printing ink industry and an expected slight increase for paper industry.

Production and Supply of Titanium Oxide in 1985 (in metric tons)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>85/84(%)</u>
Production	198,010	206,342	218,851	+6
Domestic	145,253	157,356	158,156	+1
Export	52,702	50,140	59,270	+18
Total Supply	197,955	207,496	217,426	+5
Import	38,097	37,140	42,213	+14
Total Demand	236,052	244,636	259,639	+6
Inventory	9,899	8,745	10,170	+16
Shipment by Applications (t)				
Paint	76,702	84,361	83,651	-1
Ruber	3,783	4,386	3,778	-14
Synthetic Fiber	4,999	5,072	5,057	-1
Printing Ink	23,423	25,202	25,677	+2
Plastics	12,729	13,140	14,153	+8
Paper	11,466	11,369	10,867	-4
Condensor	1,460	2,580	1,332	-48
Others	10,691	11,246	13,641	+21
Total Domestic Demand	145,253	157,356	158,156	+1

(Source: Japan Titanium Oxide Industry Association)