

Received the 72nd Okochi Memorial Award

We are pleased to announce that our company has received the 72nd (2025) Okochi Memorial Award, presented by the Okochi Memorial Foundation, in recognition of our achievements in "the development, manufacturing, and business expansion of perfectly spherical microparticles used in semiconductor encapsulants and other applications." The award ceremony was held on March 24, 2026, at the Japan Industrial Club Hall (Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo).

The Okochi Award is a prestigious and historical award given to researchers and companies that have achieved outstanding results in research and development in the fields of production engineering and production technology, with the aim of "promoting science and technology for production."

Summary of Award-Winning Achievements

With the increasing density and performance of semiconductors in recent years, there has been a strong demand for high-performance fillers that can mitigate thermal expansion differences in packaging materials. It has become difficult to meet these demands with large-particle silica, which has been the mainstream material. To address this challenge, our company devised and developed a unique VMC (Vaporized Metal Combustion) method, successfully manufacturing submicron spherical silica, which was not possible with existing mass production technologies. While it took approximately five years from development to practical application, we have established a mass production process and created a new market.

The VMC method is the world's first mass production technology utilizing the high-temperature deflagration phenomenon of metallic silicon powder, enabling the stable and efficient production of submicron spherical silica. This technology has been highly valued as an encapsulant for high-performance semiconductors, and currently holds over 70% of the market share in related markets, making it an indispensable material in the electronic components field. Furthermore, it continues to grow as a highly profitable business, and we plan to continue aggressive capital investment and business expansion. Our consistent high standards, from technological development to mass production and market development, were highly praised in this award.

We will use this award as encouragement and continue to contribute to the development of the semiconductor industry and the resolution of social issues through technological innovation.



From left to right in the photo: Yasunari Tanemura (former Managing Director), Tetsuro Ito (Managing Executive Officer), Susumu Abe (Chairman of the Board), Osamu Nakano (President and Representative Director), and Nobutaka Tomita (Head of Development Department).

For further details, please refer to the website of the Okochi Memorial Foundation: <https://okochi.or.jp>