



January 4, 2012

Company Name: Nippon Soda Co., Ltd.  
Representative: Yutaka Kinebuchi, Representative  
Director & President  
(Tokyo Stock Exchange, First Section, Code No. 4041)  
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### **Acquisition of French Chemical Manufacturer Alkaline SAS**

Alkaline SAS (“**Alkaline**”) became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nippon Soda Co., Ltd. (“**Nippon Soda**”) after the completion on December 29, 2011 of the acquisition of all of the outstanding shares of Alkaline. Alkaline is the holding company of MSSA SAS, which produces chemical products such as metallic sodium in France and sells such products around the world.

#### **1. Purpose of the Transaction**

Nippon Soda will celebrate its 100 year anniversary in 2020. In preparation for this event, Nippon Soda has instituted “Chemigress to 100” a long-term management vision and, in such a vision described “forming a corporate group...that can survive global competition” as the “Ideal Company to Which We Aspire”. And, as well as using the expanding base of technologies developed within Nippon Soda, Nippon Soda will also actively seek to acquire businesses in relevant fields to expand and develop businesses with growth potential.

Although increases in the cost of raw fuel, combined with other reasons, caused Nippon Soda to withdraw from the production of metallic sodium during the 2006 business year and to begin selling metallic sodium imported from abroad, Nippon Soda has continued to actively develop metallic sodium derivatives. Demand for high-quality grade metallic sodium is growing in areas such as green energy.

Through the acquisition of Alkaline, Nippon Soda aims to secure a supply of high-quality metallic sodium and enter into green energy related businesses, and to maximize the synergies from this acquisition by expanding the scope of its metallic sodium derivatives through combining the technologies of both companies, and by making an effective use of the sales channels of both companies.

#### **2. Company Profile**

Name:	Alkaline SAS
Head office:	Pomblière 73600 Saint-Marcel, France
Name of Representative (Title):	Bruno Gastinne (Chief Executive Officer)

Description of business:	Shareholding company indirectly holding 100% of the shares of MSSA SAS, which manufactures and sells metallic sodium, chlorine, etc.	
Major facilities:	Production capacity: metallic sodium 28,000 t/year; chlorine 42,000 t/ year	
Stated Capital Amount:	€9,679,000 (as of the end of December 2010)	
Date of establishment:	June 6, 2001	
Total sales	€61,518,000 (Business Year ended December, 2010)	
Number of employees:	250 (as of December 2010)	
Relationship between Nippon Soda and Alkaline:	Capital	There is no capital relationship between Nippon Soda and Alkaline which needs to be described
	Personal	There is no personal relationship between Nippon Soda and Alkaline which needs to be described
	Business	Nippon Soda has a business relationship regarding metallic sodium with MSSA SAS, a major subsidiary of Alkaline.

### 3. Impact on Operating Performance

The Impact on the consolidated operating performance of Nippon Soda for the current business year (ending March 2012) will be minimal. Nevertheless, Nippon Soda is closely examining any possible impact starting the following business year, and upon occurrence of any event requiring disclosure we will promptly disclose any such event.

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