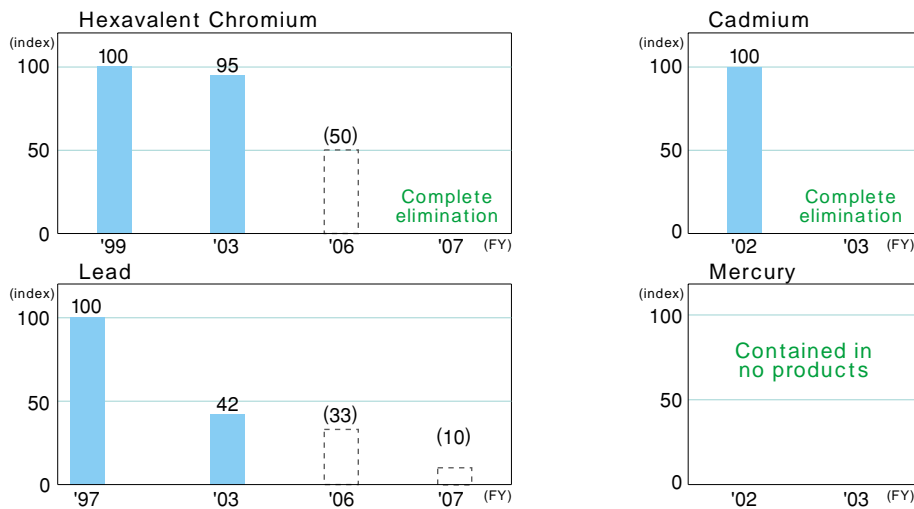


## Reducing Substances That Impact the Environment

The heavy metals hexavalent chromium, lead, cadmium, and mercury are four environment-impacting substances that leach out of scrapped automobiles and inevitably contaminate water supply or other resources and are becoming serious issues. Aisin is engaged in activities to reduce their amounts in automotive parts. Through our activities in FY2003, we completely eliminated cadmium from our products; mercury as well is a substance previously wholly eliminated from our products.

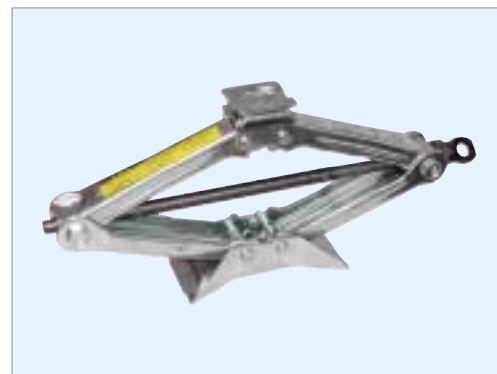
We also plan to abolish hexavalent chromium completely by FY2007, and similarly expect to reduce lead to one-tenth of its present levels. We are pressing ahead with certain of these activities on our own initiative in consideration of the European Union's End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV) Directive.



### Reducing Amounts of Hexavalent Chromium

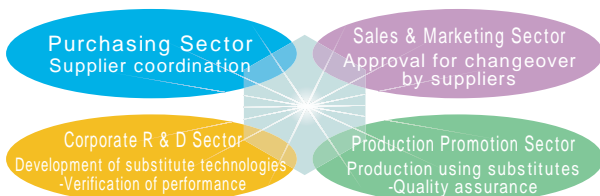
Hexavalent chromium has been widely used to prevent rust in automotive parts and the like, but it has recently been found to have a severe impact on the environment. Aisin is working in collaboration with car manufacturers to reduce amounts of hexavalent chromium. In FY2003 we replaced hexavalent chromium with trivalent chromium in components for jacks, some door locks, and others, a move made ahead of the EU's ELV Directive. These moves succeeded in reducing hexavalent chromium by 5% this year.

Because these are broad-based activities that extend from our customers to our suppliers, we established an in-house Special Action Committee for Hexavalent Chromium, and are promoting these moves as company-wide coordinated activities that encompass engineering, manufacturing, sales, and procurement.



Jack

#### Special Action Committee for Hexavalent Chromium



• European Union End-of-Life Vehicles Directive...A directive intended to prevent the release of environment-impacting substances into the natural environment when vehicles are scrapped by prohibiting the use of environment-impacting substances (lead, hexavalent chromium, cadmium, and mercury) in vehicles sold by dates established for each respective substance. (Some components fall outside the scope of the directive.)