

## **JNFL Begins Hot Tests with New Centrifuge**

**On November 12, Japan Nuclear Fuels Ltd. (JNFL) began hot tests using uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) in cascade experiments with its new centrifuge. The amount of uranium used will be gradually increased so as to confirm the operational characteristics and the separation performance on a cascade scale.**

The new centrifuge, a successor model to the existing centrifuge, was designed by a group of top-class Japanese engineers to be competitive internationally in terms of both economy and performance. It will replace the existing centrifuge during FY2010 (starting April 1, 2010), after which it will be used for ten years or so at a pace of 1,500,000 SWU yearly. Various experiments had already been conducted on the centrifuge starting in April, before the hot tests began this time.

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