

March 23, 2005

## **Mitsui Chemicals Hosts Another Successful Catalysis Science Symposium**

Recording a turnout far exceeding the previous confab in 2003, the “Second Mitsui Chemicals International Symposium on Catalysis Science” (MICS2005) was successfully held as per the attached Fact Sheet on March 22 and 23, Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. (MCI) announced today.

A second in the series of catalysis science symposia hosted by MCI at Kazusa Akademia Hall in Kisarazu across the bay from Tokyo, MICS2005 this time focused on “Green Catalysts for Specialty Chemicals.”

The event featured lectures by eight of the world’s front-line researchers invited from the industrial, governmental and academic communities from Japan and abroad, including the Nobel laureate Prof. K. Barry Sharpless of The Scripps Research Institute of the United States who delivered the plenary lecture.

Also taking the opportunity of the symposium this time, MCI hosted the ceremony for awarding the “2005 Mitsui Chemicals Catalysis Science Award” which the company established last year with the aim of contributing to the sustainable development of chemistry and the chemical industry.

The award designed to give special recognition to researchers who have made distinguished achievements in catalysis science in the past year was presented individually to Prof. Eric N. Jacobsen of Harvard University and Prof. Shu Kobayashi of Tokyo University who gave their commemorative lectures.

Mitsui Chemicals is a corporation playing a leading role in the field of catalysis science centered at olefins polymerization catalysts. It was the company’s firm belief that catalysis science contributes to the development of an affluent society through creation of highly functional materials and substances, which had prompted the company to establish and organize the MICS symposium series in the hope of providing a forum for stimulating active interchanges among the world’s researchers in the field and ultimately the creation of new knowledge.

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## MICS2005 Fact Sheet

1. Symposium Name: The Second Mitsui Chemicals International Symposium on Catalysis Science (MICS2005)  
– “Green Catalysts for Specialty Chemicals”
2. Date: March 22 – 23, 2005
3. Venue: Kazusa Akademia Hall, Kisarazu, Chiba Pref., Japan
4. Guest Lecturers and Lecture Titles:
  - Plenary Lecture: Prof. K. Barry Sharpless  
The Scripps Research Institute, U.S.A.  
“An Asymmetric Odyssey Leading Back to Its Port of Origin”
  - Other Lectures: Prof. Tsutomu Katsuki, Kyushu University, Japan  
“A study aiming for environmentally benign reactions”  
  
Prof. Eric N. Jacobsen, Harvard University, U.S.A.  
“Synthetic and Mechanistic Studies in Asymmetric Catalysis”  
  
Prof. Richard R. Schrock, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, U.S.A.  
“Chemistry of High Oxidation State Molybdenum and Tungsten Complexes that Contain a Multiple Metal-Carbon Bond.”  
  
Prof. Akira Fujishima, Kanagawa Academy of Science & Technology, Japan  
“TiO<sub>2</sub> Photocatalysis: Present Situation and Future Direction”  
  
Dr. Patrick R. Gruber, NatureWorks LLC, U.S.A.  
“Chemicals from Renewable Resources”  
  
Prof. Roger A. Sheldon, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands  
“Green Chemistry and Catalysis for the Sustainable Production of Specialty Chemicals”

Dr. Tadahito Nobori, Mitsui Chemicals, Inc., Japan  
“Development of New Phosphazene Catalysts and  
the Industrial Applications”

Commemorative

Lectures: Prof. Eric. N. Jacobsen, Harvard University, U. S. A.  
“A Search for Selective yet General Catalysts”

Prof. Shu Kobayashi, Tokyo University, Japan  
“Development of Novel Catalysts Directed toward  
Environmentally Benign Organic Synthesis”

5. Attendance: Ca.1,200 people from Japanese and foreign  
universities and industry

6. Sponsoring Organizations:

Hosted by: Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.

Supported by: Governmental:

Chiba Prefecture, Sodegaura City, Ichihara City,  
Kisarazu City, Mobara City

Academic:

The Chemical Society of Japan

The Society of Polymer Science, Japan

Catalysis Society of Japan

The Japan Petroleum Institute

The Society of Synthetic Organic Chemistry, Japan

The Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan