

Joint Research Agreement with the Dow Chemical Company

Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. (MCI) announced that it has entered into a joint research agreement with The Dow Chemical Company (Dow) to further the development of catalyst systems for the production of olefin block copolymers (OBC).

<Overview of joint research>

Development of catalyst systems for OBC, having outstanding features such as flexibility and rubber elasticity at wide range of temperature.

(1) OBC: Two types of polyolefin blocks are formed in one polymer chain alternately due to the catalyst system consisting of two kinds of catalysts.

(2) Features: OBC is a new structured polymer, having superior flexibility and rubber elasticity at wide range of temperatures, from minus 60 to over 100 degrees Celsius. It is expected to have extensive applications in areas of automotive, construction materials, groceries and home appliance.

Nobutaka Kuwabara, managing director and Functional Polymeric Materials Business Group President of MCI, said, "It is very significant to utilize our MCI single-site catalysis technology to carry out the further development of OBC. Moreover, we also hope MCI and Dow will provide new solutions to our customers' needs through the development of OBC."

Mr. Kurt Swogger, vice president of R&D for the performance plastics and chemicals portfolio of Dow said, "This agreement supports Dow's commitment to developing and expanding the platform of olefin block copolymers. We look forward to collaborating with MCI to expand the potential of this class of products and create exciting new opportunities for Dow and MCI customers."

MCI and Dow will make use of their specialized catalysis technologies and take a proactive approach toward the development and creation of this new class of functional polymer.

About The Dow Chemical Company

Dow is a diversified chemical company that harnesses the power of science and technology to improve living daily. The Company offers a broad range of innovative products and

services to customers in more than 175 countries, helping them to provide everything from fresh water, food and pharmaceuticals to paints, packaging and personal care products. Built on a commitment to its principles of sustainability, Dow has annual sales of \$46 billion and employs 42,000 people worldwide. References to “Dow” or the “Company” mean The Dow Chemical Company and its consolidated subsidiaries unless otherwise expressly noted. More information about Dow can be found at www.dow.com.

About Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.

Headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. is a diversified chemical company with offices in Europe, China, Singapore and America. A worldwide leader in the chemical industry, the company is actively engaged in numerous industry segments including Functional Chemicals and Engineering Materials, Functional Polymer Materials, Basic Chemicals and Petrochemicals. For more information on Mitsui Chemicals, Inc., visit the corporate website at www.mitsui-chem.co.jp.

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