



January 5, 2007

President Fujiyoshi's New Year Message

I wish you everyone a Happy New Year.

In 2006, the Japanese economy was still on a recovery trend, backed by gradual increases in personal consumption, capital investment and exports. In the meantime, business environment around Mitsui Chemicals Inc., (MCI) remained severe, hit by additional steep rises in feedstock prices, including that of naphtha.

With such a background, MCI has strived as a whole to achieve five main issues, "Accelerate business growth in the Performance Materials Sector," "Speed up the business expansion on a global scale," "Strengthen the capabilities of production sites," "Intensify human resource development" and "Promote CSR activities," in accordance with 2004 Mid-term Business Plan having started in 2004, with the keyword "Change Business Structure and Strengthen Profitability." Our efforts have made steady progress so far, and been on the right target to the goals. Notably, MCI has successfully expanded the Performance Materials Sector. The company made Image Polymer companies in the U.S. and Europe its wholly-owned subsidiaries, in order to reinforce toner resin business on a global scale. Besides, with the aim of strengthening and expanding agrochemicals business, it acquired total outstanding shares of Sankyo Agro Co., Ltd. On top of it, the company augmented production capacities for film-type PDP optical filters (FILFINE™), photovoltaic solar module encapsulating sheets (SOLAR EVA™) and breathable films for hygiene purposes (ESPOIR™).

As you know, this year marks the final year of 2004 Mid-term Business Plan as well as the 10th anniversary of MCI establishment. I hope all the MCI employees to do their best to attain 2004 Mid-term Business Plan, and to realize the new Grand Design established with an eye on further growth in the next 10 to 15 years. The new Corporate Target is determined as "Chemistry, Innovation, Dreams' ~ The Mitsui Chemicals Group is constantly pursuing innovation and materializing dreams with

the wonder of chemistry ~ .“ I am expecting all the MCI employees to stand up to challenges in a body, without fear, with this new target in their minds.

Also, MCI is to host “The Third Mitsui Chemicals International Symposium on Catalysis Science (MICS2007)” this March, following 2003 and 2005. I hope MICS2007 will make a success as the previous two, and serves as a forum of extensive interchange among participants from around the world an excellent opportunity for creating new knowledge. In addition, the award ceremony and commemorative lectures by the winners of the “Mitsui Chemicals Catalysis Science Award,” which were announced ahead of this release, will be conducted during this symposium.

The preparations are well advanced in an effort to contribute to development of catalysis science in the world. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of participants in MICS2007.