

February 26, 2015

Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.

Yoshiko Sugawara Receives Commissioner's Award for Merit in Patent Information Dissemination Activities

Mitsui Chemicals Inc. (Tokyo: 4183; President & CEO: Tsutomu Tannowa) announced Yoshiko Sugawara, Deputy General Manager of its Intellectual Property Division, was awarded the 2014 Commissioner's Award for Patent Information Dissemination Activities, the highest merit award presented by the Japan Patent Information Organization ("JAPIO").

Patent Information Dissemination Merit Awards were established by JAPIO to bolster understanding, use, and research of patent information and strengthen human resource competence and competitiveness. Since their establishment in 2012, the awards have been presented to groups which have shown significant achievements in these areas. Sugawara's recognition marks the first time the Commissioner Award has been presented to an individual.

Reason for Sugawara's award according to JAPIO news release:

"Ms. Yoshiko Sugawara has continued to work enthusiastically to improve understanding of patent activities and develop human resources with a working knowledge of patent operations for close to twenty years. While pursuing a career at Mitsui Chemicals, Ms. Sugawara has continue to work closely with and provide support to the Japan Intellectual Property Association (JIPA), the Japan Patent Office, and other such government bodies. She has also served as Executive Committee Chairperson to the Patent Search Competition, a competition which serves to evaluate and bring recognition to persons working in fields related to patenting and patent research." (JAPIO website <http://www.japio.or.jp/index.html>)



February 25th presentation ceremony at KRR Hotel, Tokyo

■Yoshiko Sugawara Profile

1985 Enters Mitsui Chemicals and assigned to patent research in Intellectual Property Division

2007 Unit leader of research in Intellectual Property Division

2012 Deputy general manager of Intellectual Property Division



Other activities:

Chairperson of JIPA Intellectual Property Information Search Committee

IPR Lecturer for Japan Patent Office

IPCC Executive Committee Chairperson to the Patent Search Grand Prix, etc.