

February 1, 2007

MITSUBISHI GAS CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.

ITOCHU Corporation

JAPAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION CO.,Ltd.

Taiyo Oil Company, Limited

TOTAL Di-Methyl Ether Japan Ltd.

Toyota Tsusho Corporation

JGC Corporation

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.

Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation

Establishment of Promotion Purposed Joint Venture Company for Fuel Use DME (Di-Methyl Ether)

In order to promote Di-Methyl Ether (DME) expected as the new generation clean fuel, the following nine Companies, MITSUBISHI GAS CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC. (Headquarter: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, President: Hideki Odaka), ITOCHU Corporation (Headquarter: Minato-ku, Tokyo, President and CEO: Eizo Kobayashi), JAPAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION CO.,Ltd. (Headquarter: Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, President and CEO: Yuji Tanahashi), Taiyo Oil Company, Limited (Headquarter: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, President: Yutaka Oka), TOTAL Di-Methyl Ether Japan Ltd. (Headquarter: Minato-ku, Tokyo, President: Hubert de Mestier), Toyota Tsusho Corporation, (Headquarter: Nagoya-shi, President: Junzo Shimizu), JGC Corporation (Yokohama Headquarter: Yokohama-shi, Chairman and CEO: Yoshihiro Shigehisa), Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (Headquarter: Minato-ku, Tokyo, President: Kazuo Tsukuda) and Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation (Headquarter: Minato-ku, Tokyo, President and CEO: Ryuichi Tomizawa) have agreed to establish a Joint Venture Company for DME production, and to construct a 80,000T/A DME production plant within Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company Niigata Factory (Niigata-shi). The plant operation is scheduled to start from June 2008, and its production capacity is expandable to 100,000T/A. JGC is in charge of the construction of this new production plant, and Mitsubishi Gas Chemical will be delegated to plant operation of DME production.

Currently, the main use for DME in Japan is aerosol propellant for cosmetics and paints, however, it has already been commercialized in China for LPG substitute because of its similar properties to those of LPG. It is also expected to be the future clean energy for fuel use, since it does not cause soot (Particulate Matters; PM) as diesel substitute, and could easily be produced from natural gas and coal etc. via methanol.

Japanese government has mentioned DME promotion to be an important matter in their

'Fundamental Energy Plan', and has supported technology developments for DME production and application. These nine participants will be developing further promotion in line with this national policy.

These nine participants will make efforts for future commercialization through promotion activities to apply DME produced from this new plant to boilers, power plants (including fuel cells), automobiles, etc.

Joint Venture Company Outline attached.

< Contact Information >

MITSUBISHI GAS CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.:Corporate Communications Division, Nishimura

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ITOCHU Corporation: Corporate Communications Division, Yamanaka

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JAPAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION CO.,Ltd.: , Hasegawa

TEL: +81-3-5461-7413

Taiyo Oil Company, Limited , Hayashi

TEL: +81-3-5521-9862

TOTAL Di-Methyl Ether Japan Ltd.: President, Hubert de Mestier

TEL : +81-3-5562-5223

Toyota Tsusho Corporation : Corporate Communications Office, Konishi

TEL: +81-52-584-5013

JGC Corporation , Mizuno

TEL: +81-45-682-8026

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. , Takemori

TEL: +81-3-6716-2168

Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation

TEL: +81-3-6414-3730

1 . Name: Fuel DME Production Co., Ltd.

2 . President: Norio Konishi

(Current: MITSUBISHI GAS CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.

Executive Officer, Division Director

Methanol & DME Project Division Natural Gas Chemicals Company

Japan DME Ltd.

President)

3 . Headquarter: Niigata-shi, Niigata

4 . Capital: ¥ 465,000,000

5 . Shareholders:

MITSUBISHI GAS CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.	29.15%
ITOCHU Corporation	13.25%
JAPAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION CO.,Ltd.	12%
Taiyo Oil Company, Limited	10%
TOTAL Di-Methyl Ether Japan Ltd.	10%
Toyota Tsusho Corporation	10%
JGC Corporation	5.3%
Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.	5.3%
Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation	5%

6 . Description of Business: Production of DME

7 . Date of Establishment: April 2007 expected

8 . Production Start: June 2008 expected