



Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Mitsubishi Corporation

# MHI and MC to Contribute to Iceland's Clean Energy Policy

Tokyo, September 19, 2008 – Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (MHI) and Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) have concluded an agreement with the Icelandic government under which the two companies will contribute to Iceland's energy policy currently being promoted with a view to ending the country's dependence on fossil fuels. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) delineating the agreement will be signed on September 19 in Iceland. Specifically, the two companies will provide technological support to Iceland's quest to be a pioneering country in clean energy (achieving zero percent hydrocarbon fuel emissions). As the first step of this initiative, MHI and MC will cooperate in the establishment of an infrastructure for verification testing of a new generation, zero-emissions electric vehicles (EV).

On the day of the MOU signing, Mr. Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, the President of Iceland, is scheduled to test-drive a zero-emissions EV.

The MOU signing ceremony will take place in Reykjavik, the capital, in conjunction with the "Driving Sustainability '08" conference to be held in the city on September 18 and 19. Mr. Ossur Skarphedinsson, Iceland's Minister of Industry, Energy and Tourism; Mr. Ichiro Fukue, Senior Executive Vice President of MHI; and Tsunao Kijima, Executive Vice President of MC, will attend the ceremony.

Since the 1980's, Iceland has been shifting its energy sources to renewable energy. At present the country generates almost all its electricity by geothermal power or hydropower. Iceland has also launched various initiatives toward realizing a society that will use hydrogen energy in the near future, a stance for which it is garnering attention globally as a nation with an advanced clean energy policy. In the area of transportation, however, energy sources for transport modes such as automobiles and ships are still dependent on fossil fuels, a situation which the Icelandic government seeks to rectify expeditiously.

During the course of the discussions that led to the agreement, MHI's Sustainability Energy & Environment Strategic Planning Department, established in April this year, served in a liaison role. In this instance, the energy policy embraced by Iceland meshed perfectly with the aspirations on the Japanese side, resulting in the agreement at hand. Going forward, MHI and MC are looking to collaborate in the manufacture and supply of clean fuel to replace light oil as fuel for fishing vessels; the fisheries industry is one of Iceland's major industries.

New-generation fully electric vehicles will not emit carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) as they run on electricity alone, which costs considerably less than gasoline. Amid today's intensifying need to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a variety of ecologically friendly vehicles are currently under development, including hybrid and hydrogen–fueled cars; fully electric vehicles figure high among these new technological directions.

Iceland and the two Mitsubishi companies have already forged strong relationships in many areas, and to date MHI, together with MC, has received orders for 15 geothermal power plants from the country. In the wake of the latest MOU signing, MHI and MC now intend to apply their respective technologies and know-how to making even more proactive proposals to Iceland in the areas of energy and environmental issues. They also aim to leverage the experience gained through the pilot program in Iceland, one of the world's most advanced countries in terms of clean energy usage, toward expanded developments of global scope.

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## MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD.

### **About Mitsubishi Heavy Industries**

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (MHI), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is one of the world's leading heavy machinery manufacturers, with consolidated sales of 3,203 billion yen in fiscal 2007 (year ended March 31, 2008). MHI's diverse lineup of products and services encompasses shipbuilding, power plants, chemical plants, environmental equipment, steel structures, industrial and general machinery, aircraft, space rocketry and air-conditioning systems.

For more information, please visit the MHI website (http://www.mhi.co.jp).

#### MITSUBISHI CORPORATION

### **About Mitsubishi Corporation**

Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) is Japan's largest general trading company (sogo shosha) with over 200 bases of operations in approximately 80 countries worldwide. Together with its over 500 group companies, MC employs a multinational workforce of approximately 60,000 people. MC has long been engaged in business with customers around the world in virtually every industry, including energy, metals, machinery, chemicals, food and general merchandise.

For more information, please visit the MC website(http://www.mitsubishicorp.com)