



NEWS RELEASE

Mitsui Mining & Smelting Co., Ltd.
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Mitsui Kinzoku to consider organizational restructuring of its automotive components business

At a meeting held today (Wednesday, February 17, 2010), the Board of Directors of Mitsui Mining and Smelting Co., Ltd. (Mitsui Kinzoku) decided to consider the transfer of its automotive components operations (primarily door locks for automobiles) to its wholly owned subsidiary Ohi Seisakusho Co., Ltd.

1. Schedule for transfer of operations: July 1, 2010 (planned)

2. Background to decision

The operating environment for the automotive components industry is growing increasingly harsh with each passing year, and the industry is in the process of a major transformation, as evidenced by the acceleration seen in industrial restructuring, and intensified price-cutting competition in the newly developing economies. Amid such circumstances, it is necessary to incorporate an increasingly global perspective in our automotive components operations and create a competitive cost structure that is able to overcome price competition, so as to achieve a sufficient level of earnings.

3. Objective

Mitsui Kinzoku has expanded and strengthened its automotive components operations since the Company made Ohi Seisakusho a wholly owned subsidiary through an

exchange of shares in 2003. The full integration of Mitsui Kinzoku's and Ohi Seisakusho's automotive components operations would enable considerable cost reductions and speed up management decision-making.

4. Other related matters

Additional details regarding actual plans will be announced once further decisions have been made.