

Mitsui Chemicals Holds Ceremony to Mark Completed Construction of New LUCANT™ Plant

Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. (Tokyo: 4183; President & CEO: HASHIMOTO Osamu) today announced that it has completed the construction of a new plant to produce LUCANT™, a series of hydrocarbon-based synthetic fluid, at its Ichihara Works in Ichihara, Chiba Prefecture. A ceremony was also held on November 12 to mark the occasion.

With this new plant coming on top of an existing plant at Iwakuni-Ohtake Works, Mitsui Chemicals' production capacity for LUCANT™ is now set to increase, allowing the company to comfortably keep up with the strong global demand for the product. Further, by moving to a two-base system spread across Iwakuni-Ohtake Works and Ichihara Works, Mitsui Chemicals aims to bolster its business continuity planning for LUCANT™.



Photo at Today's Ceremony

■ LUCANT™ <https://jp.mitsuichemicals.com/en/service/mobility/elastomers/lucant/index.htm>

Mitsui Chemicals' LUCANT™ is a high-performance hydrocarbon-based synthetic oil – the world's first such product to be offered commercially. In addition to its viscosity being largely resistant to temperature changes, the material has a number of other noteworthy properties, including excellent shear stability and thermochemical stability.

These characteristics see LUCANT™ finding use as a viscosity modifier in applications that require very high quality – such as gear oil for automotive drivelines, as well as industrial lubricants and greases. The product has been approved for use by prominent automakers and lubricant manufacturers.

■ Pursuing business growth for LUCANT™

Amid an era of heightening needs for eco-friendly products, LUCANT™ is expected to meet with rising global demand as a product able to help achieve improved fuel efficiency and longer operating life.

Mitsui Chemicals has a strategic partnership with The Lubrizol Corporation's Additives Segment which acts as a major producer of lubricant additive packages. Going forward, both Mitsui Chemicals and Lubrizol intend to further expand and grow the LUCANT™ business in the lubricant market.

Further, as its own independent initiative, Mitsui Chemicals intends to tackle market development and application development for the expanded use of LUCANT™ as a functional liquid polymer, including applications as a modifier for elastomers and engineering plastics.

■ Overview of the new plant

Product	Hydrocarbon-based synthetic fluid
Trademark	LUCANT™
Location	Within Mitsui Chemicals Ichihara Works
Schedule	Commercial operations to begin in April 2021 (tentative)

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