



## Kureha Chemical Industry Announces Record Profit for Fiscal 2004

Strategic Businesses Make Solid Contribution to Earnings

### Outlook for fiscal 2005 and beyond

Kureha's financial forecasts for fiscal 2005 are shown in the following table:

Summary of consolidated financial forecasts

(¥ million, except where stated)

	Fiscal 2005 (Forecasts)	Fiscal 2004	Change (%)
Sales	140,000	130,400	7.4
Operating income	11,500	10,255	12.1
Recurring income	10,500	9,705	8.2
Net income	5,200	4,467	16.4
Earnings per share (EPS) (¥)	27.99	23.41	19.6

In addition to the key growth areas mentioned above, Kureha also has a range of promising new products under development, including:

### **Polyglycolic acid (PGA) resin for carbonated drink containers and beer bottles**

The commercialization of PGA resin for use in carbonated drink containers and beer bottles is now a priority for the company. Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles that contain a PGA layer have an extended shelf life. Hence, the product has the potential to revolutionize the soft drink industry. Kureha will conduct test marketing of PGA and commercial production is expected to commence in stages from fiscal 2006. The company is targeting PGA utilization by soft drink manufacturers around the world.

### **Solar control material**

Solar control material is a type of filter that, when applied to a window, absorb heat from the sun, thereby reducing room temperature without the need to darken the room with blinds or curtains. Kureha is currently developing applications for this technology alongside glass and automobile parts manufacturers.

### **Anti HIV agent**

Pre-clinical tests have been completed and the company is now considering partnerships with major foreign manufacturers. Kureha has the option of either licensing or selling the technology.

### Aggressive new mid-term business plan launched

Kureha's longer-term financial targets are outlined in the new mid-term plan, announced in April 2005. The focus of the plan is to revitalize the business by repositioning Kureha as a leading specialty products company, strategically focusing on high value-added growth products.

### "Kureha Corporation" - A new corporate direction

To mark the adoption of a strategic new corporate direction, the company has decided to change its name to Kureha Corporation from Kureha Chemical Industry Co., Ltd., effective October 1, 2005. The name change reflects the company's determination to both strengthen and expand the Kureha brand, as it aims to excel in a range of strategic business areas.

Details of Kureha's new mid-term business plan, name change and new corporate identity are outlined in the press release, "*Kureha Corporation*" - *New Name, New Mission, New Focus, January 17, 2005*.