

June 30, 2015

**Umicore Shokubai Japan was awarded the Outstanding Technical Paper Award
by Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan for
“Development of Iron Catalyst Technologies to Improve Exhaust-emission
Purification Performance for Gasoline Engines”**

Umicore Shokubai Japan Co., Ltd. (“Umicore Shokubai Japan”), an affiliated company of NIPPON SHOKUBAI CO., LTD. [Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Osaka; President: Masanori Ikeda, TSE:4114.T] (“Nippon Shokubai”) was awarded the Outstanding Technical Paper Award(65th) by Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan (“JSAE”) for “Development of Iron Catalyst Technologies to Improve Exhaust-emission Purification Performance for Gasoline Engines” (Joint development with Mitsubishi Motors Corporation) .

This paper was reported at 2013 JSAE Annual Congress (Autumn) and published in Transactions of Society Automotive Engineers of Japan (2014).

JSAE Awards recognize scholars and engineers who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of automotive technology. The awards were established with the aim of promoting the development of the automotive industry and its technology in 1951.

Regarding the exhaust gas purifying catalyst for gasoline engine, the researchers focused on iron as an alternative to expensive palladium. They investigated the fundamental characteristics of the iron catalyst and revealed the mechanism of catalytic activity. Improved iron catalyst which suppresses the performance deterioration after aging has good potential to replace palladium catalyst, so the paper is highly recognized as promising an economic impact and energy saving through the developed catalyst.

Umicore Shokubai Japan strives to achieve its corporate philosophy of "Clean Air is Our Business" and contributes to global environmental protection through development of superior catalyst technology.

◆ **Corporate outline of Umicore Shokubai Japan**

Established	March, 2012
Location	1-25-19 Rinku-cho, Tokoname, Aichi 479-0882 Japan
Representative	Masataka Muramatsu(Mr.), President
Business	R&D and sales of automotive catalysts
Capital	750 million yen
Contributor	100% owned by Umicore Shokubai S.A. (Luxembourg) Umicore Shokubai S.A., owned 60% by Umicore and 40% by Nippon Shokubai, is holding company of Umicore Shokubai Japan and other 4 automotive catalysts companies (USA, Germany, Brazil and China).
Business establishment	Tokoname, Tokyo, Himeji

【Contacts】 Investor & Public Relations Dept.
NIPPON SHOKUBAI CO., LTD.
TEL: +81-3-3506-7605 E-mail: shokubai@n.shokubai.co.jp