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To whom it may concern

Nissho Iwai Corporation

President & CEO Shiro Yasutake

Securities Code: 8063

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**Nissho Iwai Corporation and Nichimen Corporation
agreed to establish a joint holding company of plastics business**

Nissho Iwai Corporation (Hdqrs.: Minato-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO Shiro Yasutake) and *Nichimen Corporation* (Hdqrs.:Minato-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO Toru Hanbayashi) have agreed to establish a joint holding company pertaining to plastics business area, which will inherit certain affiliated companies of this area owned by both companies.

In plastics industry, while merger and ally at manufacturers' level in the upper stream progress, rapid change is arising in downstream market as well. Under these circumstances, the two companies share the understanding that plastics trading company should have the leading edge to provide value-adding products and services in response to needs of a wide range of customers more than ever.

Therefore, both companies have agreed to jointly establish a holding company in this area by end of March 2001, transferring the ownership of *NISSHO IWAI PLASTIC CORPORATION* (which is a 100% subsidiary of Nissho Iwai Corp.) and *Nichipac Co., Ltd.* and *N&L Marble Co., Ltd.* (both of which are subsidiaries of Nichimen Corp.) to the new joint holding company.

Both *Nissho Iwai Corporation* and *Nichimen Corporation*, taking advantage of this opportunity, make full use of being complementary each other and also expand business cooperation to organize a new group of plastics trading companies, which shall provide innovative services to all customers and have far superior functions to the current trading houses.

Outline of the holding company

Name : PLA-NET HOLDINGS, INC.
 To be Established : By end March 2001
 Location : Minato-ku, Tokyo
 Representative : Atsumi Shirai
 Paid-in Capital : JPY3.6 billion
 Ownership : Nichimen Corporation:65%, Nissho Iwai Corporation: 35%
 Business projection : Net Sales: 100 billion yen
 Operating Profit: 1.1 billion yen

*Reference: Outline of the subsidiaries

Name of company	NISSHO IWAI PLASTIC CORPORATION	Nichipac Co., Ltd.	N & L Marble Co., Ltd.
President	Yoshikatsu Funatsuki	Yoshiaki Nakagawa	Hiroshi Iwamoto
Head Office	Minato-ku, Tokyo	Machida-shi, Tokyo	Ibaraki-shi, Osaka
Incorporated	May 1979	December 1960	December 1999
Major line of businesses & Main products	Sales of plastic resins and products, relevant machinery and molds, as well as sales of semiconductor concerned devices and accessories	Manufacturing / sales of various paper bags, plastic bags and designing, printing	Manufacturing / sales of artificial marble and accessories
Accounting Year-end	March	March	March
Number of Employees (as of Feb.28, 2001)	163	161	13
Paid-in Capital	1 billion yen	100 million yen	150 million yen
Number of shares issued	2,000,000 shares	100,000 shares	3,000 shares
Major shareholders & Ownership	Nissho Iwai Corporation 100%	Nichimen Corporation 100%	Nichimen Corporation 70% Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd. 20% LG Chemical Ltd. 10%
Financial Results for the last Fiscal Year & Forward-looking for the current Fiscal Year	(yen: mil) <u>FY 00/3</u> Net Sales 46,495 Operating Profit 391 Earnings before extraordinary items and taxes 332 <u>FY 01/3(estimate)</u> Net Sales 80,971 Operating Profit 745 Earnings before extraordinary items and taxes 430	(yen: mil) <u>FY 00/3</u> Net Sales 7,313 Operating Profit 126 Earnings before extraordinary items and taxes 110 <u>FY 01/3 (estimate)</u> Net Sales 8,000 Operating Profit 78 Earnings before extraordinary items and taxes 74	(yen: mil) <u>FY 00/3</u> (99/12-00/3 for 4 months) Net Sales 178 Operating Loss (21) Loss before extraordinary items and taxes (20) <u>FY 01/3(estimate)</u> Net Sales 547 Operating Loss (1) Earnings before extraordinary items and taxes 5