

MEMS Industry Forum Activities

The MEMS Industry Forum (MIF) was established to help strengthen the international competitiveness of the MEMS industry in Japan. Members are primarily companies in areas related to the MEMS industry. The MIF promotes various activities in cooperation with affiliated academies, regional centers, overseas institutions and so on.

1. Planning of Fiscal Year 2009

Under control of the MIF Executive Committee, three special committees (Industrial Networking Committee, Foundry Service Industry Committee and International Networking Committee) have been established to implement specific project activities. From May through June, the MIF Executive Committee and the three special committees held their first committee meetings and finalized their activity schedules for the fiscal year.

At the MIF Executive Committee meeting held on June 12, the overall schedule of activities for the current fiscal year was approved. The main components of this fiscal year's activities include the following:

1. Continue the ongoing survey of industry trends with increased depth of focus
2. Study how the Nanotech Arena concept (being promoted primarily by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) could be employed by the MIF
3. Support personnel training activities being implemented in regional areas and begin the process of organizing these activities as an ongoing effort
4. Intensify efforts to disseminate the achievements of past projects such as MemsONE
5. Prioritize international networking activities in the midst of the tight budgetary environment

The three special committee activity schedules were finalized in accordance with this overall activity schedule and implementation of the projects for the fiscal year has begun.



1st MIF Executive Committee Meeting

2. MMC Survey of MEMS Industry Trends

A report was compiled that added a relevant study conducted by the MMC Industrial Trends Research Committee to the "Survey of Domestic and International Technology Trends for the Formulation of Strategies in the MEMS Field" compiled last year at the request of the New Energy and

Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO).

This study was conducted to study and analyze MEMS industry trends and to determine how devices, application equipment etc. using MEMS technologies should be deployed, as well as ways to achieve market expansion.

The main content of the study includes the following:

- Industry trends as seen by the papers presented at international conferences and the patent applications that have been filed
- Analysis of individual application fields in order to determine application trends
- Analysis of the current status of players in the MEMS field in order to determine trends at MEMS-related companies

The study provides basic data on the overall industry as well as information on strategy formulation by individual companies. In the near future, the study will be made available on the MIF Supporting Member page.

3. International Networking Activities (Hanover Messe, Micromachine Summit, LETI Workshop)

As international Networking activities, the MIF engages in business-related and academic international interchanges that include sponsoring international symposiums and dispatching overseas study missions.

So far during this fiscal year, the MIF has exhibited products and presented papers at the Hanover Messe (in Hanover, Germany) held April 21 - 25, and presented papers and participated in interchange activities at the MMC/LETI Workshop held June 11 - 12 in Grenoble, France. Attendance by Japan at the Micromachine Summit held May 5 - 8 in Edmonton, Canada was canceled due to the H1N1 influenza outbreak.

The MMC/LETI Workshop was held to provide a venue for the presentation of MEMS-related papers and to study ways to enhance cooperation with LETI/MINATEC, an MIF overseas affiliate and one of the centers for device research in Europe. Japanese universities and companies participated in the workshop in addition to representatives from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and NEDO. The workshop and related facility visits provided valuable stimulation with regard to future projects, research activities and policy research.



Workshop participants from Japan in front of LETI/MINATEC (Grenoble, France)