

# Activities of the MEMS Industry Forum

The MEMS Industry Forum (MIF) was established with the goal of contributing to the international competitiveness of Japan's MEMS industry. Membership in the MIF is composed primarily of companies in MEMS-related industries. The MIF conducts various activities in collaboration with affiliated academies, regional centers, and overseas institutions.

## 1. Planning for FY 2010

The Industrial Exchange Committee, Foundry Service Industry Committee, and International Exchange Committee have been established to work out the detailed project activities of the MIF under the guidance of the MIF Promotion Committee. During May and June this year, the MIF Promotion Committee and the three other committees held their first committee meetings and finalized the schedules for this fiscal year.

At the MIF Promotion Committee meeting held on June 9, the committee decided on the overall schedule of activities for the current fiscal year. In addition to improving and intensifying the traditional activities of the MIF, this year plan calls for implementing strategic activities aimed at the establishment of a future micro/nano R&D center. The following are three distinct aspects of the current plan.

- (1) Establish a new Promotion Committee of Micro/Nano Education and Training aimed at developing self-reliant personnel training programs nationwide.**
- (2) Establish an investigative committee composed primarily of MIF member companies to discuss suitable strategies for a future micro/nano R&D center and an appropriate administrative structure and implementation plan required to realize this center.**
- (3) Consider how equipment installed for the G-device project of the BEANS Laboratory at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) can best be utilized in the future to enhance collaboration with the MEMS Foundry Service.**

The activity schedules for each of the above committees was finalized in accordance with this overall activity schedule, and implementation of the projects for this fiscal year has begun.

## 2. Preparations for MicroNano 2010

The micromachine exposition MicroNano 2010 will be held at Tokyo Big Sight on July 28–30, 2010. Below is a description of some of the features in this year's event and the current state of preparations.

### a. The International Micromachine/Nanotech Symposium

The 16<sup>th</sup> International Micromachine/Nanotech Symposium is held to collect all the latest findings from overseas research institutes under the theme "Green Innovation Explored by Ambient Devices," as indirect support for the G-device project. As part of its duties, the International Exchange Committee is studying the program while consulting with Toshihiro Ito, co-director of the AIST's Research Center for Ubiquitous MEMS and Micro Engineering. By establishing a theme that overlaps the

research theme of the G-device project, we hope to gain insight into the trends of research both in Japan and overseas.

### b. Addition of the TIA-NMEMS Symposium

The TIA-NMEMS Symposium will be divided into two parts held in the morning and afternoon, respectively. Part I will serve to hear all expectations of government, industry, and academia toward NMEMS, which is one of the core research domains of the Tsukuba Innovation Arena (TIA)-Nano, while Part II will introduce the preparatory activities of the MEMS Industry Forum Workshop to date for implementing the concept of TIA-NMEMS. Part I will be hosted jointly with the AIST and will encourage closer collaboration among government, industry, and academia.

### c. Establishment of the Job Matching Support Plaza

As a new experiment for MicroNano 2010, a Job Matching Support Plaza will be added to provide a place for students with an interest in the MEMS industry to meet companies looking for outstanding personnel who are currently engaged in MEMS research. As we have asked for cooperation from exhibiting companies, announced the Job Matching Support Plaza through the Industrial Exchange Committee, and notified university research labs of the exhibition program, we anticipate the participation of a large number of companies and students.

## 3. International Exchange Activities (Hannover Messe, Micromachine Summit)

As part of its international exchange activities, the MIF encourages international business and academic exchange by holding the International Micromachine/Nanotech Symposium and dispatching overseas fact-finding missions, for example.

So far during the current fiscal year, the MIF has exhibited products and presented papers at Hannover Messe 2010 held in Hannover, Germany on April 19–23 and has participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> Micromachine Summit held in Dortmund, Germany on April 27–30. While both events took place during the difficult circumstances of the volcanic eruption in Iceland, which resulted in a chaotic flight schedule, we were able to attend the event in part due to the support of MIF member companies.

The theme of this year's Micromachine Summit was "Ambient Assisted Living" on how micro/nano technology can be used to improve lifestyles in an aging society. We left the Summit feeling that, while the problem of an aging population is a major issue for Japan, it is actually a universal issue. As a result, nations around the world have accelerated research efforts in a race to find a solution to the problem.



**16<sup>th</sup> Micromachine Summit  
(Dortmund, Germany)**