



<u>PRESS RELEASE</u>

JASDEC Signs MOU with KSD on Information Sharing & Cooperation

Tokyo and Seoul, February 21, 2005 — The Japan Securities Depository Center, Inc. (JASDEC) and the Korea Securities Depository (KSD) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) at the Yoido head-office of KSD at 11 a.m. today.

The MOU is to contribute to establish infrastructure in preparation for exchange of information and cooperation between the two parties and further enhance the mutual business collaboration.

In the signing ceremony, Mr. Eui Dong Chung, Chairman & CEO of KSD said "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to strengthen friendly relationship and tap into each other's expertise." Also he made clear his will to spearhead the efforts to bring the infrastructure of the Korean securities market to the level of advanced countries with the close cooperation with JASDEC.

"I hope that the signing of MOU between KSD and JASDEC will act as a catalyst to cement the friendly and cooperative ties between the two central securities depositories." said Mr. Yoshinobu Takeuchi, President & CEO of JASDEC. He also expressed his hope that KSD and JASDEC will be able to make contributions to the securities market development of the two countries through information sharing and personnel exchanges.

About KSD

The Korea Securities Depository (KSD) is in charge of a wide range of securities related businesses including securities issuance, deposit, settlement, and entitlement processing in its capacity as a sole central securities depository in Korea. KSD is a statutory entity with public characteristics, held by 92 shareholders as of the end of 2003. The shareholders consist of securities companies, banks, insurance companies, investment & trust companies, and other financial organizations. The number of participants in the KSD system currently stands at 553, mostly financial organizations. KSD is headquartered in Seoul with five branches nationwide. For more information on KSD, visit www.ksd.or.kr.

About JASDEC

The Japan Securities Depository Center, Inc. (JASDEC), designated as a central securities depository under the CSD Law, provides the securities depository and book-entry transfer services for stocks, ETFs, convertible bonds and other securities, and the book-entry transfer services for dematerialized commercial paper. In addition, JASDEC operates the Pre-Settlement Matching System since September 2001, and through its subsidiary, the JASDEC DVP Clearing Corp., the DVP settlement system for the non-exchange trade deliveries since May 2004. For more information on JASDEC, visit www.jasdec.com.