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Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd.

SMM Acquires Additional Stock in Toyota Motor Corporation

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. (SMM) has acquired additional stock in Toyota Motor Corporation (Toyota). As a result SMM now holds 4,738,300 shares of Toyota, accounting for a 0.137% ownership share.

Under its corporate business strategy, SMM's fundamental policy is to acquire stock of other business corporations in limited cases: namely, when it believes that such acquisition will serve to strengthen its business base, and when said corporation understands SMM's business operations and business strategies and can be expected to hold a corresponding proportion of SMM shares over the medium to long term.

Toyota is presently taking the global lead in developing and manufacturing hybrid, plug-in hybrid and other vehicles that are expected to see further market expansion going forward. SMM currently supplies Toyota with cathode materials for the rechargeable batteries used in its vehicles of these types. In addition, in October 2010 SMM and Toyota, in partnership with Toyota Chemical Engineering Co., Ltd. and Primearth EV Energy Co., Ltd., launched the world's first operations in recycling the nickel contained in used nickel metal hydride (NiMH) batteries utilized in hybrid vehicles, for reuse as battery material. In 2012 SMM acquired Toyota shares in a quest to strengthen its ties with the automaker in the battery materials business.

Under its long-range corporate vision SMM today is pursuing growth strategies in its three core business areas – mineral resources, smelting & refining, and materials – aiming to become "a world leader in the non-ferrous metals industry" and "an excellent company of Japan." Within its materials business, the company

is focusing on cathode materials for rechargeable batteries, an area expected to mark robust growth in the coming years. The acquisition of additional stock in Toyota at this time was decided based on the judgment that strengthening its strategic relationship with this automaker, a major user of such materials, is of vital importance to achieving SMM's strategy goals.

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