Press Release

Isuzu Motors Dedicates Engine Plant in Poland

Isuzu Motors Limited (Tokyo, Japan) today had a grand opening ceremony of Isuzu Motors Polska. sp. z o o. to manufacture diesel engines for passenger cars. More than 500 guests including Poland high government officials, General Motors top executives joined to commemorate the start of mass production at the engine plant. Mr. Leszek Balcerowicz, Polish deputy prime minister and Mr. Arvin F. Mueller, GM vice president and Powertrain Group Executive were among the guests.

ISPOL, a wholly owned subsidiary established by Isuzu in Tychy, Katowice in January 1997, has been attracting attention as the first large-scale Japanese investment in Poland. Total value of the investment for this project amounts to 2.6 billion Yen. Production at ISPOL already began on June 14, 1999. The production volume will increase gradually to reach the level of 100,000 units in the first year and full production 300, 000 units per year is scheduled for 2003.

ISPOL will supply its next-generation diesel engines, which fully comply with European environmental regulations, to Opel AG in Germany. In the 58th International Motor Show, Opel has announced that the company will soon launch new Astra with ISPOL-made diesel.

Diesel-powered passenger cars have been gaining popularity in Europe. Strong concern for the environment is leading people to choose diesel-powered cars due to their low emission of carbon dioxide, a leading cause of global warming. The environmental advantages of diesel engines are expected to stimulate a sharp increase in the sales of diesel-powered vehicles in the foreseeable future.

Isuzu Motors is mainly responsible for diesel engine development and production for General Motors Corporation and its group companies. ISPOL now becomes the focal point of the group's engine production operations in Europe. In today's ceremony, Mr. Balcerowicz mentioned Isuzu's significant investment to Poland and Mr. Arv Mueller representing General Motors commented on the excellent partnership with Isuzu and great expectation for the new diesel in his commemorative speech.

ISPOL, Isuzu's fourth overseas diesel engine production plant, following Thailand, Indonesia and China, is an important addition to the company's overseas engine supply network. When DMAX Ltd., a GM-Isuzu joint-venture diesel engine plant in Ohio, USA, begins production in the middle of 2000, Isuzu's global diesel engine supply network will encompass Asia, Europe and North America.