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## **DENKA to Expand Collaboration with the Graduate School of Science and Engineering at Yamagata University**

The Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Yamagata University  
DENKI KAGAKU KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (DENKA)

On October 11, 2013, the Graduate School of Science and Engineering at Yamagata University (Yonezawa, Yamagata; dean: Hiroshi Iizuka; hereafter “Yamagata University”) and DENKA (president: Shinsuke Yoshitaka; Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo) signed a preliminary agreement aimed at concluding a comprehensive collaborative research agreement.

Staying in tune with industry needs, Yamagata University undertakes basic research centered on promising themes in the field of polymer materials and polymer processing products while promoting practical research with an eye on commercialization.

On the other hand, ever since its founding, DENKA has created a wealth of products, including organic and inorganic materials, polymer processing products and functional materials. Over the years, DENKA has adapted its focus in response to the needs of the times, always pursuing the ultimate in *Monozukuri* (Japanese-style craftsmanship). In anticipation of the approaching centennial of its founding in 2015, DENKA has formulated the DENKA100 management plan and drawn up a set of new growth strategies, one of which is the promotion of next-generation product development. DENKA is rallying its strengths Companywide to achieve the goals of the plan.

Until now, Yamagata University and DENKA have undertaken joint R&D initiatives on an individual project basis as the need arises, with research themes focusing on the development of polymer materials and polymer processing materials. With the signing of the agreement, we intend to speed up and streamline the execution of such initiatives, opening a path to joint development in a range of products and fields. Yamagata University and DENKA will thereby be positioned to fully exploit their strengths and rally their expertise, advancing collaborative R&D initiatives themed on polymer materials, such as resin and elastomer, as well as polymer processing products, such as molded polymer products and highly functional films. These efforts will allow us to address diverse market needs and deliver new products that help facilitate environmental load reduction, energy savings and the sound development of society.



### Signing ceremony on October 11, 2013

(left: Mr. Mitsukuni Ayabe, DENKA's Senior Managing Executive Officer;  
right: Dr. Hiroshi Iizuka, dean of the Graduate School of Science and Engineering at  
Yamagata University)

#### For inquiries:

Yamagata University:

Research Support Office, Faculty of Engineering  
3-16, Jonan 4-chome, Yonezawa, Yamagata, 992-8510, Japan  
TEL: +81-238-26-3004

Tatsuhiro Takahashi, Special Advisor to the Dean  
TEL: +81-238-26-3585  
FAX: +81-238-26-3240

DENKA:

CSR & Corporate Communications Dept.  
1-1, Nihonbashi-Muromachi 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-8338, Japan  
TEL: +81-3-5290-5511

Takuya Okada, Deputy General Manager, Research and Development Dept.  
TEL: +81-3-5290-5522  
FAX: +81-3-5290-5076