

Selection of Subsidy Receivers for 2008 “ENEOS Hydrogen Trust Fund”

– Selection of 5 researchers: Tatsuo Yanagishita, Tatsuya Ohkubo, Masahiro Fujiwara, Koichi Terasaka and Akihiko Kudo –

Nippon Oil Corporation (President: Shinji Nishio) is pleased to announce that the “ENEOS Hydrogen Trust Fund (Chairman of steering committee: Kenichiro Ohta: Yokohama National University, Graduate School of Engineering, Trustee: The Chuo Mitsui Trust and Banking Company, Limited) established by Nippon Oil Corporation has awarded subsidies to the following five people (titles are omitted from names) for 2008.

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| Tatsuo Yanagishita | (Chief Researcher, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology) |
| Tatsuya Ohkubo | (Professor, The University of Tokyo, School of Engineering Department of Chemical System) |
| Masahiro Fujiwara | (Chief Researcher, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology) |
| Koichi Terasaka | (Professor, Department of Applied Chemistry, Faculty of Science and Technology, Keio University) |
| Akihiko Kudo | (Professor, Tokyo University of Science, Department of Applied Chemistry) |

This fund, which we founded in March 2006 to subsidize independent and leading-edge basic research and to contribute to the realization of hydrogen-based societies is the first charitable trust fund in Japan to specialize in research relating to the supply of hydrogen energy. The trust assets of this fund total ¥1.5 billion, making it the largest charitable trust to be set up by a corporation in Japan, and enabling an annual total of ¥50 million (maximum ¥10 million per research) to be granted to research steadily for the next 30 years.

There were a total of 42 applicants this year and the fund’s steering committee fairly and strictly selected five researchers taking “compliance with the purpose of this fund”, “originality and novelty” and “appropriateness of the research plan” into consideration.

Nippon Oil Corporation group puts the Group Philosophy as “Your Choice of Energy; Creating the energy future and promoting prosperity and harmony with nature.” Hydrogen is expected to be used in fuel cells and hydrogen is expected to become an energy for creating a sustainable society. A major technological innovation on the supply of hydrogen energy is necessary in order to disseminate hydrogen as an energy system into society. We expect research subsidized by this fund to result in the advent of a “hydrogen society” as soon as possible.

Attachment:  [Subsidy targets and research themes for 2008](#)