

**Improved LCD manufacturing equipment capability: through expansion of production space in order to meet a larger amount of orders**

Kyoto, Japan, February 24, 2004 — Dainippon Screen Mfg. Co., Ltd., (Headquarters: Kyoto; Japan / President: Akira Ishida) will extend its production space for LCD manufacturing equipment by about 65% in order to enhance its production capability from May.

Considering the gaining momentum of the booming LCD display market centered on Asia, our increase in floor space is an effort to meet order receipts for LCD manufacturing equipment. It is also to cope with the enlargement of the LCD manufacturing equipment required to deal with 1,500 x 1,800 mm sixth-generation and 1,870 x 2,200 mm seventh-generation compatible glass substrates.

For this expansion, approx. 3,200 square meters of unemployed space in Hikone office, which is possessed by Screen, is to be adapted for the FPD Equipment Company's factory, which is currently located there. Thereby, the total floor area that can be used for producing LCD manufacturing equipment becomes about 8,100 square meters. A clean room facility will be provided in the area.

At the end of December in 2003, the order backlog of the company reached 2.4 times compared to that at the end of March in 2003. With the increase in floor space, we will establish a high production capability that will allow us to promptly respond to the demands from the LCD panel manufacturers (mainly in Asia) for creating or upgrading their large size glass substrate production facilities.



***The production space for LCD equipment in Hikone Factory***