

## **Nippon Flour Mills Holds Ceremony to Mark Completion of Grain Silos at the Chiba Mill**

Tokyo, October 17, 2005 — Today Nippon Flour Mills Co., Ltd. (president: Masataka Horikawa) held a ceremony to mark the completion of construction of grain silos attached to a state-of-the-art large-scale flour milling line (the D Mill) at the Chiba Mill (Mihama-ku, Chiba), a mainstay production plant in the Tokyo metropolitan area. Construction of the silos began in April 2004.

Expansion of the Chiba Mill is an important project carried over from the New Nippon Way Medium-Term Business Plan (covering the period from April 2002 to March 2005) to the 05/07 Medium-Term Business Plan (April 2005 to March 2008) with the aim of boosting competitiveness by establishing a highly profitable business structure and strengthening product supply capabilities owing to sales expansion in order to cope with today's intense global competition between companies. Construction of the D Mill to expand the Chiba Mill is progressing smoothly toward completion in March of next year. Expansion of the grain silos was completed and the silos went into operation ahead of other aspects of the project. As a result of the expansion, the Chiba Mill has grain silo capacity of 75,000 tons, the highest capacity of any flour milling plant in the Chiba Port owned by a flour milling company.

In April 1998 the Chiba Mill became the first flour milling plant in Japan to obtain ISO9002 quality assurance certification. In November 2003 the plant received a commendation from the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry for superior correctness in measurement control. In April 2004 the plant obtained ISO14001 certification for environmental management systems. In the coming years the plant will step up its quality control, product safety efforts, and environmental protection measures and seek to ensure stable supply of products that earn the trust and satisfaction of customers.



▲ The Completed Chiba Mill Grain Silos



▲ President Horikawa speaks at the ceremony

## Reference information

### 1. Overview of the Chiba Mill Expansion Project

- ① Start of construction : April 2004
- ② Completion of construction : March 2006
- ③ Construction details : Flour milling line, grain silos and attached facilities
- ④ Grain silo capacity (of the newly constructed facilities) : 25,000 tons
- ⑤ Production capacity (of the newly constructed facilities) : 500 tons per day
- ⑥ Capital investment : 12.5 billion yen

### 2. Description of the Chiba Mill

- ① Location : 229-4 Shin-Minato, Mihama-ku, Chiba-shi, Chiba
- ② Land area : 66,135 m<sup>2</sup>
- ③ Principal structures : Main plant building, office building, grain silos and attached facilities
- ④ Production capacity : 950 tons / day
- ⑤ Grain silo : 50,000 tons



▲ Expansion of Chiba Mill **D Mill** (new structures shown in white)