Further Acquisitions of ISO 9001 Certification

This April, the Company's Sales Div. within the Electronics (which handles Bulk Gas sales operations), and the Logistics Div. within the Business Administration, both acquired certification of compliance with the ISO 9001 Quality Management System Standard. TNSC is the first company in Japan to obtain ISO 9001 certification for its sales and logistics operations in the bulk gases business.

The maintenance of a high standard of product quality is an essential element in the management policy of TNSC, and we have long been pursuing the acquisition of the ISO 9001 certification for all of our production facilities on an individual facility basis, beginning with the Oyama Plant in 1995. Recently, however, we realized that the acquisition of certification for all our gas business operations is essential in achieving an even higher level of customer satisfaction. Accordingly, we decided that we could only achieve this by strengthening quality management to realize a uniform quality standard covering production, sales, and logistics.

This recent acquisition of ISO 9001 certification by both our sales and logistics operations for bulk gases constitutes recognition not merely of the quality of our products, but also of the integrated system of quality management that we operate,

covering the whole process from production through sales to logistics. This is an important first step in responding to the ever-rising quality assurance standards being demanded by our customers.

The acquisition of ISO 9001 certification for TNSC's sales and logistics operations, following on from the certification already obtained by our production and design operations, gives us a comprehensive quality assurance coverage not matched by any of our competitors. In the near future, we will work to obtain ISO 9001 certification for our other gas products and gas-related services apart from bulk gases (specialty gases, helium and hydrogen; equipment; and the construction and installation of gas supply plants and systems), as well for our non-gas businesses. Our ultimate aim is to raise the level of quality assurance management across the whole breadth of the TNSC Group's operations, and to institute a permanent process of quality improvement.

Overview of Certifications Obtained

| | Electronics | Logistics Div. within the Business Administration |
|--|--|---|
| Standards | ISO 9001:2000 JIS Q 9001:2000 | ISO 9001:2000 JIS Q 9001:2000 |
| Certifying authority | The High Pressure Gas Safety Institute of Japan, ISO Inspection Center | The High Pressure Gas Safety Institute of Japan, ISO Inspection Center |
| Registration No. Products & operations | 07QR 1448 Procurement and sale of liquefied oxygen, | 07QR 1447 Order-taking and distribution of liquefied |

| covered | nitrogen, and argon | oxygen, nitrogen, and |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | | argon |

(caption)

Toyoo Go (General Manager, Business Administration) at left, and Fumio Hara (Electronics) display the ISO 9001 certifications obtained by their divisions.