

Sep. 29, 2000

KOITO MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

### **Affiliation to CLEPA**

KOITO MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. announces that the company has been approved to join CLEPA (Comite de Liason de la construction d'Equipments et de Pievces d'Automobiles), the first time for a Japanese manufacturing company of automotive lighting equipment. As for automotive parts manufacturers in Japan, Koito is the 5th company following Akebono Brake Industry Co., Ltd., Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd., Denso Corporation and Bridgestone Corporation.

Koito has been cultivating a foothold of its business field in European countries. For instance, in Mar., 1999, the company incorporated Britax Vega in U.K. as the wholly-owned subsidiary in which Koito had invested capital until then, and the name of the company was changed to Koito Europe Limited. In Jul. of the same year, Koito Europe Technical Center was established in Zaventem, Belgium.

To further expand its business opportunity in Europe, it is essential for Koito to swiftly collect information about the trends, strategy and so forth of the European automotive parts industry as much as possible, and frequently exchange views with other automotive parts manufacturers in Europe. In addition, it is necessary for the company to obtain knowledge relating to the business of automotive lighting equipment especially concerning the trends in technique, regulations and laws which are unique in European Continents. In view of the above background, Koito had applied for affiliation to CLEPA and the subsequent approval was granted at the general meeting of CLEPA held on Sep. 8.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Koito will expand its business all the more from now.