

## MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC EXPANDS FRENCH R&D FACILITY

*Increased importance of energy and environment in Europe prompts expansion of  
European research centre*

**Rennes, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2008:** Mitsubishi Electric has announced the expansion of its European Research and Development (R&D) centre in order to strengthen the company's innovations in technologies related to energy and the environment.

To reflect the expansion, the centre will change its name from Mitsubishi Electric Information Technology Centre Europe B.V. to Mitsubishi Electric R&D Centre Europe B.V., effective 1 October 2008. The new division within the centre will be called Energy and Environment (E&E).

The R&D centre – which is split between two laboratories in Rennes, France and Guildford, UK – has been pivotal in researching cutting-edge technologies in communications and visual information since its establishment in 1995. The expansion will add a third research area to the centre's remit, aimed at increasing Mitsubishi Electric's competitiveness in its air-conditioning, photovoltaic and other energy and environment-related businesses.

The new E&E division will be jointly based in France and the UK, with each laboratory specialising in a different area of research. The move will allow Mitsubishi Electric's European customers faster access to its industry-leading technologies in the fields of energy and environment, which were previously researched only in Japan.

Shigenori Kino, President of Mitsubishi Electric R&D Centre Europe B.V, said: "As the European branch of Mitsubishi Electric's Corporate R&D function we are very excited about the expansion of our R&D fields into Energy and Environment. As the issues of sustainability and energy-saving continue to take increased prominence across Europe, we look forward to collaborating with European universities and research organizations in order to advance our research and technical developments.

“We believe Mitsubishi Electric’s photovoltaic, air conditioning & heat-pump technologies have an important role to play in helping people across Europe combine a quality living environment with an energy conscious lifestyle.”

The E&E division in Rennes, France, will concentrate its research on sustainable energy systems and air conditioner systems technology by extending the skills of its talented team into new areas of research. The Communication division, formerly called Telecommunication Lab, in Rennes, continues its R&D on Communication Technology alongside the new E&E division. The R&D expansion demonstrates Mitsubishi Electric’s continued commitment to innovation in France.

Dr. Masato Koyama, Head of Research, Energy and Environment division, comments: “Mitsubishi Electric is already playing an aggressive role in tackling environmental concerns in Europe by supplying the market with efficient energy saving air conditioners, Air-to-Water systems and industry leading photovoltaic technology.

“The expansion of the French R&D centre will strengthen our contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in two important ways; by developing novel technologies to further improve the performance of air-conditioners, and by allowing us to develop photovoltaic systems with even higher efficiency.”

Other areas of research conducted by the new E&E division will include power electronics related technology, and international standardization of technologies in the environment and energy fields. Further projects will be added in due course.

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### **About Mitsubishi Electric**

With over 80 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products to both corporate clients and general consumers all over the world, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (TSE:6503) is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, energy, transportation and building equipment. Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation helping European customers meet their business challenges, through providing innovative technologies and high quality products and solutions. For more information about Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V. see [www.mitsubishielectric.eu](http://www.mitsubishielectric.eu) For more information on Mitsubishi Electric R&D Centre Europe B.V. see [www.mitsubishielectric-rce.eu](http://www.mitsubishielectric-rce.eu) from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2008.