

July 4, 2013

Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy
INPEX CORPORATION

**Establishment of INPEX Endowed Chair for Management of Energy Business at the
Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy**

The Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy (ICS) and INPEX CORPORATION (INPEX) hereby announce the establishment of the INPEX endowed chair for Management of Energy Business at ICS for a period of three years beginning in August 2013.

The objective of this endowed chair is to study how energy businesses can be managed by examining a wide range of topics such as management of technology, risk management, supply chain management, financing, and government relations, which are all critical to understand in order to conduct oil, gas and alternative energy businesses on a global scale. These issues are usually discussed from a macroeconomic and geopolitical point of view. This endowed chair is the first of its kind among Japanese business schools to address these issues from the point of view of the corporation.

Professor Ryuji Yasuda of ICS and Counselor Noboru Tezuka of INPEX (INPEX Chaired Professor of ICS), are jointly in charge of the course and management of the overall program for the chair. Lectures will be given not only by ICS faculty members, but also officials from energy related ministries, various governmental agencies and institutions, and business persons from trading firms, electric power companies, and other enterprises involved in the energy industry. In the second and the third years of the chair research papers will be published on some selected themes from the topics to be covered in the course. Occasional symposia are planned which will be open to the public.

ICS was established in April 1998 as one of the first professional graduate schools in Japan to institute a world-class business curriculum providing an education that would attract numerous students from around the world. It engages in advanced and specialized education in the three professional fields of International Business Strategy, Financial Strategy, and Business Law, and emphasizes the development of human resources capable of making a contribution to society on a global scale. The program in International Business Strategy, to which this chair belongs, offers an MBA course that is conducted entirely in English with more than 70 percent of the students enrolled coming from outside Japan.

INPEX is Japan's largest oil and natural gas exploration and production company, carrying out oil and natural gas projects both in and outside Japan. Through the cooperation of ICS, INPEX hopes to deepen the professional understanding of the energy business. INPEX supports the development of human resources who can make a positive contribution to a stable supply of energy and, thereby, to the development of society itself. The concept of "a global company that develops human resources" aligns with one of the key CSR policies that INPEX addresses in its medium-to long-term vision.

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