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**Press Release**

TonenGeneral Sekiyu K.K.

(Stock Code: 5012 Tokyo Stock Exchange)

Representative Director, President

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**TONENGENERAL AFFILIATE BREAKS GROUND FOR A NEW  
MANUFACTURING FACILITY TO MEET GROWING DEMAND FOR  
LITHIUM ION BATTERY SEPARATOR FILMS**

Seoul, Korea – October 9, 2008 – Tonen Specialty Separator Korea Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of TonenGeneral Sekiyu KK, today broke ground for a new facility to manufacture battery separator films for fast growing lithium-ion battery markets, including new hybrid and electric vehicle applications.

Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-Do Province, South Korea, Mr Kwan-Yong Kim; Mayor of Gumi City, Mr Yoo-Chin Nam; and other government officials were honored guests at the groundbreaking ceremony held at the manufacturing plant site in Gumi City, South Korea.

“The new battery separator film plant will allow us to better serve our customers, providing industry-leading technology and service,” said Andrew R Purdue, Director, Tonen Specialty Separator Korea Limited. “We are very pleased to be investing in South Korea and the city of Gumi. This investment will significantly enhance our capability to supply all of our customers in the fast-growing lithium-ion battery market.”

Today’s groundbreaking event demonstrates the desire of TonenGeneral to grow its business to support increasing demand for new specialty products. The facility will have the capacity to produce over 30 million square meters of film per year, with significant opportunity for future expansion. Start-up is expected in 2009.

The plant will use TonenGeneral's advanced polymer and process technologies, and the new technology platform of ExxonMobil Chemical, to produce superior quality and high performance separator films for lithium-ion batteries.

Lithium-ion batteries are used in such devices as mobile phones, laptop computers and new hybrid and electric vehicles. These new film technologies are expected to significantly enhance the power, safety and reliability of lithium-ion batteries, thereby helping speed up the adoption of smaller and lighter batteries into the next wave of lower-emission vehicles.

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**About TonenGeneral**

TonenGeneral Sekiyu K.K., an affiliate of Exxon Mobil Corporation, is a leading manufacturer and marketer of petroleum and chemical products in Japan and is one of the world's largest producers of separator film for lithium-ion batteries. For more information visit: <http://www.tonengeneral.co.jp/>

**About ExxonMobil Chemical**

ExxonMobil Chemical is a global leader in technology, product quality and customer service with petrochemical manufacturing and/or marketing operations around the world. For more information visit: [www.exxonmobilchemical.com](http://www.exxonmobilchemical.com).

**Note to Editors:**

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