

# Mitsubishi Electric Announces Completion of Construction of

## *World's Highest Elevator Testing Tower*

Mitsubishi Electric Corporation President and CEO, Setsuhiro Shimomura, has announced that construction has been completed on the world's highest (173m) elevator testing tower at the company's Inazawa Works (Hishi-machi, Inazawa City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan).

### New Testing Tower Overview

Location	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation Inazawa Works Compound (1 Hishi-machi, Inazawa City, Aichi Prefecture)
Building Height	173.0m above ground
Number of Floors	10 floors above ground, 1 floor underground (Equivalent to 40 floors in a general building)
Construction Area	440m <sup>2</sup>
Start of Construction	December 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
Completion	September 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2007
Facilities in Attached Wings	Showroom and testing facilities
Total Investment	5 billion yen, including related facilities



New Testing Tower

### Purpose in Constructing the New Testing Tower

Inazawa Works, Mitsubishi Electric's "mother" factory for its worldwide elevator business, manufactures more than 10,000 units of elevators and escalators annually and is also dedicated to developing products to introduce to global market. In order to develop elevators, the performance and quality need to be tested using actual elevators, which had been accommodated by six existing testing towers including the tallest, 65-meter high tower.

As high-rise construction has been increasing recently in countries around the world, the demand for high-speed and high-capacity elevators has been rising. The new testing tower will propel the development of elevators that fulfill such demand.

Specifically, Mitsubishi Electric will further R&D on the safety, reliability, and comfort of the ride, and expand the company's elevator business through development of cutting-edge products, such as the world's fastest elevator (faster than 1000 m/min) and high-capacity elevators that can carry a great number of people at one time. Moreover, it will enhance the company's accumulation of cutting-edge technologies and product development capabilities, from which it can generate concepts for elevators of the future.

#### <Development and Testing Examples at the New Testing Tower>

- (1) Drive performance: Large-size traction machines for high-speed/high-capacity elevators
- (2) Safety: Safety systems, including long-stroke buffers and large-size safety gears
- (3) Critical parts: Durability and performance of ropes and traction machines
- (4) Riding comfort: Technologies to lessen vibration/wind noise generated when elevators travel at high-speed

### Features of the New Testing Tower

- (1) World's highest elevator testing tower (173.0 m)
- (2) Unique design, in which the lower part of the tower seems to be revolved 45-degree. Illumination at night.
- (3) Stable testing environment realized by oil dampers and an anti-vibration system that prevents the tower from vibrating by wind

This new testing tower is expected to be familiarized by Inazawa citizens and become a symbolic landmark of the community as it can be seen not only within the city but also even from the neighboring areas and Shinkansen, Japanese bullet train.

### Future plan

Completion ceremony is planned on October 31, 2007. Subsequently, necessary equipment will be installed in the testing tower for the launch of development test on January, 2008. On the same month, a showroom in the attached wing will open to the customers who are considering adoption of elevators/escalators and building management systems.