



NEWS RELEASE

日本IR協会
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JIRA IR Awards 2009: 10 companies selected

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The Japan Investor Relations Association (JIRA) today announced the recipients of its IR Prime Business Awards 2009. Selected this year are 10 firms that have maintained a high quality of communication with investors under the severe business conditions that have prevailed since the emergence of the global financial crisis.

Created in 1996, the awards aim to recognize those companies that have maintained high standards in their IR activities and which have received high marks from market participants and analysts.

The 2009 winners were chosen from among 335 JIRA member companies that requested to be reviewed for the awards. The selection committee consisted of 18 members and was chaired by Mr. Masanobu Kaizu, Chief Research Officer at Financial & Economic Research Center, Nomura Securities Co., Ltd.

There are four categories of awards: the IR Grand Prix, which is given to companies that have won the Best IR Award a total of three times; the Best IR Award, the winners of which are selected from listed JIRA member companies that have requested to be considered; the IR Special Award, which is given to companies that have performed outstandingly in specific fields, such as IR activities for individual investors; and the Best IR Award for Small and Medium Size Companies, the winners of which are selected from companies categorized by capitalization size and stock market.

The winners of the 14th JIRA IR Prime Business Awards are as follows:

IR Grand Prix

- Kirin Holdings Co., Ltd.

Best IR Award

- Eisai Co., Ltd.
- Shiseido Co., Ltd.
- Nippon Mining Holdings, Inc.
- Mitsubishi Estate Co., Ltd.
- Unicharm Corp.
- Lawson, Inc.

IR Special Award

- Honda Motor Co., Ltd.

Best IR Award for Small and Medium Size Companies

- eAccess Ltd.
- Cmic Co., Ltd.

About JIRA

The Japan Investor Relations Association (JIRA) is the country's only private non-profit organization for IR professionals. As of April 2009, it had 693 members, including 601 corporate members, covering most of Japan's leading companies. JIRA's chairman is Mr. Hajime Sawabe, chairman of TDK Corp.

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