An introduction to this special edition on products for industrial machinery and elemental technologies

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Concerns about global warming and other environmental problems have been growing rapidly. Global responses to these concerns are increasing. In the automotive field, this means increasing fuel efficiency and converting to electric power. The industrial machinery field has seen the development of equipment that uses natural energy sources, such as wind and solar power.

In these changing times, harmonious existence with the global environment is also a focus for NTN. Using advanced technological abilities that we have so far developed, we are developing green products based on the concepts of low torque, long life and reduced size and weight to conserve resources and energy.

At NTN, we have published this journal to correspond with the holding of the 25th Japan International Machine Tool Fair It features NTN’s cutting-edge technology and new products for industrial machinery, in addition to fundamental concepts and ideas. This fair, also known as JIMTOF 2010, has the theme of “Mono-Zukuri Innovation” and is being held from October 28 to November 2, 2010.

We start our journal with an introduction entitled, “New manufacturing technologies and tribology,” contributed by Takashi Nakamura, who is an authority in the field of tribology and Vice-President of the Nagoya Institute of Technology. This is followed by discussions about fundamental bearing technology for industrial machinery, including machine tools, tribology, ceramics and sensor technologies, as well as our recent developments with new technology and products. We also describe three products we developed that received awards this year, including the Commendation for Science and Technology by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and an award from the Japanese Society of Tribologists.

At JIMTOF 2010, NTN is exhibiting with the theme, “NTN: Supporting Evolving Manufacturing (manufacturing that is good for the environment).” We are presenting new technology and products related to industrial machinery and elemental technology. Even before now, we had brought to market the Ultaage Series, which responds to industrial machinery market needs, including high precision, high speed, energy conservation and contribution to a better environment. This year at JIMTOF 2010, in addition to pioneering technology for industrial machinery precision bearings, we are also making a presentation about ultra-precision inspection and measurement technology. This merges our NTN-SNR sensor technology with unique products developed for production technology.

In the two years starting with fiscal 2009, we have sought to realize becoming a strong corporation that does not depend on scale in our new “NTN 2010 for the Next Step” medium-term management plan. This includes our corporate philosophy, “For New Technology Network: We shall contribute to international society through creating new technologies and developing new products.” We are also following the fundamental principle of “technological leadership.” By promoting the development of new technology and products, we will continue contributing to the sustainable advancement of society.