

January 15, 2025
 Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.

Mitsui Chemicals to Expand Production Capacity for MR™ High-Refractive-Index Ophthalmic Lens Material
Responding to growing global demand for eyeglass lenses

Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. (Tokyo: 4183; President & CEO: HASHIMOTO Osamu) today announced plans to boost production capacity for its world-leading MR™ series of high refractive-index lens material.

As a leader in revolutionizing eyewear products via the manufacturing of lens materials, Mitsui Chemicals provides solutions throughout the value chain through the development of various lens materials and high-quality coating materials, in addition to MR™ which is the de facto standard in high-refractive-index lens materials.

Global demand for high-refractive-index ophthalmic lenses is forecasted for long term growth. This is fueled by an expanding Asian customer base seeking high-performance products and North American demand driven by the desire for higher optical clarity and in-turn moving away from polycarbonate lenses. The latest production capacity increase for MR™ was completed in 2024. In order to meet further increased demand, Mitsui Chemicals plans to complement its existing MR™ plant at Omuta Works with a new plant that is slated to begin commercial operation in the first half of 2028.

Through the Vision Care Materials Division, Mitsui Chemicals will continue to pursue its commitment to product development aimed at vision correction and improving the health and comfort of the eyes, based on the concept of Quality of View (QoV).* This is in alignment with the Mitsui Chemicals Group’s effort to bring people a better view of the world.



Omuta Works

Overview

1	Product	High refractive-index lens material (MR™) MR™ is a thiourethane-based high refractive-index lens material that offers a high Abbe value (minimizing chromatic aberration) and high refractive index while being lightweight and impact-resistant. MR™ brand site: https://jp.mitsuichemicals.com/en/special/mr/
2	Location	Within Mitsui Chemicals Omuta Works

3	Address	30 Asamutamachi, Omuta, Fukuoka
4	Schedule	Commercial operations to begin in the first half of 2028

*QoV: A measure of quality and satisfaction in all areas related to eyes and eyesight in our lives. The term encompasses vision optimization and comfort, ocular health, and measures to prevent optical diseases.

For inquiries about this release, please contact:

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