

Decision to Commence Hearing Procedures
against Marine Hose Manufacturer
(Tentative Translation)

May 15, 2008
Japan Fair Trade Commission

On May 13, 2008, the Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) decided to commence hearing procedures against Manuli Rubber Industries S.p.A pursuant to Article 52(3) of the Antimonopoly Act (AMA).

This case concerns a request from Manuli Rubber Industries S.p.A for commencement of JFTC's hearing procedures with regards to a cease and desist order dated February 22, 2008, which the JFTC issued against Manuli Rubber Industries S.p.A, Ltd. and four other Marine Hose^(note1) Manufacturer.

(Refer to the press release dated February 22, 2008 for outlines of "the Violation" and "the cease and desist order" in this case.)

(note1) Rubber hose used to transport oil between tankers and facilities including oil storage facilities, which conforms to specifications and inspection standards set by the Oil Companies International Marine Forum.

1. Outline of the party

Name and location of the party	Representative
Manuli Rubber Industries S.p.A (Italy)	Dardanio Manuli

2 Initial Hearing and Venue

- (1) Time: 10:30 on Wednesday June 18, 2008
- (2) Venue: JFTC Hearings Court (Central Government Building No. 6, Block B, 19F)