

Dowa Holdings Co., Ltd.  
Akita University

## **Dowa Holdings and Akita University Announce the Signing of a Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership Agreement**

TOKYO, July 24, 2007 – Dowa Holdings Co., Ltd., and Akita University today announced the signing of a comprehensive cooperative partnership agreement that will make it possible for both parties to mutually cooperate across all fields, including research and development and human resources development.

Akita University and Dowa have always had a close association. For example, Dowa's founder Denzaburo Fujita assisted the establishment of the predecessor to Akita University, Akita Mining College.

Because Dowa owns quite a number of businesses in Akita Prefecture (including Kosaka Smelting & Refining Co., Ltd., and Akita Zinc Co., Ltd.), where the company originated, it has over the years and up to the present day promoted collaborative research on a local regional basis with Akita University in fields such as mining, smelting, and environment, maintaining close ties. In addition to their collaborative research, the two bodies are currently engaged in the exchange of research and technical personnel.

Against the record of such achievements, this new agreement expands the scope of the cooperative partnership beyond the areas covered by past tie-ups. It aims to promote high level technical interchange by making excellent use of Dowa's engineering strengths and the fruits of Akita University's research.