

# Corporate Governance

## MOL's Philosophy, Management Reforms and Achievements

The MOL Group established the MOL Group Corporate Principles in March 2001. One of the pledges in our Corporate Principles states, "We will strive to maximize corporate value by always being creative, continually pursuing higher operating efficiency and promoting an open and visible management style that is guided by the highest ethical and social standards."

In order to realize the ideals set forth in the principles, MOL reformed its corporate governance structure, instituting management reforms that brought external directors onto the board, separated management and executive functions, and set standards for accountability, risk management and compliance. These reforms were implemented as follows:

<b>1997</b>	Outside auditors increased from one to two out of a total of four auditors
<b>1998</b>	George Hayashi (former APL chairman) invited to join the Board of Directors. (Became Director and Vice President in 1999, following revision of the Shipping Act)
<b>2000</b>	Management organization reform 1. Introduced a system of executive officers 2. Abolished the Managing Directors Committee and established an Executive Committee (reduced the membership from 21 to 10) 3. Reformed the Board of Directors (redefined its duties as the highest-ranking decision-making body and the supervision of business activities) and reduced membership from 28 to 12 4. Elected two external directors 5. Established the Corporate Visionary Meeting Established the IR Office Started holding the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting on a day relatively free of other shareholders' meetings
<b>2001</b>	Established the MOL Group Corporate Principles Added one more external director, increasing the number of external directors to three Established Compliance Policy and a Compliance Committee
<b>2002</b>	Second stage of management reforms Reforms reinforced the roles of the Board of Directors concerning the determination of basic strategies and monitoring risk management while providing for faster decision-making at the business execution level. 1. The Board of Directors was reorganized to carry out three important functions: (1) deliberation on issues requiring approval by the directors; (2) receipt of reports on business operations; and (3) deliberation on corporate strategy and vision. 2. Review and consolidation of issues submitted to the Board of Directors 3. Expanded jurisdiction of the Executive Committee regarding execution of business activities

Actions in Recent Years	
<b>June 2006</b>	In response to the enforcement of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law, the Internal Control Planning Office was established in the Corporate Planning Division.
<b>Fiscal 2007</b>	The Internal Control Planning Office enhanced internal control systems for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy of financial reporting, in accordance with the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law.
<b>Fiscal 2008</b>	We used management evaluations of internal controls relating to financial reporting required by the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law from fiscal 2008, audits by the Internal Audit Office and advice based on the results of those audits, to improve internal controls throughout the group.
Number of Meetings of Governance Bodies in Fiscal 2008	
The number of meetings during the fiscal year of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and their sub-committees is shown in the Corporate Governance Organization chart on the opposite page.	

The chart on the next page shows the structure of our corporate governance organization.

At MOL we believe that the essence of corporate governance lies not in its structure or organization, but in whether or not it functions effectively. In our case, the corporate governance structure described above functions as follows:

1. Major investment projects, such as the construction of new vessels, are submitted to the Board of Directors at the basic policy formulation stage. The 11 directors, including external directors, thoroughly evaluate and discuss the pros and cons of the projects and make decisions on their feasibility from many perspectives. Transferring the authority to implement projects within the scope of the basic policy to executive officers supervised by the president speeds decision making on individual projects. The separation of the management and execution functions was one important contribution to allowing the MOL Group to build up a fleet of the right type of vessels at the right time.
2. Another important responsibility of the Board of Directors is deliberation on corporate strategy and vision. At each meeting, the board focuses on a particular topic concerning management strategies, MOL's long-term vision or other subjects involving management.  
 These discussions provide an opportunity for lively debates that include the external directors and corporate auditors, thus helping to ensure that the perspective of shareholders is reflected in how MOL is managed.
3. The Board of Directors has 11 members, including three external directors who are completely independent and have no conflict of interest with MOL. There are four corporate auditors, who are responsible for performing statutory auditing functions, including two individuals who are completely independent and have no conflict of interest with MOL. At a time when the auditing systems of corporations are taking on added importance, it goes without saying that the independence of auditors from management and policy execution is assured. Our corporate auditors work closely with the Internal Audit Office and independent public accountants to assure effective corporate governance. They also work on strengthening corporate governance and compliance throughout the group.

## Accountability

MOL believes that timely, full and fair disclosure of corporate and financial information is an important aspect of corporate governance. In addition to being accountable to shareholders and investors by providing information, the company makes every effort possible to reflect their opinions in management.

The distinguishing feature of our investor relations activities is that the president takes the lead in their implementation. In fiscal 2008, the president participated in the company's presentations of quarterly results and attended meetings with domestic and foreign investors. This reflects his conviction that it is the chief executive officer's responsibility to explain future corporate strategies to investors. The company is also aware of the need for full and fair disclosure to all investors, whether in Japan or overseas. At the same time its quarterly financial results in Japanese are released over the Tokyo Stock Exchange's TD-net, the company posts them to its website with an accompanying English translation. The Japanese and English drafts of presentation materials are also posted on the website. This information is e-mailed on the same day to foreign investors registered with the company.

These types of activities have been highly evaluated, and in fiscal 2005, MOL received the Special IR Prime Business Award from the Japan Investor Relations Association (JIRA), which is presented to companies that have received the IR Prime Business Award three times. MOL

picked up the IR Prime Business Award again in 2008. Also, in the Nikkei Annual Report Awards, which are judged by institutional investors, MOL's annual report has been highly evaluated for its aggressive disclosure, winning the top prize once and the excellence prize three times.

The responsibility to provide information is not limited to management and financial issues. Accordingly, in regard to the four major marine accidents that occurred in fiscal 2006, MOL disclosed the situation directly after each incident, providing a total of 18 press releases for the four accidents. These accidents were highly regrettable, and MOL believes that it has a responsibility to disclose the situation to everyone who is directly or indirectly affected. While we will continue to do our utmost to prevent accidents, we will also maintain a policy of disclosing information, even if it is negative.

## Director Compensation

The Board of Directors, including the external directors, determines compensation for the directors. Compensation paid to directors in fiscal 2008 is shown in the table below.

The company has granted stock options to all directors, executive officers, general managers of divisions and branch offices and managers in similar positions, as well as to presidents of consolidated subsidiaries, to motivate them to carry out operations for the benefit of shareholders.

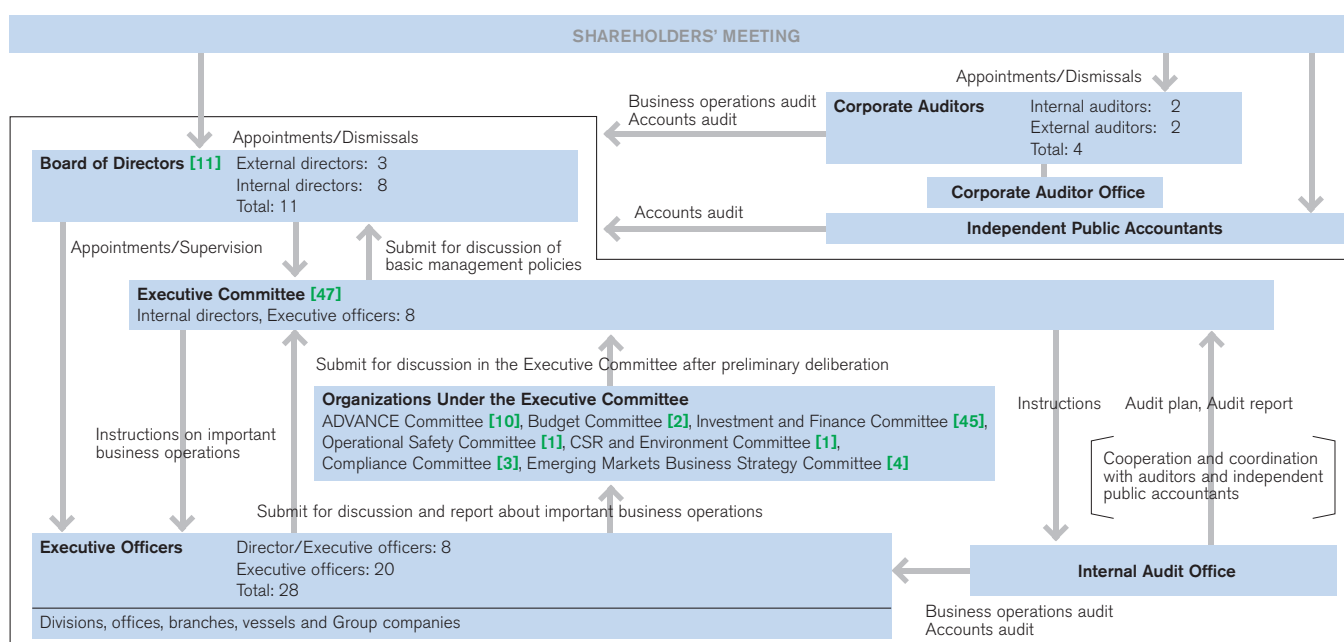
## Compliance

The company is aware of the crucial role that compliance plays in living up to its broad corporate social responsibilities, and that compliance with the letter of the law is at the core of this role.

We have strengthened our compliance system by establishing a Compliance Committee, headed by the deputy president, and formulating the Compliance Policy to assure strict adherence to rules and regulations and to take action against any violation. General managers of each division, department and branch office, are appointed as Compliance Officers for their respective organizations. They are responsible for enforcing compliance regulations and for reporting any violations to the Compliance Committee Office. The Internal Audit Office, a body that operates independently of the company's divisions, departments and branch offices, provides a counseling service and also acts as a hot line in the event it is difficult for a report to be filed with a Compliance Officer. The Internal Audit Office undertakes investigations and audits as necessary and reports steps taken to the Compliance Committee.

The company works to assure a proper relationship with its independent public accountants. Compensation paid to independent public accountants in fiscal 2008 is shown in the table below.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ORGANIZATION (AS OF JUNE 23, 2009)



Numbers in brackets show the number of meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and their sub-committees during fiscal 2008.

## COMPENSATION FOR DIRECTORS

(Notes 1 and 2)

	(¥ millions)	(Thousands of U.S.\$)
Compensation for internal directors	¥724	\$7,370
Compensation for external directors	49	499
Compensation for internal corporate auditors	80	814
Compensation for external corporate auditors	17	173
<b>Total</b>	<b>¥870</b>	<b>\$8,857</b>

## COMPENSATION FOR INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

	(¥ millions)	(Thousands of U.S.\$)
Compensation for auditing services	¥125	\$1,276
Compensation for auditing-related services	17	173
<b>Total</b>	<b>¥142</b>	<b>\$1,449</b>

Notes: 1. The above includes remuneration related to 1 director whose term of office expired as of the close of the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting for fiscal 2007 held on June 24, 2008.

2. The above includes the following amounts of stock options offered and recorded as compensation during the fiscal year under review in addition to the monthly compensation and bonus paid to directors: ¥115 million for 11 directors (including ¥13 million for 3 external directors)

## A Message from an External Director A Prudent but Proactive Management Approach

Since I was appointed a director in 2003, MOL has taken full advantage of global economic and trade growth to increase both its business scale and corporate value considerably. This growth speaks highly to the foresight and skill of the management teams that have steered the company over those years. The marine transport business resembles finance in terms of the requisite management techniques; the investment timeframe is long, while risk management is required to control the various market factors that change daily. When management orders a new ship it must anticipate what the market environment will be like when the vessel is completed, as well as profitability for the subsequent 10 to 20 years. In this sense, I feel that the management techniques of MOL's Board of Directors are extremely dependable. I think they balance attack and defense well. They make bold investment decisions when needed, while always being cognizant of risk. Equally, they adjust MOL's fleet as needed when demand is trending downward. This well-balanced approach has stood MOL in good stead during the recent market downturn.

In terms of corporate governance, there is a clear separation of decision-making levels at MOL. While more authority has been handed to executive officers to facilitate a high degree of responsiveness in management, the Board of Directors still exercises sufficient oversight. I also think that management incentives such as stock options are rational and effective. At MOL, a great deal is expected of external directors, and Board of Directors' proposals are always explained in depth and backed up with detailed documentation before meetings. We external directors must also fulfill our duties, living up to those expectations. A point that all three of MOL's external directors have in common is that none of us worked in the marine transport industry during our careers, but we are all very experienced in corporate management. In other words, we are able to point out things that an industry insider may overlook, and at the same time we can propose solutions based on our understanding of corporate management. I think this is one of the best points of Japan's corporate governance as it relates to external directors.

MOL's focused approach to business has led to its success. By specializing in marine transportation, management has honed its skills to generate earnings even in changeable markets. MOL has also been very successful in terms of management efficiency and implementing measures to ensure safe operations. Looking ahead, I expect management to maintain its present strategic course while making bold management decisions, including M&As, if necessary. We, MOL's external directors, are strongly aware of our responsibility, and are determined to fulfill our role of supervising management. To accomplish our task, we will make the best use of our knowledge while working to understand MOL's operations even more profoundly.



KUNIO KOJIMA  
Director