

Press Release

**Original release in Japanese.
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March 16, 2004

Changes to the Nikkei Indices

Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc. (Nikkei) announces the following changes to the Nikkei Stock Average and Nikkei Stock Index 300 components.

Nikkei Stock Average

Yuasa Corp (6933), a component of the Nikkei Stock Average, will establish a holding company "GS Yuasa Corp." jointly with Japan Storage Battery Co., Ltd. (6931). Japan Storage Battery Co., Ltd. is not a component. To reflect this situation, following steps are taken in accordance with the Component Selection Rules.

1. GS Yuasa Corp. (6674) will replace Yuasa Corp.
2. Yuasa Corp. will be deleted on March 26, and GS Yuasa Corp. will be added on April 2, which is the next day of the first trading day of the new company. The Par value of the company is presumed to be 50 yen.
3. For the 5 Business days between March 26 and April 1, the Nikkei Average will be calculated with 224 components. Divisor will be adjusted as the number of the components change to maintain continuity in the index.

Nikkei Stock Index 300

Maruha Corp. (1333), a component of the Nikkei Stock Index 300, will establish a holding company and will be delisted on March 26. The holding company, Maruha Group Inc (1334) will replace Maruha Corp. Maruha Corp will be deleted from the index on March 26 and Maruha Group Inc. will be added on April 2. Nikkei Stock Index 300 will be calculated with 299 components during this period.

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