

## New Year Greetings

President of VCCI Council

Hidekazu Hasegawa



A happy new year –

The financial crisis started in the US in September last year quickly spread around the world and badly hurt real economy. Now, however, outlook is improving, although we cannot be overly optimistic yet, because stimulus packages of government of each country together with manufacturers' efforts for cost reduction helped increase demand for digital home appliances and electronic parts.

On September 1 last year the Government of Japan started Consumer Affairs Agency. With the establishment of this agency people's awareness of safety and security is growing more than ever.

VCCI was reborn as General Incorporated Foundation "VCCI Council" succeeding all operations intact from a voluntary organization VCCI on April 1, 2009 taking advantage of the new law on incorporation implemented.

As you know well, VCCI has been engaged in activities at a broad front to control ITE-emitted radio disturbances since its inception in 1985 with the protection of interest of Japanese consumers of electric and electronic equipment in mind. It is our firm resolution to further enhance our activities in this direction.

We appreciate your positive cooperation in fulfilling obligations of VCCI members by securing conformity of products to be distributed in Japan with limits set in the VCCI Technical Requirements and affix the VCCI mark on the products. In order to make sure that conformity is maintained as declared in the market VCCI carries out market sampling test as a means for post-market surveillance. If nonconformity is found the supplier of the product in question will be asked to take corrective actions to clear the Technical Requirements. In case the VCCI mark is found affixed on the product of non-VCCI members VCCI asks them to join VCCI.

From April this year we will be additionally engaged in paper based inspections to broaden and deepen conformity monitoring in the market.

In closing we would like to ask parties concerned including, first and foremost, government offices and agencies to continually support VCCI.

We hope year 2010 will be the year of economic recovery and strides.