

Since our founding in 1916, from a base in the fine chemicals business, the Nippon Kayaku Group has continued to expand into a broad range of new fields, including explosives, dyes, pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, functional chemicals, catalysts, and automotive safety products to construct our current business foundation. We have continued to grow by maximizing the use of our business resources, continually improving ourselves to meet the needs of the rapidly changing times.

Now, at the start of the 21st century, the Nippon Kayaku Group has established information/communications, health care, and safety systems as growth fields, and we are concentrating our business resources in these areas. In addition to creating a fusion of the broad range of technologies that we have developed in the Group, we are also actively pursuing alliances with other companies and institutions, in order to accelerate the development of new products and the launch of new businesses. In this way, we are aiming for efficient expansion of our business in global niche markets where the size of the Nippon Kayaku Group is an advantage, and also for a faster pace of growth.

# ACCELERATING GROWTH

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\* Company information after May 31, 2005 is disclosed as part of company information herein.

\* Descriptions about future results imply uncertainty and risks, and do not guarantee realization of these results as such. There are possibilities that discrepancies will occur between goals and results due to such factors as changes in management environment.