

*~ Next Generation Head Lamp - New Optical Design Provides for 25%
More Light ~
Ichikoh Develops "H14 High Efficiency Halogen Bulb & High
Illumination Head Lamp System"*

Ichikoh Industries, Ltd.

--- ECE Certificate Obtained ---

Ichikoh Industries, Ltd., one of leading automotive parts suppliers, has developed a "high illumination head lamp system" which is a combination of "H14 high efficiency halogen bulb" and a newly designed optical reflector. With enhanced efficiency and less cost, the new system is expected to replace the current H4 head lamp. This system was officially certified on May 10, 2001 by GTB, an international institution responsible for the ECE standards.

Ichikoh is planning to promote this head lamp system aggressively to auto manufacturers in Japan, Europe and the U.S. One of its immediate goals is to get this system mounted on one of world strategic platforms in expectation of making it a primary product in the two head lamp system market, which will help Ichikoh increase its head lamp share in the world market.

The H4 bulb was developed in Europe in 1972 and has been used as a primary light source of halogen two head lamp system for about 30 years since then, while most of the bulb manufacturers in the world have been trying to develop a new-generation halogen double filament bulb that a brighter two head lamp system would require.

The new H14 bulb is a high efficiency halogen lamp developed under a new optical design which has a unique structure comprising new coil design, new coil position and no screen shade. This bulb, combined with a newly developed reflector, provide for more efficient utilization of light energy, eliminating the loss blocked by the shade. This head lamp is 25% brighter than the one with the conventional H4 bulb.

In May 1999, Ichikoh applied for an approval of the H14 bulb with GTB (automotive lighting committee), an international institution responsible for the ECE standards.

Following the official approval by GTB in May 2001, Ichikoh is planning to obtain a final approval in March 2002 from WP29 (automobile structure committee), one of ECE institutions under the United Nations. The registration of H14 as one of official ECE bulbs will be done in the fall of 2002.

New H14 Bulb

---25% Brighter Than Conventional H4---

With ECE certification, this H14 is the first global bulb that was developed by a Japanese company. A lot of interest and attention are being paid to this internationally approved bulb.

Conforming to the regulations of Japan, Europe and the U.S., this bulb is perfect for auto manufacturers' world strategic vehicle. In the case of the conventional H4 bulb, the screen shade blocks the downward beam, resulting in a huge loss of light energy. The H14 bulb, with no such screen shade, has made it possible to utilize the light energy more efficiently, providing for more brightness. The new reflector for this bulb controls the glare to be comfortable for on-coming drivers.