## **Establishment of the Taichung Branch**

On Tuesday, April 1, 2008, Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. (MHCB: President & CEO, Hiroshi Saito) established and commenced operations at its Taichung Branch.

The Taichung area represents the third largest economic area in Taiwan, with a strong core of traditional machinery, precision equipment and electronics manufacturing. The area is expected to undergo strong economic growth in the future and investment in the area is anticipated to undergo increasingly high growth, with the rapid establishment of new large-scale plants for LCD panel and semi-conductor manufacturing.

In Taiwan, MHCB has been providing its customers with a wide range of financial products and services primarily through two offices: the Taipei Branch and the Kaohsiung Branch. The addition of the Taichung Branch as MHCB's third office will give Mizuho the largest network in Taiwan of any Japanese bank, enabling us to provide optimal support for the development of our customers' business.

## Outline of the Taichung Area

- Taichung City is located near the middle of Taiwan's west coast, with an area of approximately 163 km² and a population of approximately 1.05 million people.
- Boasting a strong traditional manufacturing base and a growing presence of precision equipment and electronics manufacturing, the Taichung area is home to many large-scale investments, including those concerning LCD panel and semi-conductor manufacturing. A significant amount of additional investment from Japanese and Taiwanese companies is expected in the region, focused mainly in the Central Taiwan Science-based Industrial Park.