

Japan: Air Liquide opens Kawasaki Hydrogen Station

Air Liquide has completed construction of its Kawasaki Hydrogen Station in Kawasaki City, Kanagawa, Japan, and begins commercial operations on March 30, 2018.

The station, subsidized by METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan), as well as municipal government of Kanagawa Prefecture, is **the 6th hydrogen station** directly owned and operated by Air Liquide in Japan. Earlier stations include two located in Aichi, through a joint venture with Toyota Tsusho Corporation, and one each in Saga, Fukuoka, and Hyogo. Nationwide, Japan is now home to about 100 stations. Kawasaki Hydrogen Station is the 13th in Kanagawa Prefecture, and **the first public 'fixed location' station built in Kawasaki City.**

Earlier this month, Air Liquide and 10 large Japanese companies focused on sustainable mobility joined forces to establish the "**Japan H₂ Mobility**" consortium, which aims to contribute to the stated ambitions of the Japanese government regarding the development of a large-scale hydrogen infrastructure. The government has announced a strategic plan to build a network of 320 stations nationwide by 2025, and 900 by 2030. **Air Liquide expects to have built 20 stations** in Japan by fiscal year 2021, through the consortium.

The Kawasaki Hydrogen Station is located adjacent to one of Air Liquide Japan's production sites, Kawasaki Oxyton. The station's main components – including compressor, storage tanks, and precooler -- are neatly organized into one package to reduce construction time and costs.

Hydrogen is an alternative fuel solution addressing the challenge of **clean transportation** and thus contributing to the improvement in **air quality**. Used in a fuel cell, hydrogen combines with oxygen in air to produce electricity, producing water as the only by-product. With more than 50 years of proven expertise in this domain, Air Liquide masters the entire hydrogen supply chain, from production and storage to distribution and the development of applications for end users. To date, the Group has designed and installed **100 hydrogen stations around the world.**

Shiro Yahara, President and CEO, Air Liquide Japan, commented: **"The ongoing transition of energy and the environment is a global mega-trend that the Air Liquide Group contributes to with pride. Hydrogen energy is one of our proven solutions. In Japan, public and private initiatives to develop hydrogen mobility are well underway, and we are glad to take a leading role, providing both innovation and investments. I would like to express my appreciation to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Kanagawa Prefecture, Kawasaki City, and to relevant local social groups for their support. We will strive to develop this new station as an important base for hydrogen mobility, leveraging its advantageous location between Tokyo and Kanagawa."**

Air Liquide in Japan

Established in 1907, Air Liquide in Japan today serves around 35,000 customers and patients across the country, thanks to its 2,000 employees. Very present in Electronics, the Group recently extended its Healthcare activity. Regarding Innovation, Air Liquide has a Research & Technology Center in Tsukuba (near Tokyo) and an Engineering Center in Kobe. Japan serves as a technology & research base for Air Liquide in Asia and beyond.

Japan H₂ Mobility

The "Japan H₂ Mobility" (JHyM) Consortium was established in February 2018 by the following 11 companies: Toyota Motor Corporation, Nissan Motor Co. Ltd., Honda Motor Co. Ltd., JXTG Nippon Oil & Energy Corporation, Idemitsu Kosan Co. Ltd., Iwatani Corporation, Tokyo Gas Co. Ltd., Toho Gas Co. Ltd., Air Liquide Japan Ltd., Toyota Tsusho Corporation, Development Bank of Japan Inc.

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The world leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 80 countries with approximately 65,000 employees and serves more than 3.5 million customers and patients. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen are essential small molecules for life, matter and energy. They embody Air Liquide's scientific territory and have been at the core of the company's activities since its creation in 1902.

Air Liquide's ambition is to lead its industry, deliver long term performance and contribute to sustainability. The company's customer centric transformation strategy aims at profitable growth over the long term. It relies on operational excellence, selective investments, open innovation and a network organization implemented by the Group worldwide. Through the commitment and inventiveness of its people, Air Liquide leverages energy and environment transition, changes in healthcare and digitization, and delivers greater value to all its stakeholders.

Air Liquide's revenue amounted to 20.3 billion euros in 2017 and its solutions that protect life and the environment represented more than 40% of sales. Air Liquide is listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (compartment A) and belongs to the CAC 40, EURO STOXX 50 and FTSE4Good indexes.