

Air Liquide Japan acquired a local industrial and medical gas distribution business in Nagasaki

Air Liquide Japan, through its wholly owned affiliate Air Liquide Kogyo Gas, acquired the industrial and medical gas, as well as hardgoods distribution business of Daiichi Sanso Co., Ltd in Nagasaki.

Daiichi Sanso supplies a wide range of industrial and medical gases and related equipment for hospitals, clinics, universities and industrial customers in Nagasaki Prefecture. Its **sales** has reached to about **230 Million JPY***. Since Daiichi Sanso started its operation in 1969, the company has been very active and its business has been very well embedded in the community of the region.

By combining the business foundation and experiences that Air Liquide Japan and its group companies have cultivated in Nagasaki Pref., and the sales activities closely tied to the region by Daiichi Sanso, we will be able to further improve customer solutions and services.

Shiro Yahara, President and CEO, Air Liquide Japan, commented: “History between Air Liquide Japan and Daiichi Sanso dates from 1969 when we concluded a Distributorship Agreement. Since then, they have accompanied the development of our activity in Nagasaki Prefecture where industries such as shipbuilding and electronics are clustered, while recently expanding in healthcare business. Our teams have been collaborating for numerous years and we are happy that they will now be working together as one team. Thanks to this acquisition, we will be able to increase our distribution network and service to always better serve our customers”.

*(fiscal year ended February 2018)

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.

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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.