

July 8, 2021

## **The Kao Group's Largest Photovoltaic Power Generating Facility, with a Power Generation Capacity of 2.8 MW, Begins Operation at Sakata Plant in Japan**

Kao Corporation is working to help realize a decarbonized society, and is aiming to reduce its carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions to zero by 2040 and become carbon negative by 2050. As part of our efforts to achieve these goals, on June 1, 2021 the Kao Group's largest photovoltaic power generating facility for on-site power generation, which has a total generating capacity of 2.8 MW, started operation at Sakata Plant in Sakata City in Japan.



Photovoltaic power generating facility at Sakata Plant's production building

Our ESG Strategy, the Kirei Lifestyle Plan that the Kao Group developed in April 2019, established 19 Kao Actions, which are our priority action themes. Our adoption of photovoltaic power generating facilities to generate electricity for on-site use will contribute towards the “Decarbonization” Kao Action. We have set ourselves the target of having 100% of the electricity that the company uses generated from renewable sources by 2030.

The photovoltaic power generating facility that we have installed at the Sakata Plant uses solar panels with a total electricity generating capacity of 2,845 kW, making this Kao's biggest large-scale solar power system. Generating around 2,350 MWh of electricity per year, the new facility is expected to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by approximately 1,300 tons. In addition, since April 2021 the Sakata Plant has been purchasing only electric power for which there is a non-fossil fuel energy certificate\*, and so has reduced the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions associated with its electric power procurement to zero (thereby

reducing annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 16,000 tons). Besides adopting the new photovoltaic power generating facility, the Sakata Plant has thus also achieved the goal of using only electricity that has been generated from renewable sources.

\* The non-fossil fuel energy certificates system provides visualization, in the form of a certificate, of the value of being derived from non-fossil fuel sources that is possessed by electricity that has been generated using such sources.

Transactions using this system began in Japan in 2018.

### **About the Kirei Lifestyle Plan**

Over the past 130 years, Kao has worked to improve people's lives and help them realize more sustainable lifestyles—a Kirei Lifestyle. The Japanese word 'kirei' describes something that is clean, well-ordered and beautiful, all at the same time. In the Kirei Lifestyle Plan, Kao lays out its ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) strategy that is designed to deliver this vision of a gentler and more sustainable way of living. By 2030, Kao aims to empower at least 1 billion people, to enjoy more beautiful lives and have 100% of its products leave a full lifecycle environmental footprint that science says our natural world can safely absorb.

For more information please click <https://www.kao.com/global/en/sustainability/>

### **About Kao**

Kao creates high-value-added products that enrich the lives of consumers around the world. Through its portfolio of over 20 leading brands such as *Attack*, *Bioré*, *Goldwell*, *Jergens*, *John Frieda*, *Kanebo*, *Laurier*, *Merries*, and *Molton Brown*, Kao is part of the everyday lives of people in Asia, Oceania, North America, and Europe. Combined with its chemical division, which contributes to a wide range of industries, Kao generates about 1,400 billion yen in annual sales. Kao employs about 33,000 people worldwide and has 130 years of history in innovation. Please visit the Kao Group website for updated information.

<https://www.kao.com/global/en/>

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### <Related Information>

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<https://www.kao.com/global/en/news/sustainability/2021/20210519-001/>

■Kao launches new ESG Strategy “Kirei Lifestyle Plan” to support consumer lifestyle changes

<https://www.kao.com/global/en/news/sustainability/2019/20190422-001/>

■Kao's New Challenges for the Future: Accelerating Purposeful Business Commitment with ESG

<https://www.kao.com/global/en/news/business-finance/2019/20190926-001/>

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