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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kao Recognized as Supplier Engagement Leader by CDP for the Sixth Consecutive Year

Kao Corporation has been recognized, for the sixth consecutive year, as a Supplier Engagement leader for its initiatives in reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change across its supply chain through the Supplier Engagement Rating, organized by CDP, an international nonprofit organization that drives companies and governments to reduce their greenhouse emissions.



The Supplier Engagement Rating evaluates how effectively companies are working with their suppliers on climate change issues. Supplier engagement efforts are evaluated through several questions on CDP's climate change questionnaire in the categories of governance, targets, value chain (scope 3) emissions and supplier engagement. Kao was recognized as a Supplier Engagement leader on the basis of a high appraisal of Kao's efforts to influence its suppliers.

In April 2019, the Kao Group established the Kirei Lifestyle Plan, an ESG strategy. Since its start in 2021, the Kao Group Mid-term Plan 2025 (K25) has proclaimed "protecting future lives" and promoting "sustainability as the only path" as its vision. Working together with its suppliers, Kao will continue to deepen its understanding of climate change and of the risks and opportunities relating to water resources and forests, so as to reduce carbon emissions across our products' lifecycle. The Kao Group will continue to integrate its ESG strategy into its management practices. It will also develop its business, provide better products and services for consumers and society, and work toward its purpose, "to realize a Kirei world in which all life lives in harmony."

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. The Kao Group established its ESG strategy, the Kirei Lifestyle Plan in April 2019, which is designed to deliver the 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 <u>here</u>.

About Kao

Kao creates high-value-added products and services that provide care and enrichment for the life of all people and the planet. 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 business, which contributes to a wide range of industries, Kao generates about 1,550 billion yen in annual sales. Kao employs about 35,400 people worldwide and has 135 years of history in innovation. Please visit the Kao Group website for updated information.

Media inquiries should be directed to:

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Related Information

- <u>CDP The full list of companies to achieve a place on the CDP Supplier Engagement Rating</u> <u>Leaderboard</u>
- <u>Kao Rated Triple-A for Climate Change, Water Security, and Forests for Third Consecutive Year</u> by CDP
- Kao launches new ESG Strategy "Kirei Lifestyle Plan" to support consumer lifestyle changes
- Kao's New Challenges for the Future: Accelerating Purposeful Business Commitment with ESG
- Kao sustainability website