

Press Information

Kyocera to Build New Facility in Shiga, Japan to Produce Automated Equipment for “Smart Factory”

The facility will develop company’s own production equipment to strengthen its use of robotics and AI technology

Kyoto/London, April 8th, 2019. Kyocera announced that it has started construction of a new facility on the premises of its Yasu manufacturing complex in Shiga Prefecture, Japan. The facility will develop and produce Kyocera’s own proprietary automated production equipment, enabling the company to strengthen its use of robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) in manufacturing. The company held a groundbreaking ceremony on April 3 at the site.



Architect’s rendering of the new facility

“We are excited to welcome the new production facility here, in Shiga, which will contribute our company’s factory automation. By reforming production processes, we aim to double productivity,” said Yoshinobu Ozaki, Manager of the Shiga Yasu Plant.

The recent domestic labor shortage is gradually impeding the growth of the Japanese economy. According to Japan’s Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the population of Japanese workers age 15 to 64 totaled approximately 76 million in 2017 — and is expected to decrease to around 60 million by 2040. Other developed nations facing similar conditions, this population decline has become a global issue. To overcome this rapid labor shortage, Kyocera has encouraged its production sites to adopt cutting-edge technologies, including AI and robotics,

which can double productivity. Further, the company aims to achieve higher growth and profitability by reducing costs while reforming its production processes.



Groundbreaking ceremony

As part of a comprehensive action plan toward doubling productivity, Kyocera will consolidate partial operations from two different sites, — a research and development site currently located in Daito, Osaka and a manufacturing site in Yohkaichi, Shiga, — with its manufacturing site in Yasu, Shiga, which produces equipment for the company's own factories and offices. By moving these sites to the Yasu Plant and doubling space for development and manufacturing, Kyocera will establish a high-speed development process.

Details of the New Facility

Name	Kyocera Corporation Shiga Yasu Plant (29 th facility on the premises)
Location	800 Ichimiyaake, Yasu, Shiga 520-2362 Japan
Total investment	Approximately 5 billion yen (approx. 45 million dollars)
Building area	3,849 m ² steel construction with 4 stories
Total floor space	13,305 m ²
Construction plan	Construction begins: April 2019; Operation starts: April 2020
Main products	Development and production of proprietary manufacturing equipment



For more information on Kyocera: www.kyocera.co.uk

About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 264 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2018), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the oldest producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 40 years of experience in the industry.

The company is ranked #522 on Forbes magazine's 2017 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies. With a global workforce of over 75,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €12.04 billion in fiscal year 2017/2018. The products marketed by the company in Europe include printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, and fine ceramic products. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the United Kingdom: Kyocera Fineceramics Ltd. and Kyocera Document Solutions.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at approximately €764,000 per prize category).

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