

March 29, 2021  
Ishikawa Jyushi Co., Ltd.  
NAGASE & CO., LTD.

Sales Begin of Mask Frames Made Using Recycled Materials from Plastic Glasses,  
Demonstrating a Sustainable Cycle for the Restaurant Industry  
—A Trading Company, Mold Manufacturer, and Restaurant Chain Cooperate on Recycling

Ishikawa Jyushi Co., Ltd. (Kaga, Ishikawa; CEO: Akira Ishikawa) and NAGASE & CO., LTD. (Chuo-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director and President: Kenji Asakura) have begun an initiative to develop a sustainable cycle through the production and sale of products using recycled materials, including recycling Tritan™ copolyester glassware used in Saizeriya Co., Ltd. (Yoshikawa, Saitama; CEO: Issei Horino) restaurants. As a first step, these recycled materials will be used in the production of the 3D Comfort Mask Frame product which improves the wearability of masks, with the switch to recycled materials beginning in April 2021. Moving forward, through a recycling scheme involving recycling Tritan glassware used at restaurants into new dishes, the development of a sustainable cycle in the restaurant industry will be promoted.



3D Comfort Mask Frame made using recycled materials

Tritan is a copolyester made by Eastman Chemical Company (Head office: US), which NAGASE is the official distributor for in Japan, and as a mold manufacturer Ishikawa Jyushi manufactures and sells dishes and interior goods using Tritan. Since 2018, Saizeriya has been using five kinds of glassware, such as wine glasses, made by Ishikawa Jyushi at all of the locations of its Italian restaurant chain Saizeriya. Since Tritan is transparent like glass while also durable and dishwasher-safe, it contributes to providing an environment where people can eat comfortably and to reducing employee workload.



Tritan glassware used at Saizeriya

However, the disposal of Tritan glassware as plastic waste due to reasons such as degradation over the years had become an issue. NAGASE, with its internal Nagase Application Workshop which has the capacity to develop technology for plastics, carried out operational management of recycling and developed recycled material from the used Tritan glassware recovered from Saizeriya, providing recycled material and product development

support to Ishikawa Jyushi. By manufacturing and selling interior goods and dishes such as glasses made using recycled materials, Ishikawa Jyushi has begun working towards establishing a sustainable cycle.

Ishikawa Jyushi made a Sustainability Declaration in February 2020 to demonstrate its commitment to working on environmental issues. By maximizing the cycling of limited resources, the goal is to provide sustainable products with a limited environmental burden even when plastic is used.

NAGASE is aiming to realize a sustainable world where people live with peace of mind through synergy between the unique functions within the NAGASE Group, including research and development as well as trading.

#### ■About the 3D Comfort Mask Frame



The 3D Comfort Mask Frame, which was jointly developed by Ishikawa Jyushi and secca inc. (Official website: <http://secca.co.jp/>), a group of creators in Kanazawa, has already reached total sales of 200,000 (\*1). Made in Japan, with a carefully designed bracket structure, it makes masks more comfortable to wear as well as making it easier to breathe. The 3D structure expands the space around the mouth, making it easier to breathe and speak while also providing greater comfort.

A new mask frame for women and people with smaller faces has also been released. This frame can be used unobtrusively with smaller masks, without the frame showing outside the mask.

Amazon URL: <https://www.amazon.co.jp/dp/B08QMN19T3>

\*1: Total sales since August 2020 (Sales of the product before it used recycled material)

#### ■Product Overview

Product Name: 3D Comfort Mask Frame, Set of 3

Country of Production: Japan

Material: Recycled Tritan

Product Dimensions: 10.6 cm × 5.9 cm × 5.4 cm

Weight: 12 g

#### ■Product Features

By inserting this mask frame, it becomes easier to breathe and reduces issues from the mask collapsing or touching skin, such as rashes or dry skin.

It is also easy to use, by simply inserting it inside the mask.

With natural colors coming from tea leaves, it can be used with a mask without being obvious, giving a natural impression.

It also prevents your voice from being muffled, enabling natural conversations when dealing with customers or during meetings.

It can be reused multiple times, as it is washable with water, kitchen detergent, bleach, hypochlorous acid, or alcohol disinfectant.

#### ■About Ishikawa Jyushi

Established in 1942. A mold manufacturer which plans, manufactures and sells dishes, interior goods, industrial parts, Buddhist objects, and other OEM products made using plastic. With its Sustainable Declaration in February 2020, the company reviewed all the processes involved in its products, from production and use to disposal, and set a goal of maximizing the circulation of limited resources in order to provide sustainable products with a low environmental burden even if they use plastic.

<https://www.atpress.ne.jp/news/205766> (Japanese)

#### ■About NAGASE

Established in 1832. A trading company specializing in chemicals which handles products in a variety of areas, from chemical goods to food materials. In addition to its trading function, NAGASE has manufacturing, processing, and R&D functions and provides a platform which uses AI to search for new materials, building a unique business model based around chemistry within Japan and around the world.

#### ■Nagase Application Workshop (NAW)

An open innovation laboratory at NAGASE. As a development partner for clients, the NAW evaluates and analyzes unique new technology and materials, and supports the development of new uses, continuing to pursue surface decoration and functional properties in the fields of plastics and coatings.

<https://www.nagase.co.jp/english/enterprise/naw/> (English)

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