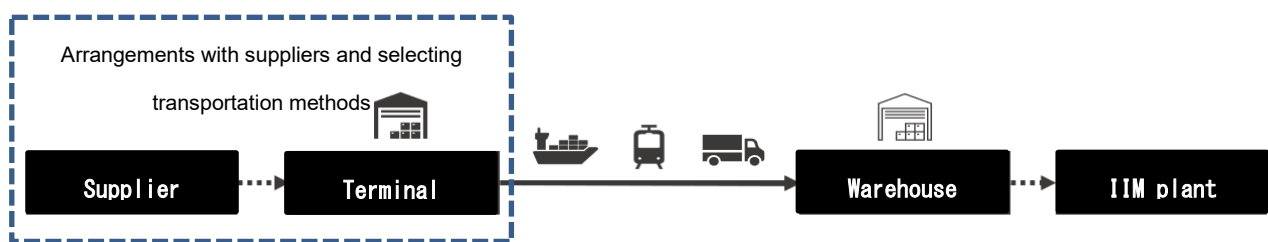


Selected as Coordinating Company for Transportation of Materials for Rapidus Corporation

Supporting a Stable Production System with a Network of Suppliers, Specialized Knowledge of Chemicals, and Knowhow for the Transportation of Dangerous Goods

Nagase & Co., Ltd. (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President and CEO: Hiroyuki Ueshima) was selected as one of the businesses to arrange transportation of semiconductor materials from Honshu to Hokkaido for the IIM (Innovative Integration for Manufacturing) semiconductor plant being built in Chitose, Hokkaido by Rapidus Corporation (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Atsuyoshi Koike), which aims to manufacture advanced semiconductors domestically in Japan.

Eight major Japanese companies* invested in Rapidus, which aims to domesticate the manufacture of advanced 2-nm (nanometer) semiconductors vital to next-generation industries such as automated driving and AI. As a coordinator for the transportation of key materials necessary to the manufacture of semiconductors, Nagase will consolidate the materials delivered by each supplier at several terminals throughout the country, determine the appropriate transportation method for each material, and arrange the logistics for their delivery to a warehouse near the IIM plant. Nagase was selected due to factors including being a chemicals trading firm with a network including approximately 300 suppliers related to semiconductor manufacturer, its accumulated specialized knowledge in chemicals as a chemical trading firm founded over 190 years ago, and its proposal of an environmentally-friendly transportation scheme including solutions for safely transporting dangerous goods.



*Coordination of material transportation

As part of the semiconductor manufacturing process, flammable dangerous goods such as solutions and high-pressure gases are used for lithography and etching. However, the transportation of these goods through the Seikan Tunnel is prohibited under Japan Rail's freight regulations, and so marine transportation is vital in addition to overland transportation via trucks and trains. Senko Nagase Logistics Co., Ltd. (Amagasaki, Hyogo) is a NAGASE Group company with ample experience in the transportation of dangerous goods, and, together with the operators of commercial ships that are part of Nagase's network as a trading firm, will support Rapidus in its goal of domesticating the manufacture of advanced semiconductors.



Delivering next.

After Nagase began importing semiconductor materials in 1960 as the sole distributor for the Eastman Kodak Company, its business grew when video film development technology was applied to photolithography for manufacturing semiconductors, before expanding into businesses such as selling chemical solutions. Starting in 1974, the Nagase Microelectronics Seminar was established to improve Japan's semiconductor technology not just at the company level, but for the industry as a whole, improving the relations between semiconductor-related businesses, engineers, and researchers (the 44th Nagase Microelectronics Seminar was held in November 2023). Today, NAGASE handles a wide variety of materials both in Japan and worldwide, and uses its unparalleled network in the complicated semiconductor supply chain to contribute to Japan's semiconductor industry moving to the next stage, through value that can only be provided by NAGASE.

*Kioxia Corporation, Sony Group Corporation, SoftBank Corp., Denso Corporation, Toyota Motor Corporation, NEC Corporation, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, and MUFG Bank, Ltd.

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