

August 6, 2024
Nagase & Co., Ltd.

**Nagase & Co., Ltd. partners with TotalEnergies Corbion
to distribute and expand sustainable Luminy® PLA bioplastics in Japan**

Nagase & Co., Ltd. has signed an agreement with TotalEnergies Corbion (TEC) to distribute Luminy® PLA bioplastics in Japan.ⁱ Through this partnership, Nagase will expand the reach of Luminy® PLA in Japan, a country that has a strong focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. As one of the world's largest economy, Japan's ambitious goals of carbon neutrality by 2050 has set the country in trajectory of adopting new technologies that reduce carbon emissions and minimize waste.

In addition to expanding sales of Luminy® PLA in the Japanese market, NAGASE and TEC will collaborate on research and development to evaluate and enhance material properties to develop new applications that meet customer needs. Through this strategic collaboration, both companies aim to reduce environmental impact by mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and promoting a world based on a sustainable, circular and regenerative economy.

TotalEnergies Corbion's Luminy® PLAⁱⁱ is derived from ethically sourced, annually renewable sugarcane crops. With a significantly lower carbon footprint - 75% less than conventional plastics - Luminy® PLA offers inherent advantages such as a range of melting points, with excellent heat resistance and robust mechanical strength as well as favorable color appearance (including transparency). This makes it an ideal choice across a diverse range of applications. PLA is utilized across several sectors including food packaging, apparel, and durable goods such as automotive interior components, hardware components and luxury casing.

NAGASE and TEC will contribute to reducing Japan's, and the world's carbon footprint. Japan's strong commitment to sustainability and innovation makes it a key market for Luminy® PLA. With Nagase's market knowledge and TEC's joint research and development efforts, both companies are well-positioned to advance the adoption of sustainable bioplastic solutions in the country. This collaboration underscores our dedication to providing materials with a lower environmental footprint while also supporting Japan's environmental goals.

Additionally, TEC actively champions chemical recycling to meet the rising demand for PLA. This approach supports sustainable material use and minimizes environmental impact by breaking down used PLA to its molecular components and re-synthesizing them into new Luminy® PLA. Chemical recycling of PLA is done with a low energy consuming process of hydrolysis, and the resulting rPLA has the same food contact approval and characteristics of virgin PLA.

Learn more ;

<https://www.totalenergies-corbion.com/news/expanding-luminy-pla-bioplastics-distribution-in-japan>

■ About TotalEnergies Corbion

Headquarters: Gorinchem, Netherlands

CEO: Thomas Philipon

Business Summary: Marketing, sales and manufacturing of Luminy® PLA

URL: <https://www.totalenergies-corbion.com/>

TotalEnergies Corbion is a global leader in driving sustainable innovation with Poly Lactic Acid (PLA), reducing carbon footprint while fostering circularity. The biobased nature and compostability of our PLA mean that it has a lower carbon footprint while also contributing to the circular economy through mechanical and chemical recycling. Headquartered in the Netherlands, the 50/50 joint venture between TotalEnergies and Corbion operates a cutting-edge PLA facility in Rayong, Thailand. Through the application of PLA across various sectors and collaboration throughout the value chain, TotalEnergies Corbion drives widespread adoption of bioplastics, envisioning a future where it revolutionizes industries and nurtures a healthier planet.

■ About Nagase & Co., Ltd.

Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

President and CEO and Representative Director: Hiroyuki Ueshima

Business Summary: Export, Import/export and domestic sales of chemicals, plastics, electronics materials, cosmetics and health foods

URL: <https://www.nagase.co.jp/>

NAGASE & CO., LTD. is a chemicals trading firm, founded in Kyoto, Japan in 1832. The NAGASE Group began as a specialized sales agent securing exclusive contracts to sell industry-leading products from around the world in Japan. Over the years, we have leveraged our technology and information gathering expertise—as well as our global network—to transform our business into a hybrid model offering superior manufacturing, processing, and R&D functions as well as trading company services. Looking forward to our 200th anniversary in the year 2032, we will contribute to the society as a Business Designer that creates a sustainable future.

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Nagase & Co., Ltd.

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ⁱ Luminy® is a registered trademark of TotalEnergies Corbion B.V.

ⁱⁱ PLA (polylactic acid) is a bioplastic derived from plant sugars. It can be molded similarly to conventional plastics, offering heat resistance, durability, and industrial compostability through microbial action, minimizing environmental impact after proper disposal, such as industrial composting, recycling, or energy recovering incineration.