

January 13, 2026

Nagase & Co., Ltd.

NAGASE Group Opens Bio Laboratory in California
Accelerating New Materials Development with Robotics and AI

Interfacial Consultants LLC (Head Office: Wisconsin, US), a subsidiary of Nagase & Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President and CEO: Hiroyuki Ueshima), has opened a new laboratory in California, US.

As part of the growth strategy in its Medium-Term Management Plan ACE 2.0, the NAGASE Group has specified the four quadrants of Foundation, Focus, Development, and Improvement, and is carrying out its businesses along the axes of the trading, manufacturing, and R&D functions. The goal of opening this laboratory is to expand businesses in the bio field, using the R&D functions in the Development quadrant, and by establishing a laboratory using robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) within the Group, enhance the development speed and manufacturing efficiency for the bio field in the Group.

Over many years, the NAGASE Group has manufactured industrial enzymes, food ingredients, cosmetic ingredients, pharmaceuticals ingredients and medicals using enzymes and enzyme reaction technology. This laboratory is the first bio-material R&D organization in the NAGASE Group to have cutting-edge robotics and AI technology and expertise, and makes it possible to dramatically decrease the amount of time needed to search for microorganisms and enzymes and carry out iterative testing

Moving forward, the development of new materials for the life science market will be accelerated through collaboration with the Group's manufacturing subsidiary Nagase Viita Co., Ltd., Nagase Diagnostics Co., Ltd., and the Group's headquarters for fundamental bio research, the Nagase Bio-Innovation Center.

The NAGASE Group has established "extending healthy life expectancy" as one of its materialities, and will contribute to people living full and healthy lives.

Interfacial Consultants LLC (IFC) Profile

- Company Name: Interfacial Consultants LLC
- Head Office: Wisconsin, US
- Representative: Dr. Jeffrey Cernohous
- Established: 2014
- Business overview: Development of advanced materials and processes, incubation of new technologies and businesses

A subsidiary of Nagase & Co. (holding 80% of shares), IFC is one of the NAGASE Group's R&D functions carrying out R&D in advanced materials. Since joining the Group in 2020, they have collaborated with R&D functions in Japan on projects such as the development of new uses for water soluble support materials developed for the 3D printer market. With IFC establishing a new function as a bio R&D headquarters, in addition to existing materials, this laboratory will be operated under the management of IFC.

Nagase Viita Co., Ltd. Profile

- Company Name: Nagase Viita Co., Ltd.
- Head Office: Okayama-shi, Okayama
- Representative: Representative Director and President Takahiko Mandai
- Established: 1883
- Business overview: Development, manufacturing and sales of food ingredients, pharmaceutical ingredients, cosmetic ingredients, health food ingredients, functional dyes, enzymes and phospholipids

Nagase Diagnostics Co., Ltd. Profile

- Company Name: Nagase Diagnostics Co., Ltd.
- Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo
- Representative: Representative Director and President Hironao Makise
- Established: 2024
- Business overview: Development, manufacturing, and sales of diagnostic reagents and enzymes, and other life science materials

◆Inquiries

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