

## **Taiyo Nippon Sanso triples its production capacity of Water-<sup>18</sup>O**

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**Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corp. (TNSC) is gearing up to meet the growing world demand for Water-<sup>18</sup>O, a starting material of diagnostic agents for Positron Emission Tomography (PET).**

PET is recognized as the most reliable molecular imaging modality in oncology, neurology and cardiology. The PET procedures continue to grow worldwide especially in North America, Europe and Japan and are expanding to many other countries such as South America, Middle East and Asia. Besides <sup>18</sup>FDG known as the most popular PET agent for cancer detection, a lot of new agents are being developed and some of which are expected to be approved in a couple of years.

In order to ensure the stable supply of Water-<sup>18</sup>O to the PET industry, TNSC will complete the construction of a new plant with a capacity of 200kg/year at its Chiba factory in the beginning of 2013. Consequently TNSC will have a total capacity of 300kg/year together with its existing capacity of 100kg/year.

TNSC's Water-<sup>18</sup>O is manufactured in accordance with ISO9001 and cGMP /ICHQ7A and has been highly valued by customers in more than 20 countries for its reliability and world highest quality in both isotopic and chemical purities since 2003. The product was developed by a totally novel process of cryogenic oxygen distillation for enriching Oxygen-18 with the support from Japan Science and Technology Agency. Having already agreed with some key customers on a long term supply contracts, TNSC are also aiming to satisfy the demand from new customers and to contribute to the advancement of the PET industry.

### **About Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corp.**

TNSC has been providing stable supplies of industrial gases such as oxygen, nitrogen and argon to a wide range of industries, including the steel, chemical, electronics, automobile, construction, shipbuilding, medical and food industries through its worldwide networks since its establishment in 1910. TNSC is the only company who possesses in-house all of the plant technologies (design, engineering, construction, operation and QA) necessary for the manufacture of Water-<sup>18</sup>O. TNSC's patents for the production of Water-<sup>18</sup>O are already granted in Japan, the US and Europe.

<http://stableisotope.tn-sanso.co.jp/english/index.html>