



**News Release**

October 2, 2007

**Construction of Kure Gas Center filling station completed**

Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation (TNSC), together with Okamoto Industry Co., Ltd. and Fukko Sanso Co., Ltd., has recently invested jointly in the establishment of the new company Kure Gas Center Co., Ltd., located in Hiroshima Prefecture, and a gas filling station to be operated by the company has now been completed.

**1. Background**

In the Kure district, TNSC sales agents Okamoto Industry and Fukko Sanso have up to now independently operated their own gas filling stations. However, as these filling stations have become superannuated, the three companies decided on joint investment in the new company Kure Gas Center to rationalize and simultaneously undertake a renewal of operations through the integration of these operations. Kure Gas Center's filling station has been built on the grounds of the Fukko Sanso filling station.

**2. Overview of the New Filling Station**

In addition to the supply of industrial-use oxygen, nitrogen, argon, carbon dioxide, and gas mixtures -- mostly to customers in the Kure district -- the new filling station will also fill oxygen cylinders for medical use. It will thus offer a fully comprehensive filling service, realizing greater efficiency and improved customer satisfaction in both the filling and delivery processes. Moreover, the labor saving and quality management systems has also been adopted.

**Details of Kure Gas Center Co., Ltd.**

Head office: Hiroshiratake 3-1-52, Kure City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Paid-in capital: ¥10 million

Shareholders: Taiyo Nippon Sanso, Okamoto Industry and Fukko Sanso

President: Masayuki Tanino, Head of TNSC Chushikoku Regional Branch



Kure Gas Center's gas filling station