

December 27, 2007

**JV Set Up to Supply Industrial Gases
to Sakai Plant of Sharp Corporation**

Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation (TNSC) has established an equal-partnership joint venture company with Air Water Inc. for the purpose of supplying a range of industrial gases to a LCD panel manufacturing plant (which will be the world's largest) and a solar cell plant to be operated by Sharp Corporation, as well as to supporting plants to be operated by other companies, all within the "Manufacturing Complex for the 21st Century" whose construction is being planned by Sharp in Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture.

Outline of the new JV Company:

1. Name: Sakai Gases Center Co., Ltd.
2. Head office address: 159-7 Chikko-Yawatamachi, Sakai-ku, Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture
3. Location of plant: as above
4. Paid-in capital: ¥300 million
5. Shareholders: TNSC, 51%; Air Water, 49%
6. Scheduled start of operation: August 1, 2008
7. Representatives:
 - Fumio Hara, President (Senior Managing Director, Head of Electronics Division, TNSC)
 - Shunichi Takahashi, Executive Vice President (President of Daido Air Products Electronics, Inc., a semiconductor gas subsidiary of Air Water Inc.)
8. Planned capital investment: approximately ¥30 billion
9. Lines of business: Production of oxygen, nitrogen, argon, dry air, and helium