

Air Liquide supports sustainable glass bottle production with hydrogen combustion technology

In a move towards sustainable manufacturing, Air Liquide Japan, Nippon Yamamura Glass Co., Ltd. and Yamamura Seibinsho Co.,Ltd. have successfully tested glass bottle production using hydrogen as a partial fuel source, with the potential to reduce CO_2 emissions.

This initiative was carried out at Yamamura Seibinsho who currently possesses the only oxygen combustion furnace for glass bottle melting in Japan. Air Liquide Japan supplied hydrogen gas for the combustion process as well as a proprietary burner specifically designed for hydrogen injection. The strong collaboration between Air Liquide Japan, Nippon Yamamura Glass, and Yamamura Seibinsho led to the success of this manufacturing test, where bottles produced using hydrogen with oxy-combustion maintained the same quality as those made with conventional oxygen combustion, while also achieving a reduction in CO₂ emissions.

Decarbonization presents an urgent challenge for the glass industry, and hydrogen, which produces no CO₂ when combusted, is projected to play a key role. Air Liquide Japan has been contributing to these customers' improved combustion efficiency and the reduction of CO₂ emissions by integrating oxygen combustion technologies with optimal gas supply solutions. Implementing partial hydrogen fuel replacement, could have the potential to advance decarbonization in glass manufacturing.

The glass bottles produced in this initiative have been adopted by Suntory Spirits Limited's wine, "SUNTORY FROM FARM Tomi no Oka Aka Toki-no-Kasane (using CO_2 reduction glass bottles)", and will be sold at the "SUIKUU" restaurant at Expo 2050 Osaka Kansai venue.

Koji Makihara, President and CEO, Air Liquide Japan stated: "As a leading company in oxygen combustion technology for many years, Air Liquide Japan has been supporting its customers' efforts to improve combustion efficiency and decarbonize through a wide range of technological solutions. We are very pleased to have demonstrated the new potential of hydrogen utilization in domestic glass bottle manufacturing through the collaboration with Nippon Yamamura Glass and Yamamura Seibinsho. We believe that Air Liquide's comprehensive knowledge of hydrogen will significantly contribute to our customers' sustainability initiatives."

Air Liquide in Japan

Air Liquide has been present in Japan since 1907, and has been contributing to the development of Japanese industries for over 100 years. Supported by a highly-skilled workforce of approximately 2,000 employees, The Group supplies key molecules to companies in electronics and other industrial fields, collaborating with our clients in problem solving and joint research.

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Air Liquide is a world leader in gases, technologies and services for industry and healthcare. Present in 60 countries with 66,500 employees, the Group serves more than 4 million customers and patients. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen are essential small molecules for life, matter and energy. They embody Air Liquide's scientific territory and have been at the core of the Group's activities since its creation in 1902.

Taking action today while preparing the future is at the heart of Air Liquide's strategy. With ADVANCE, its strategic plan, Air Liquide is targeting a global performance, combining financial and extra-financial dimensions. Positioned on new markets, the Group benefits from major assets such as its business model combining resilience and strength, its ability to innovate and its technological expertise. The Group develops solutions contributing to climate and the energy transition—particularly with hydrogen—and takes action to progress in areas of healthcare, digital and high technologies.

Air Liquide's revenue amounted to more than 27 billion euros in 2024. Air Liquide is listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (compartment A) and belongs to the CAC 40, CAC 40 ESG, EURO STOXX 50, FTSE4Good and DJSI Europe indexes.



