

## Air Liquide opens Japan's first hydrogen station for fuel cell cabs in partnership with MK Taxi

**Air Liquide announces the opening of Japan's first hydrogen station in collaboration with a taxi operator. Based on the premises of a taxi's multi fuel station in Kobe, it is ideally located to meet the growing demand for hydrogen for heavy-duty vehicles. Launched in partnership with Kobe MK, a taxi company, the station will serve cabs but also buses, commercial vehicles as well as passenger cars. This station is the 18th Air Liquide hydrogen refueling station (HRS) in the country.**

The creation of the new station paves the way for the development of a local taxi fleet. It is part of Kobe MK's target to progressively replace the current hybrid vehicles by electric or electric hydrogen vehicles by 2030. The newly created hydrogen station is located adjacent to Kobe MK's head office in Kobe, which is also the depot for its taxis operating in Hyogo Prefecture.

This initiative is in line with the Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe City's strategy to advance towards a hydrogen society for everyday life and industry, as part of the ambition to realize carbon neutrality in this strategic region. As one of Japan's five major international trading ports, the Port of Kobe has very heavy traffic, laying the foundations for other mobility applications. Kobe Carbon Neutral Port Council is planning to decarbonize Port Island's trucks and terminal facilities.

This initiative is also part of Air Liquide's commitment to the energy transition, by leveraging its 60 years of expertise in hydrogen.

Resulting from the mobilization of an entire ecosystem, this project demonstrates the collaboration between different private and public stakeholders. Air Liquide brings its mastery of the entire hydrogen value chain and provides the hydrogen infrastructure.

**Virginie Cavalli**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Air Liquide Japan, stated: *"I am very honored to open the new HRS with support from key stakeholders, including public authorities and leading companies. This demonstrates Air Liquide technical and collaborative capabilities to enable low carbon society in Japan. We believe that the new station will contribute to the sustainable development of Kobe City, as it is one of the key strategic areas for transport, paving the way for the future."*

### **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.

### **Air Liquide's commitment to hydrogen**

In line with the 2015 Paris Agreements and to address the urgency of climate change, Air Liquide is committed to achieving carbon neutrality in its activities by 2050. As a pioneer in hydrogen, the Group is convinced that this molecule has an essential role to play to succeed in the energy transition. Over the last 60 years, the Group has developed unique expertise in hydrogen, which positions it today as a leader in the production and distribution of low-carbon and renewable hydrogen and a world reference in liquid hydrogen. The Group currently initiates, pilots and develops some of the largest projects to decarbonize industry and road, air and sea transport. Air Liquide has taken several commitments to accelerate the development of hydrogen for the energy transition: the Group plans to invest 8 billion euros in the low-carbon hydrogen value chain by 2035 and to develop a total electrolysis capacity of 3 GW by 2030.

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A world leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 73 countries with approximately 67,100 employees and serves more than 3.9 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 company'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 for 2025, 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 29.9 billion euros in 2022. 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.

