

November 1, 2018

Earthside group

Spread Co., Ltd.

**“Techno Farm Keihanna”,
the Largest Automated Vertical Farm in the World,
to Start Shipping its Products**

Spread Co., Ltd. (HQ: Kyoto, Japan, CEO: Shinji Inada, Hereinafter “Spread”), which is a member of Earthside group, started shipping its products from Techno Farm Keihanna (Kizugawa, Kyoto) on November 1, 2018. Techno Farm Keihanna is the largest automated vertical farm in the world* where the automated cultivation system is capable of producing 30,000 heads of lettuce every day.

The production capacity of Techno Farm Keihanna is 30,000 heads of lettuce per day and it is approximately 1.5 times bigger than that of Kameoka Plant, Spread’s existing vertical farm (Kameoka, Kyoto). Techno Farm Keihanna has introduced the latest advanced technologies such as an automated cultivation system, water recycling and environmental control technologies and specialized LED lighting customized for vertical farming. Meanwhile, the scale of the farm and stability of production have been further increased. Techno Farm Keihanna utilizes IoT/AI technologies developed by Spread to further optimize the cultivation environment through greater analysis. Alongside this, Spread will draw on research and development facilities situated inside Techno Farm Keihanna to develop new cultivation technologies.

At Techno Farm Keihanna, four kinds of leaf lettuces are produced without the use of pesticides. Spread has incorporated more rigid standards for hygiene control of the cultivation environment and aims to gain the international certification of food safety standard “FSSC22000” **. Lettuce produced in Techno Farm Keihanna is to be sold under “*Vegetus*”, Spread’s brand of vertically farmed vegetables, at supermarkets and retailers all over Japan.

Spread’s Techno Farm Keihanna will act as the flagship model of *Techno Farm*TM, the next generation agricultural production system, which Spread aims to expand to more than 100 locations through partnerships including a franchise business model.

News Release

To achieve a sustainable model for agriculture, Spread will continue to pursue further technological innovation by deepening its cooperation and collaboration in various fields.



Techno Farm Keihanna



"Vegetus" varieties

◆Specification of Techno Farm Keihanna

Name	Techno Farm Keihanna
Location	9-5-5, Kizugawa-dai, Kizugawa, Kyoto
Facility type	Indoor vertical farm using artificial lighting (includes R&D facilities)
Site area	11,550 m ²
Building area	3,950 m ²
Building structure	Steel construction, 2 floors
Products	Leaf lettuce
Production capability	30,000 heads (3 tons) of lettuce/day
Groundbreaking	May 2017
Building completion	March 2018 (Not including equipment)

News Release

◆Techno Farm™

Techno Farm™

Techno Farm™ is a next generation food production system created by Spread based on their 10 years of operating experience and technological innovation in vertical farming. Joint development with Japanese technology companies for innovations such as automated cultivation, and water recycling and environmental control technologies, specialized LED lighting, and IoT/AI will reduce environmental burden and operational costs.

URL : www.technofarm.com/en

* Measured by production weight per farm area and defined as a vertical farm that implements automation for cultivation processes of leafy vegetables for shipment to general consumers (internal investigation).

** A track record of operation of the farm is a requirement to apply for this certification.

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