

## TBM's "Bio LIMEX Bag," made of limestone and plant-based resin, adopted as a carrier bag for Toyota Mobility Tokyo stores

**Tokyo, January 24, 2022** – TBM Co., Ltd. ("TBM") today announces that "Bio LIMEX Bag," an environmentally friendly bag made mainly from limestone and plant-based resin, has been adopted as a carrier bag for Toyota brand stores of Toyota Mobility Tokyo.

Replacing the conventional carrier bag made of 10% plant-based resin with Bio LIMEX Bag, it is expected to reduce the annual use of petroleum-based plastics by approximately 85% and greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 29%\*1. In 2020, Bio LIMEX Bag won the Good Design Award's "GOOD DESIGN BEST 100" and in 2021, it was selected as one of the TOP 100 in the "Design Intelligence Award 2021," one of China's leading international design awards.

In the automotive industry, where decarbonization efforts are accelerating, TBM will continue to introduce Bio LIMEX Bag and LIMEX Pellet, which can be processed by inflation molding, injection molding, vacuum forming, and LIMEX Sheet, which can be used for catalogs and folders.

\* 1 TBM survey | The calculation range is from raw material procurement to disposal (incineration) | The numerical values are reference values, not guaranteed values.

About LIMEX Bag : <https://tb-m.com/limex/products/limexbag>

2020 GOOD DESIGN BEST 100 : <https://www.g-mark.org/award/describe/50148>

Design Intelligence Award 2021 : <https://en.di-award.org/collections/detail/1207.html>

# T B M

## Reduce Plastic and Greenhouse Gas



## ■ Background

Companies are required to respond to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and resolve plastics issues. Moves to regulate single-use plastics are growing, with more than 127 countries\*<sup>2</sup> already restricting the use of plastic bags, and the European Union (EU) has passed legislation to ban single-use plastics. In Japan, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) has made it mandatory to charge for plastic shopping bags from July 2020 to promote the recycling of plastic resources.

In some Toyota Mobility Tokyo stores, an energy management system (BEMS) that combines solar power generation, storage batteries, LED lighting, energy-saving air conditioning, to optimally control the storage and discharge of electricity to reduce power consumption has been adopted. Additionally, the company is implementing environmentally friendly initiatives such as the placement of charging stations in stores to promote the use of plug-in hybrids. As part of the company's efforts to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and conserve resources, Toyota Mobility Tokyo has been considering switching the carrier bags used in its stores to different materials and has decided to adopt Bio LIMEX Bag because of its environmental performance.

\*<sup>2</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (2018) . Legal Limits on Single-Use Plastics and Microplastics: A Global Review of National Laws and Regulations

## ■ About LIMEX

LIMEX is a composite material consisting of over 50% inorganic substances. It is patented in over 40 countries and used in over 6000 companies and organizations. It has been introduced in global conferences such as COP and G20. It is registered in the sustainable technology dissemination platform "STePP" by UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) as a recyclable material. When used as an alternative to paper or plastic, it can contribute to the conservation of resources with a high risk of depletion, such as oil, water, and forest resources, and the reduction of greenhouse gases.

### - Recycling LIMEX

LIMEX can be recycled without separating the inorganic and thermoplastic resin. The possibility of recycling is guaranteed with products designed with a single material. TBM has implemented multiple LIMEX recycling initiatives utilizing existing recycling equipment in collaboration with companies, consumers, and local governments.

### - Why limestone?

Limestone, which is the main raw material of LIMEX, is a resource that is abundant across the world. Compared to petroleum-based plastics, limestones can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during the raw material procurement stage by about 1/50 and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during combustion by about 58%.

## ■ About TBM Co., Ltd.

TBM is based in Japan specializing in developing, manufacturing, and distributing LIMEX<sup>®</sup>, an innovative new material mainly made from limestone and inorganic materials. The basic patents of LIMEX have been registered in 40 countries and have been introduced to over 6,000 companies in Japan. LIMEX is registered in the sustainable technology dissemination platform "STePP" by UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) as a recyclable material that can be an alternative to paper and plastic. By supplying LIMEX worldwide, TBM aims to solve plastic waste issues, resource depletion, and various environmental issues. In 2020, TBM was evaluated as the third-largest unicorn company in Japan.

# PRESS RELEASE

T B M

###

**Media Contact:**

Natsumi Sakai

Corporate Communication, TBM Co., Ltd.

+81 80 3457 1822 (mobile)

[pr@tb-m.com](mailto:pr@tb-m.com)

<https://tb-m.com/en/limex/>