

TBM Raises Capital of 3.1 Billion Yen in Aggregate Creating Synergy with Respective Companies to Expand Business

TBM Co., Ltd. (TBM), a company that develops, manufactures and sells paper and plastic alternative products made from a limestone-based material known as 'LIMEX,' has conducted third-party share allocations to ITOCHU Corporation, Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Shinsei Corporate Investment, Dai Nippon Printing Co., Ltd., DIP Corporation, Toppan Printing Co., Ltd., FRANCE BED HOLDINGS Co., Ltd. and MITSUBISHI PENCIL Co., Ltd.



■ Background

Companies today are expected to take actions against environmental issues to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With the financial aid from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan in 2015, TBM has completed the construction of the first LIMEX manufacturing plant in Shiroishi city, Miyagi prefecture. In 2017, TBM received 'The Social Impact Award' by Plug and Play Tech Center. The company also strengthened partnerships with major corporations and has implemented LIMEX products in over 3000 companies.

There has been a recent movement by countries to introduce bans on single-use plastic products. In response to such regulations and the result of increased awareness towards environmental concerns, TBM has received over 400 inquiries and offers about its LIMEX products from all over the world. LIMEX is being given attention for being a suitable material for plastic alternatives.

TBM was selected as a partner for 'Brussels SDG Summit 2018' (hosted by CSR Europe) and introduced 'Upcycling of LIMEX'. It showed an example of LIMEX sheets remanufactured into extrusion molded products by utilizing the functionality of recycling efficiency and low degradation level of LIMEX. Furthermore, TBM has announced the development of 'Biodegradable LIMEX' composed of low-priced limestone and biodegradable resin. TBM strives to accelerate the transition to a circular economy by realizing both economic viability and environmental sustainability.

■ The Purpose of Third-party Allocation

With the rights offering, active investment will be conducted towards; establishment of the mass production plant to increase the production volume and strengthening product competitiveness (Tagajyo manufacturing plant, construction expected to complete in 2020), marketing for accelerating overseas expansion, human resource recruitment, research and development, and joint development.

TBM will collaborate with the companies below regarding joint development, marketing, and overseas expansion and strives in creating synergy. By collaborating and utilizing the rich knowledge, and development · sales resources of these major business corporations, we will attempt to realize accelerating growth of LIMEX.

■ The Underwriters

- ITOCHU Corporation
- Goldman Sachs Group Inc.
- Shinsei Corporate Investment
- Dai Nippon Printing Co., Ltd.
- DIP Corporation
- Toppan Printing Co., Ltd.
- FRANCE BED HOLDINGS Co., Ltd.
- MITSUBISHI PENCIL Co., Ltd.

■ Introduction of the new material 'LIMEX'

[What is LIMEX?]

LIMEX is made mainly from limestone. It is an environmentally and economically viable new material that can substitute paper and plastic.

• 2013

TBM was chosen by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry as one of the Innovation Base Promotion Businesses to be aided by "Subsidy for Advanced Technology Demonstration and Evaluation Facility Development."

• 2014

Patent Approval for the new material technology in Japan.

International patent applications have been approved or await approval in 43 countries.

• 2015

Construction of Shiroishi Plant was completed. (Shiroishi city, Miyagi)

The capacity of Shiroishi Plant is 6,000 tons annually.

• 2016

TBM received The Social Impact Award by Plug and Play Tech Center.

• 2017

TBM was selected as one of the five top companies to participate in the Innovation Showcase of Japan US Innovation Awards program.

[Paper alternative (LIMEX sheet)]

LIMEX uses almost no water and no trees while 1 ton of paper is made from around 20 trees and 100 tons of water. One ton of LIMEX Sheet is made from 0.6~0.8 tons of limestone and 0.2~0.4 tons of polyolefin resin.

※Japanese Paper manufacturers plant trees overseas for sustainability.

※If used LIMEX sheet is to be disposed in Japan, it is generally categorized as combustible waste, and cannot be recycled with paper.

[Plastic alternative (LIMEX pellet)]

- While conventional plastic is made from petroleum-derived resin, LIMEX pellet is made mainly from limestone.

LIMEX pellet can reduce the amount of petroleum-derived resin used.

- Limestone costs lower than petroleum-derived resin.
- LIMEX sheet can be up-cycled to LIMEX pellet.

[Deposits of limestone]

- Limestone is self-sufficient in Japan.
- Limestone is abundant around the world.

■ TBM Co., Ltd

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Founded 2011

Capital 9,194 million yen (Including legal capital surplus)

Business description Development, manufacturing and sale of LIMEX and LIMEX products

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

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*The contents of this news release are as of the released day. The contents are subject to change without notice.

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