

June 27, 2014

For Immediate Release

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.

— Recovery and reconstruction support in Tohoku region through MOCCA Project—
**Sumitomo Forestry Constructs Codomo Energy
First Plant in Kawauchi-mura, Fukushima**

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. announced that a ceremony was held on June 25 to mark the completion of construction of Kawauchi First (Daiichi) Plant for Codomo energy Inc. (President: Yasunori Iwamoto; Head office: Osaka, Osaka Prefecture), for which construction commenced on October 16, 2013.

The MOCCA (Wood Use Integration) Department of Sumitomo Forestry's Housing Division was responsible for design and construction of the plant. This was the first construction in Japan of a large-scale wooden building and used structural laminated veneer lumber (LVL)¹ manufactured by Nelson Pine Industries Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Forestry in New Zealand. Omega wood materials², developed by Obayashi Corporation (President: Toru Shiraishi; Head Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo), which enables construction of a long-span structure, were used to realize a column-less large interior, approximately 18 meters wide and 34 meters long. In the office space, entrance hall, and other areas, Sumitomo Forestry used 105 mm x 105 mm cedar boards for flooring to fully evoke the qualities of wood in the plant interior.

The completion ceremony was attended by Yuko Endo, Mayor of Kawauchi-mura, and Kazuhiro Morimoto, Director-General, Tohoku Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) together with approximately 100 other attendees. Toshiro Mitsuyoshi, Managing Executive Officer and Deputy Divisional Manager of Housing Division; and Ryoji Machino, Executive Officer and Deputy Divisional Manager of Housing Division, were in attendance from Sumitomo Forestry.

"I decided to construct this plant after seeing everybody's determination to return to this town when I visited two years ago," said Yasunori Iwamoto, President of Codomo energy during his greeting at the ceremony. "I am overjoyed that the plant has been completed without a hitch, but at the same time I am conscious of the challenges which lie ahead. I hope to offer Lunaware³, the phosphorescent tiles to be manufactured at the plant, in Japan and globally, for the revitalization of industry in Kawauchi-mura."

Following greetings by guests, to signify the opening of the plant, the tape was cut by President Iwamoto, Mayor Endo, Director-General Morimoto, as well as Teruhiko Mashiko, House of Councillors member (Fukushima electoral district), Ken Ishimoto, head of the Prefectural Soso Region Promotion Bureau, and Managing Executive Officer Mitsuyoshi from Sumitomo Forestry.



Plant exterior



Tape cutting

About Sumitomo Forestry

Founded in 1691, Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. and its Group companies have broadened business activities focused on wood. Based on its corporate philosophy—“utilize timber as a renewable, healthy and environmentally friendly natural resource, and contributes to a prosperous society through all types of housing-related services”— and with its approximately 250,000 hectares of owned and managed forest, the global network that spans more than 20 countries and expertise and technology in housing-related businesses, Sumitomo Forestry Group is developing the Forestry and Environment Business, the Timber and Building Materials Business, the Housing Business, the Overseas Business, the Lifestyle Service Business and other businesses both in Japan and abroad. Adding such businesses as wooden biomass power generation and Timber Solution, it will continue to pursue the potential of timber.

President and Representative Director: Akira Ichikawa

Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo.

1. Product where veneer is assembled in multiple layers using an adhesive so that the direction of the fibers all run nearly parallel to one another
2. An original Obayashi technology that makes it possible to achieve wide spans, short construction time, and low cost by employing a “flammable barrier” design that uses LVL binding materials held by screws
3. The phosphorescent tiles to be manufactured at the plant, won the Prime Minister’s Award, the highest honor, at the Fourth Monodzukuri Nippon Grand Award (2012), sponsored by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. As a new material with enhanced wear resistance, water resistance, durability, and brightness, and which can sustain its phosphorescent properties semi-permanently, Lunaware is expected to be employed in various uses, including for nighttime lighting in towns or villages where street lighting is scarce.