

**Establishing of Sumirin Wood Piece Co., Ltd.  
to Actively Promote Employment of Disabled Persons**

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. (President and Representative Director: Akira Ichikawa; Headquarters: Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) announced the establishing of Sumirin Wood Piece Co., Ltd. aimed at providing more employment opportunities for disabled persons. Sumirin Wood Piece will commence business from the next fiscal year, carrying out bed log shiitake mushroom cultivation, and other activities such as production and processing of timber and interior products.

**■ Purpose of establishment**

Sumitomo Forestry promotes diversity at the workplace, and one of its action guidelines is “Respect for Humanity–We work to create an open and inclusive corporate culture that values diversity.” Besides actively promoting the employment of disabled persons, Sumitomo Forestry aims to provide a place where persons with disabilities can fully apply their abilities, and intends to apply for the new company to be recognized as a special subsidiary company\* under the Act for Promotion of Employment of Persons with Disabilities.

The plan is for the new company to carry out businesses such as bed log shiitake mushroom cultivation using company-owned forests in Shikoku’s Niihama as bed log laying yards (cultivation farms), and other activities such as production and processing of timber and interior products, and printing.

**■ Overview of new company**

Company name	:	Sumirin Wood Piece Co., Ltd.
Location	:	Isouracho, Niihama City, Ehime Prefecture
President	:	Akihiro Sawada (appointed on October 1)
Established	:	July 1, 2015
Capital	:	50 million yen
Investor	:	Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. (100% of equity share)



Bed log shiitake mushroom cultivation

Businesses	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Bed log shiitake mushroom cultivation and sale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultivation and sale of safe and high quality bed log shiitake mushrooms using company-owned forests as bed log laying yards.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Production and processing of timber and interior products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production and processing of wooden novelties as a business that is meticulous with wood, beginning with wooden postcards, to “Kikorin” magnets showing Sumitomo Forestry’s mascot, wooden clocks, and others.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Printing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Printing of seasonal greetings, name cards, flyers, and others.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Employees	:	7 (including 5 disabled), with plan to increase the number
Origin of name	:	“Piece” comes from “puzzle piece” and sounds like “peace.” Just like how a puzzle is completed by putting the right pieces at the right place, the company hopes to allow people to make full use of their abilities by putting them in the right place, and bring peace and happiness to people’s lives.

### ■ Future prospects

For the time being, customers for timber and interior products, printing and other business areas will be limited to companies within Sumitomo Forestry Group. However, the intention is to expand sales to other companies after the business has stabilized.

#### \* Special subsidiary company

A subsidiary company approved by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare that is established with special consideration given to the employment of disabled persons based on the Act for Promotion of Employment of Persons with Disabilities. To promote stable employment of disabled persons, if a parent company establishes a subsidiary company for this purpose, disabled persons that are employed can be treated as employees of the parent company (or group) for the purpose of calculating statutory employment rates, if certain conditions are met.