

August 29, 2025

For Immediate Release

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.  
GEOLIVE Group Corporation**Sumitomo Forestry and GEOLIVE Group Corporation  
Conclude Capital and Business Alliance Agreement****~ Leveraging the strengths of both companies to achieve a solid earnings base ~**

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. (President and Representative Director: Toshiro Mitsuyoshi; headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; hereinafter, Sumitomo Forestry) and GEOLIVE Group Corporation (President and Representative Director: Hiroshi Ueki, headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; hereinafter, GEOLIVE Group) concluded a capital and business alliance agreement on August 29 with a view to enhancing the corporate value of both companies and realizing sustainable growth for the timber and building materials distribution industry. Sumitomo Forestry will acquire all shares of Veneer Shokai Co., Ltd. (hereinafter, Veneer Shokai), which holds a 27.19% stake in GEOLIVE Group, thereby increasing its total stake to 30.3% including its existing 3.11% shareholdings. As a result, GEOLIVE Group will become an equity-method affiliate of Sumitomo Forestry. To strengthen its exteriors construction and sash businesses as well as expand its business areas, GEOLIVE Group will acquire all shares of Sumitomo Forestry's subsidiaries in the building material distribution sector, namely Igeto Co., Ltd., Sumirin Sash Co., Ltd. (hereinafter, Sumirin Sash), Sumirin Sash's wholly owned subsidiary, Sumikyo Co., Ltd., and Sumikyo Wintec Co., Ltd.

In order to adapt to changes in the market environment surrounding the timber and building materials distribution industry and accelerate business development, the two companies will collaborate across the boundaries of their respective business categories as a trading company and a wholesaler, strengthening and expanding the respective businesses that serve as their strengths to achieve a solid earnings base.

**■ Market conditions surrounding the timber and building materials distribution industry**

The domestic housing market is expected to see a drop in the number of new housing starts due to the declining population, with an aging population and falling birthrates. Moreover, the environment surrounding the market is undergoing significant changes, including an increasingly severe shortage of workers due to the aging of skilled craftsmen and succession issues in construction companies, the need to adapt to legal reforms aimed at achieving a decarbonized society, and growing demand for high-quality housing stock. In light of these challenges and evolving market environment, the timber and building materials distribution industry is expected to face intensified competition in securing market share through the enhancement of functions such as logistics, processing, and construction.

**■ Purpose of the capital and business alliance**

Sumitomo Forestry and GEOLIVE Group aim to leverage their respective strengths to build a solid earnings base. Sumitomo Forestry will expand its domestic and international timber and building materials manufacturing and distribution businesses, as well as promote the utilization of domestic timber through its timber industrial complex business. GEOLIVE Group will harness its wide-area logistics, processing, and construction capabilities, integrating the four building materials distribution subsidiaries of Sumitomo Forestry into its group to complement operations in the Central and Western Japan region and strengthen functions such as the supply of exterior materials and sashes, as well as construction services, to drive business growth. Furthermore, both companies will provide solutions such as DX-enabled quotation and delivery services, and structural framework supply systems, to enhance overall productivity in the building materials distribution industry.

**■ Details of the business alliance**

Sumitomo Forestry and GEOLIVE Group are considering a business alliance based on the following themes. Going forward, the two companies will integrate their respective functions and expertise to promote business, eliminate the boundaries between trading companies and wholesalers, and build a unique, one-stop supply chain and a solid earnings base.

1. Streamlining logistics and various operations through DX promotion
2. Establishing structural framework supply systems and promoting greater construction efficiency
3. Promoting decarbonized design, utilization of decarbonized materials, and effective utilization of domestic timber
4. Developing new markets and expanding sales of original products

Sumitomo Forestry Group is engaged in a broad range of global businesses centered on wood, including forestry management, the manufacture and distribution of timber and building materials, the contracting of single-family homes and medium- to large-scale wooden buildings, real estate development, and wood biomass power generation. In its long-term vision Mission TREEING 2030, it seeks to promote the Sumitomo Forestry Wood Cycle, its value chain to contribute to the decarbonization for not only its own company but also the whole of society by increasing the CO<sub>2</sub> absorption of forests and popularizing wooden buildings that store carbon for long periods of time. By promoting the use of wood and wood-derived materials in construction and the substitution of wood for other materials, it is also working to accelerate decarbonization.

GEOLIVE Group operates a business centered on building materials distribution in Japan, focusing on expanding sales of energy-related products such as solar power generation systems, as well as certified timber, thereby strengthening its efforts toward a decarbonized society. It is also promoting the development of a building contractor support system tailored to high-performance residential construction, as well as enhancing construction capabilities in non-residential sectors through M&A, with a view to accelerating new business expansion beyond the boundaries of traditional building materials distribution.

## ■ Company profiles

<Companies in the capital and business alliance>

### ● Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.

Name	: Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.
Headquarters	: 3-2, Otemachi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Representative	: President and Representative Director, Toshiro Mitsuyoshi
Established	: February 20, 1948
Capital	: 55,101 million yen
Business description	: Timber and Building Materials Business, Housing Business, Global Construction and Real Estate Business, Environment and Resources Business, Lifestyle Services Business, etc.
Website	: <a href="https://sfc.jp/english/">https://sfc.jp/english/</a>

### ● GEOLIVE Group Corporation

Name	: GEOLIVE Group Corporation
Headquarters	: 6-3-4, Shimbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo
Representative	: President and Representative Director, Hiroshi Ueki
Established	: October 1, 2009
Capital	: 850 million yen
Business description	: Purchasing and sales of plywood, building materials, housing equipment, etc.
Website	: <a href="https://www.geolive.co.jp/english/">https://www.geolive.co.jp/english/</a>

<Sumitomo Forestry Group subsidiaries to be transferred>

### ● Igeto Co., Ltd.

Name	: Igeto Co., Ltd.
Headquarters	: 1-15 Juichiya, Minato-ku, Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture
Representative	: President and Representative Director, Takashi Okada
Established	: April 3, 1950
Capital	: 150 million yen
Business description	: Housing-related materials wholesale business, etc.

### ● Sumirin Sash Co., Ltd.

Name	: Sumirin Sash Co., Ltd.
Headquarters	: 1650-38 Okubara-cho, Ushiku City, Ibaraki Prefecture
Representative	: President and Representative Director, Shinichiro Sato
Established	: December 8, 1981
Capital	: 50 million yen
Business description	: Processing and sale, supply, and delivery of aluminum sash for residential use, etc.

- Sumikyo Co., Ltd.

Name : Sumikyo Co., Ltd.  
Headquarters : 4-22-25 Shima, Ibaraki City, Osaka  
Representative : President and Representative Director, Toru Minagoshi  
Established : October 1, 1971  
Capital : 20 million yen  
Business description : Assembly, processing, installation and sale of aluminum sashes for buildings, etc.

- Sumikyo Wintec Co., Ltd.

Name : Sumikyo Wintec Co., Ltd.  
Headquarters : 763-2 Ouchida, Kita-ku, Okayama City, Okayama Prefecture  
Representative : President and Representative Director, Masaki Suwabe  
Established : August 19, 1976  
Capital : 22 million yen  
Business description : Construction and sale of sashes for houses and buildings, exterior products, and exterior materials, etc.