

Collaboration with Sony Network Communications to enable customers to remotely operate IoT-compatible gas appliances by using Sony's smartphone app for multifunctional light

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Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.

On August 7, 2020, Osaka Gas Co., Ltd. (President: Takehiro Honjo; hereinafter, "Osaka Gas") entered into a collaboration with Sony Network Communications Inc. (President: Hirokazu Takagaki; hereinafter, "So-net") involving the use of Osaka Gas's IoT-compatible gas appliances with So-net's Multifunctional Light (hereinafter, "MFL") app.

By using So-net's MFL app, Osaka Gas customers will be able to remotely operate Osaka Gas's IoT-compatible household gas appliances, such as the ENE-FARM fuel cell (hereinafter, "ENE-FARM") and gas water heaters (hereinafter, "water heaters"), to supply hot water or turn on floor heating.

In April 2016, Osaka Gas adopted IoT technology in the field of household gas appliances for the first time in Japan, marketing ENE-FARM and gas water heaters with "always-on" connection to the Internet. To date, more than 70,000 appliances have been connected to the Internet, providing various IoT services including remote operation, remote monitoring, and visualization of energy consumption through a dedicated smartphone app. In addition, on August 19, 2020, the company will launch the Tsunagaru-de-Keihoki "Sumapiko," the first internet-connectable household gas alarm equipment in Japan. Osaka Gas will continue to realize comfortable lives for its customers by expanding its product range of IoT-compatible household gas appliances.

In addition, the company has also actively expanded its range of partners, including collaboration on AI speakers with other companies including an AIoT platform with Sharp Corporation (President: Katsuaki Nomura). Osaka Gas will continue studying ways to create new value for customers with various alliance partners, as represented by the wireless communication equipment through So-net.

The company will continue aiming to be a corporate group that helps customers further evolve their lives and businesses by developing products and services that leads customers to live safer, more convenient, and more comfortable lives.