

Hankyu and Osaka Gas
Jointly Introduce Carbon-Neutral City Gas to Takarazuka Grand Theater

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Hankyu Corporation
Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.
Daigas Energy Co., Ltd.

Hankyu Corporation (President: Yasuo Shimada; Headquarters: Kita-ku, Osaka City; “Hankyu”) and Osaka Gas Co., Ltd. (President: Masataka Fujiwara; Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Osaka City; “Osaka Gas”) have signed a contract to introduce carbon-neutral city gas to Takarazuka Grand Theater with Daigas Energy Co., Ltd. (President: Masayuki Inoue; Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Osaka City), a wholly owned subsidiary of Osaka Gas, acting as the agent.

Since 2014, Hankyu and Osaka Gas have promoted joint efforts ^{*1} to help reduce CO₂ emissions. Such efforts include a system to offset the CO₂ emitted from Takarazuka Grand Theater during a specific performance period by using the J-Credit Scheme ^{*2}. Based on the contract, we have changed, starting from today’s supply, the city gas used at Takarazuka Grand Theater to carbon-neutral city gas with the aim of further reducing the environmental impact. This is the first time that carbon-neutral city gas of Osaka Gas is being used at a theater facility.



Takarazuka Grand Theater (left: front gate, right: main lobby)

Carbon-neutral city gas is a type of city gas utilizing carbon neutral LNG, which offsets greenhouse gases such as CO₂ generated in the process from natural gas extraction to combustion with CO₂ credits. The contract is expected to reduce annual CO₂ emissions by approximately 1,300 tons (which equals yearly emissions from 1,300 households).

At Takarazuka Grand Theater, Hankyu promotes various measures that help realize a carbon-neutral society. These efforts include reducing electricity consumption in the theater by using LED lighting equipment and contributing to leveling electricity demands by adopting a high-efficiency gas air-conditioning system ^{*3} that uses natural gas, a clean energy source emitting less CO₂.

Meanwhile, Osaka Gas promotes the introduction of high-efficiency gas cogeneration systems ^{*4} or gas air-conditioning systems and the supply of electricity using renewable energy sources to help reduce CO₂ emissions.

Hankyu and Osaka Gas strive to actively contribute to society through such efforts to reduce environmental burdens.

*1: News release: Hankyu Corporation and Osaka Gas Cooperate to Help Prevent Global Warming by Offering Takarazuka Grand Theater Carbon Offset Performance (announced in September 2019)

https://www.osakagas.co.jp/en/whatsnew/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2019/09/12/190902_1.pdf

*2: Under the system, the Japanese government certifies as credits the amount of CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions reduced or removed through efforts to introduce energy-saving devices or promote forest management.

*3: A gas air-conditioning system is classified into two types, gas engine heat pump (GHP) and gas absorption chiller-heater (natural chiller). At Takarazuka Grand Theater, a gas absorption chiller-heater is used.

- Gas engine heat pump (GHP): A gas heat pump air conditioner that drives a compressor by using a gas engine as the power source, providing air conditioning through the operation of the heat pump
- Gas absorption chiller-heater (natural chiller): An air-cooling system that operates by using the principle that water absorbs the surrounding heat when evaporating

*4: An energy-saving system that generates electricity by using gas while using the generated exhaust heat efficiently for air conditioning and supplying hot water. There are three types of gas cogeneration systems: gas engine type, gas turbine type, and fuel cell type. For residential use, we offer ECOWILL (gas engine type) and ENEFARM (fuel cell type).