

## Press Information

### **Kyocera To Acquire Japan-Based Showa Optronics Co., Ltd. to Strengthen Optical Components Business**

**The acquisition aims to maximize synergy through combined technologies**

**Kyoto/London, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.** Kyocera announced that it entered into a share transfer agreement with [NEC Corporation](#) on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to acquire all of NEC's shares in [Showa Optronics Co., Ltd.](#), an optical components manufacturer (hereunder: SOC). After the share transfer is completed, Kyocera will own 93.53 % of SOC's shares; SOC will begin operating as a subsidiary of Kyocera on June 1, 2020, under the name Kyocera Showa Optronics Co., Ltd. (hereunder: KSO).

#### **Background Information and Objectives**

With its highly advanced manufacturing technologies, Kyocera's optical components business has engaged in producing diversified lenses in small to large diameters from a wide variety of materials. The products have been used in various fields, including automotive, office and factory automation equipment, and medical equipment, since Kyocera entered this business in 1983.

In 2016, Kyocera expanded this business by acquiring Japan-based Melles Griot KK, a manufacturer of large-diameter and high-precision lenses for factory automation equipment. The company is expanding its production capabilities to meet rising demand.

SOC, established in 1954, has targeted high-value-added markets including space-related products, semiconductor manufacturing equipment (such as exposure equipment), and medical equipment for DNA analysis, using its core technologies of ultra-high-precision lens polishing, high-proof and low-loss film formation, and lasers with outstanding stability.

In acquiring SOC as a subsidiary, Kyocera aims to become a leading optical components company by expanding its new product offerings in the laser market, maximizing synergies through both companies' combined technologies, and utilizing Kyocera's worldwide sales network and production facilities to further expand its optical components businesses.

## Outline of SOC

Company Name	Kyocera Showa Optronics Co., Ltd.
Representative	Minoru Hijikawa, President
Establishment	1954 (Established as Showa Optical Co., Ltd.)
Location	Head Office: Setagaya-ku, Tokyo Yokohama Office: Midori-ku, Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture
Capital stock	50 million yen
Number of Employees	Approximately 230

For more information about Kyocera: [www.kyocera.eu](http://www.kyocera.eu)

## About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 286 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2019), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the most experienced producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 40 years of know-how in the industry.

The company is ranked #655 on Forbes magazine's 2019 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies. With a global workforce of over 77,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €12,99 million in fiscal year 2018/2019. The products marketed by the company in Europe include printers, digital copying systems, semiconductor-, fine ceramic-, automotive- and electronic components as well as printing devices and kitchen products. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the United Kingdom: Kyocera Fineceramics Ltd. and Kyocera Document Solutions.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at approximately €828,000 per prize category).

---

## Contact

Kyocera Fineceramics Ltd.  
Daniela Faust  
Manager Corporate Communications  
Hammfelddamm 6  
41460 Neuss  
Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)2131/16 37 – 188  
Fax: +49 (0)2131/16 37 – 150  
Mobil: +49 (0)175/727 57 06  
[daniela.faust@kyocera.de](mailto:daniela.faust@kyocera.de)  
[www.kyocera.de](http://www.kyocera.de)