

November 22, 2023

**Chugai Ro Co., Ltd.**

3-6-1 Hiranomachi, Chuo-ku, Osaka, Japan

Phone: +81-6-6221-1251

**Thermal Technology Creative Center Opens at Sakai Works****Accelerating Research and Development to Achieve Carbon Neutrality**

Chugai Ro Co., Ltd. (headquartered in Chuo Ward, Osaka City) has opened the Thermal Technology Creative Center at its Sakai Works in Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture to consolidate its research and development locations.



Exterior of the Thermal Technology Creative Center

**■ Background and Purpose**

The industry can no longer put off transforming their operations to address carbon neutrality and DX. That's why Chugai Ro has been working to realign and integrate its major locations and has recently opened the Thermal Technology Creative Center as part of this effort. Chugai Ro will leverage state-of-the-art equipment to strengthen its research and development capabilities while actively seeking joint development opportunities both inside and outside the company. This will enable it to evolve into a next-generation R&D-driven company that can actively and rapidly create new value in line with its management philosophy. Chugai Ro will respond to diversifying customer needs and changes in product life cycles as it makes further efforts to help build a sustainable society.

■ Features of the Thermal Technology Creative Center

1. State-of-the-art research facility whose key mission is to help pave the way to carbon neutrality
2. Efficient research facility consolidating functions at the Sakai Works for speedy and productive R&D activities
3. Research facility for “demonstrating, learning, and gathering” to spark innovation through internal and external joint development opportunities

Name of the new facility	R&D focus areas and major equipment
Thermal Technology Creative Center (Formerly Plant C)	Composed of the Combustion Zone, designed to strengthen the development of decarbonizing and energy-saving combustion technologies, the Functional Materials Zone, dedicated to the development of high-profile material processing such as all-solid-state battery electrolytes, and the Co-creation Space, aimed at cultivating new ideas through the introduction of the latest digital equipment
Metal Heat Treatment Technology Laboratory (Formerly Research Building 1 of the Technology Laboratory)	Equipped with a gas carburizing furnace that meets all the requirements for carbon neutrality
Zero Emission Technology Laboratory (Formerly Research Building 2 of the Technology Laboratory)	Responsible for developing resource recycling-related technology, technology for reducing environmental impact, and technology for heating and cooling high-performance materials
Vacuum Carburizing Technology Laboratory (Formerly Plant A, partially renovated)	Equipped with the latest vacuum carburizing furnaces, for which there is a growing need
Converting Technology Laboratory (Formerly Plant B)	Responsible for developing high-performance thin-film coating technology aimed at widespread use in semiconductor manufacturing

\*Due to the reorganization, the Combustion Laboratory (located in Kashiwara City, Osaka Prefecture) has been emptied and sold



Entity Heating Demonstration Furnace that allows users to observe hydrogen combustion up close



Thermal Technology Creative Center's Co-creation Space

#### ■ Overview of the Thermal Technology Creative Center

Address	2-4 Chikko-Shinmachi, Nishi-ku, Sakai-shi, Osaka, Japan
Total investment	Approx. 1 billion yen
Total floor area	7,261 m <sup>2</sup>
Start of operations	November 2023

[Contact]

Ota, Corporate Planning Department, Chugai Ro Co., Ltd.  
 2-4 Chikko-Shinmachi, Nishi-ku, Sakai-shi, Osaka 592-8331, Japan  
[Web\\_Master@n.chugai.co.jp](mailto:Web_Master@n.chugai.co.jp)