

**For Immediate Release** 

December 4, 2017 LIXIL Corporation

# LIXIL to Launch Japan's First Home IoT System Linking Home Fixtures and AI Speakers

A system to improve people's everyday lives

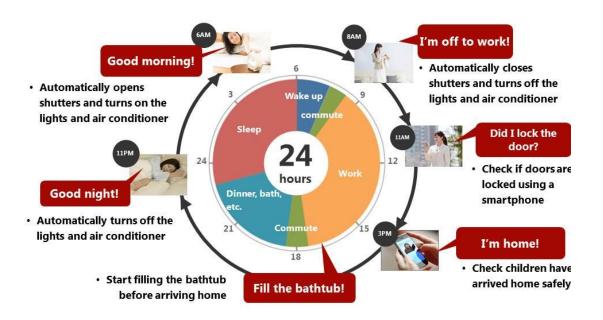
**Tokyo, Japan –** LIXIL Corporation ("LIXIL"), a global leader in the housing and building industry, today announced it has developed a new home IoT system. In addition to connecting digital and electrical appliances, the new system will be able to connect various housing products such as entrance doors and window shutters. It will be the first system in Japan to connect housing products and AI speakers, providing a comprehensive home IoT solution, and is expected to go on sale nationwide in Japan from April 2018.

LIXIL's vision of the future home is based on two concepts: it is energy-efficient, healthy, and comfortable (improved housing components), and it is convenient and safe (improved and value-added lifestyle). LIXIL has accumulated knowledge and expertise on the "future of living" through a series of research initiatives at its home IoT testing facilities.<sup>1</sup>

Harnessing LIXIL's proprietary technology, the newly launched system can connect and operate home appliances and housing products through a "Home Controller." It can also connect and operate sensors, cameras, and AI speakers through its "Link Controller," providing a comprehensive home IoT solution. As a result of connecting all of these components, not only can various products in the home be controlled through an AI speaker and smartphone, but through actions such as opening and closing an entrance door, it will be possible to automatically trigger further actions for components such as air conditioners and lighting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The home IoT testing facilities include "COMMA House," jointly developed with the Institute of Industrial Science of the University of Tokyo, and LIXIL's "U<sup>2</sup>-Home".





The new system will provide a range of possibilities. For example, when a child returns home from school and opens the entrance door, a camera can be programmed to send a photo and notification to a parent's smartphone. The operation of infrared remote controls for general home appliances can also be combined, enabling users to freely customize features according to their lifestyle.

Going forward, LIXIL will continue to strengthen the connectivity of its housing products and equipment, as well as its ability to connect with devices developed by other companies. Furthermore, with the potential to connect local communities and services in the future, LIXIL will continue to pursue development aimed at realizing the "future of comfortable living."

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#### **About LIXIL Corporation**

LIXIL is a global leader in the housing and building industry. Our unique portfolio spans everything from technologies that revolutionize how we interact with water in our daily lives, to a full lineup of products and services for houses and major architectural projects. Delivering core strengths in water, kitchen, housing, and building technologies, our brands including LIXIL, INAX, GROHE, American Standard, and Permasteelisa are leaders in the industries and regions in which



they operate. LIXIL operates in more than 150 countries and employs more than 70,000 people, bringing together function, quality, and design to make people's lives better, and more delightful – wherever they are.

Learn more at www.lixil.com, facebook.com/lixilgroup and www.linkedin.com/company/lixil-group.

# **About LIXIL Group**

**LIXIL Group Corporation** (TSE Code: 5938) is the listed holding company containing LIXIL Corporation, LIXIL VIVA CORPORATION and LIXIL Housing Research Institute, Ltd. The Group, which is led by President and CEO Kinya Seto, is involved in a broad spectrum of housing-related businesses, ranging from the manufacture and sales of building materials and housing equipment to the operation of home centers and a network of homebuilding franchises, and comprehensive real estate service. LIXIL Group Corporation posted ¥1.79 trillion in consolidated sales in FYE March 2017.

#### **Reference Material**

#### Overview of LIXIL's Home IoT System

## 1. A unique system that combines a "home controller" and "link controller"

The home IoT system developed by LIXIL is a new system that links various devices, housing products, and sensors in the home over the internet to offer greater convenience and security. It will be the first system in Japan to connect housing products and AI speakers to provide a comprehensive home IoT solution.

#### System configuration

LIXIL's home IoT system consists of a "home controller" that connects and enables the remote operation of appliances and monitoring of energy usage, a "link controller" that enables users to set up a network of sensors and cameras to improve home security, and a proprietary router that connects both controllers. The entire system can be managed through a smartphone app or AI speaker.



By connecting housing products, appliances, and sensors Provides improved convenience and safety





## 2. Realizing the "future of living" with LIXIL's home IoT system

# · Remote operation of housing products and appliances

The home's lighting, appliances, water heater, window shutters, and other fixtures can be remotely controlled using a smartphone app. The user can remotely turn off lights or air conditioning while out of the house, or fill the bath before reaching home. Users worried about whether they locked their doors can also check the lock history through the app, and remotely activate the lock.

Remote
Operation
of housing products and
home electrical appliances,
etc.



## · Automated control with sensors and voice recognition

A wide range of household appliances can be controlled via AI speakers. With just a single word to the AI speakers, users can turn off lights or air conditioning, and close shutters. The system can also be linked to the opening of the front door, and programmed so that lights come on when the door is opened.





#### Monitoring/security while away from home

Users can monitor their homes with a smartphone providing central control of sensors and cameras installed in the house. IP cameras with motion detectors installed in the entranceway can

Security
while away from home





instantly send the user an image via email when children get home, or a suspicious person enters.

## · Visualization of energy and lifestyle habits

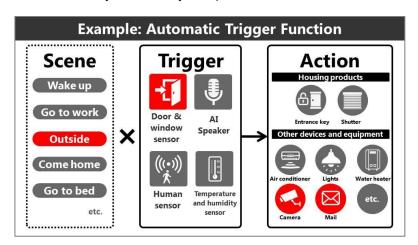
The system provides users with an overall picture of their gas, electricity, and water usage. It will also be able to recommend power companies and plans based on the user's lifestyle patterns.

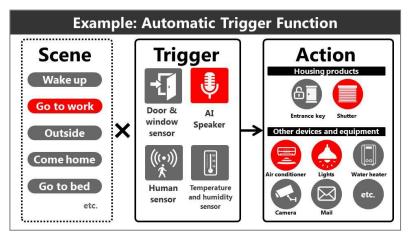




# 3. Highly flexible rule setting functionality

Users can freely create rules to trigger specific actions. This flexibility allows the system settings to be adjusted to meet individual lifestyles or family composition.







Additionally, the operation of infrared remote controls for general home appliances can be combined, enabling users to freely customize features according to their lifestyle.

## 4. Future expansion

When launching this system, LIXIL also plans to offer service packages tailored for specific challenges or purposes, as well as plans that allow flexible customization of needed flexibility.



■ Sales Region: Japan (nationwide)

■ Launch Date: April 2018 (planned)