

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

> December 2, 2015 LIXIL Corporation

# LIXIL IoT House Project to Explore the Future of the Home

Collaboration with Professor Sakamura of Tokyo University

**Tokyo, Japan –** LIXIL Corporation ("LIXIL"), a global leader in housing and building materials, products and services, today announced the LIXIL IoT House Project, an initiative that will involve building a concept house to explore opportunities provided via greater connectivity between people and the home through the Internet of Things (IoT). Working with Professor Ken Sakamura of Tokyo University, LIXIL will pursue the vision of bringing IoT into the average home through a series of research initiatives, including the development of a proof-of-concept verification facility (due to commence from 2017).

As part of its vision to be the world's most valued, innovative and trusted living technology company by 2020, LIXIL is committed to bringing new value into our daily lives through constant innovation.

In pursuit of this vision, LIXIL has already been conducting research on the future of the home, exploring potential applications whereby household products are digitally enabled and data can be collected and analyzed. In 2009, LIXIL opened the U<sup>2</sup>-Home, a research facility that collects data on the utilization of information in an average household through the use of more than two hundred indoor and outdoor sensors. Building on such research, the LIXIL IoT House Project represents the next phase in the pursuit of the future of the home. As part of this project, LIXIL also aims to explore the potential of IoT in the home by monitoring a sample group of employees' homes and validating data in its proof-of-concept evaluation facility.

The LIXIL IoT House Project is to be composed of three phases. The first phase (2015 - 2016) will focus on preliminary experimentation, the second phase (2016 - 2017) will focus on the structure and development of the demonstration environment, and the third phase (2017 and later) will focus on proof-of-concept verification. Through the LIXIL IoT House Project, LIXIL will contribute to society by helping to improve comfort and quality of life.

LIXIL Corporation President and CEO, Yoshiaki Fujimori, said, "LIXIL is extremely pleased to announce this collaboration with Professor Sakamura of Tokyo University, a leading authority globally on IoT. As a leader in the living technology space, LIXIL is uniquely positioned to help realize the home of the future, which we believe goes far beyond IT and gadgets and will transform the future of our living spaces."

# About "U2-Home"

Since 2009, LIXIL has been conducting research utilizing the latest sensors and network technologies to look into the potential of future homes whereby people, objects, the home and society are all

connected. In 2013, LIXIL renovated a sixteen-year-old house as a facility to connect and test various interior and exterior products and technologies developed by LIXIL. Please see the following press release (Japanese only) for further information: http://newsrelease.lixil.co.jp/news/2015/070\_compaony\_0331\_02.html

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## About LIXIL

**LIXIL** is the global leader in housing and building materials products and services. The foundation of LIXIL's success is our constant investment in technological innovation to improve the way we live. Delivering core strengths in water, housing, building and kitchen technologies, our brand portfolio businesses LIXIL, GROHE, American Standard Brands and Permasteelisa are leaders in the industries and regions in which they operate. LIXIL produces some of the world's most fundamental and innovative products and services, and our solutions are an integral part of some of the world's most iconic and cutting-edge living and working spaces. Operating in more than 130 countries, and employing more than 80,000 people, we bring together function, quality and design to make people's lives better, and more delightful – wherever they are.

### 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 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. Led by President and CEO Yoshiaki Fujimori, the Group posted 1.6 trillion JPY in consolidated sales in FY March 2015.