

**For Immediate Release**

**January 17, 2019**

**LIXIL Asia Pacific**

## **LIXIL GETS A BRAND NEW FACILITY FOR ITS ASIA R&D HUB**

*~The Asia R&D Hub will continue to cater to all brands under LIXIL portfolio in Asia~*

**Shanghai, January 17, 2019** – LIXIL, maker of pioneering water and housing products, today opened doors to its new R&D Hub facility in Shanghai. China has been at the very center for all R&D related work in Asia. LIXIL's success in China can be attributed to its commitment to bring the latest products and cutting edge technology in bathrooms to its consumers. It now moves to a state-of-the-art facility to consolidate all of LIXIL's efforts in this regard. The 2,500 square meter facility in China plays a unique role in LIXIL globally compared to other R&D hubs in Japan (HQ), U.S. (American Standard) and Germany (GROHE) as it will serve the most diverse market across all LIXIL brands.

Present during the ceremony were **Hirokazu Yamanashi, Director, Representative Executive Officer and COO, LIXIL Group Corporation; Bijoy Mohan, CEO, LIXIL Asia Pacific;** and **Mike Fan, Vice President, R&D, LIXIL Asia Pacific** amongst other LIXIL senior leadership.



**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

(From left to right: Bijoy Mohan, CEO, LIXIL Asia Pacific; Hirokazu Yamanashi, Director, Representative Executive Officer and COO, LIXIL Group Corporation; Mike Fan, Vice President, R&D, LIXIL Asia Pacific)

Located in the Shanghai Business Park (III), the R&D hub will have a showroom, a lab, and an experience center to showcase the latest technological innovations from LIXIL's family of brands , including American Standard, DXV, INAX, GROHE, and LIXIL. The R&D center's strategic location will enable it to cater to the largest potential consumer base.



LIXIL Group and AP Leadership Team (Partial)

**Bijoy Mohan, LIXIL Asia Pacific CEO** said; *“Asia is the growth driver for LIXIL and is the most diverse region where LIXIL is present across all its brands. China has been the center for all R&D related work in Asia and we are investing in this expansion in China to fuel this growth with a steady line of consumer-centric innovations.”*

He further said; *“At LIXIL we are always focused on innovations that reflect the promises of each of our brands, such as purposeful solutions for everyone with American Standard, inspiring consumers through design and technology with GROHE, and thoughtful and sophisticated products by INAX. The Asia R&D Hub will continue to fulfill these promises through this new facility.”*

**Mike Fan, Vice President, R&D, LIXIL Asia Pacific,** said; *“The Asia R&D Hub follows the concept of ‘Easy Manufacturing’, and integrates testing, experience and training functions together into one model to meet diverse needs across countries. We will focus on upgrading existing technologies, launching more pioneering projects and technologies, and exploring new categories, in order to better solve water and housing challenges.”*

LIXIL has offices in 7 cities (Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Dalian, Suzhou, Wuhan and Chengdu) and 6 manufacturing plants (Suzhou, Dalian, Shanghai, Tianjin, Jiangmen, Huamei). With over 500 stores, LIXIL offers products across its three Water Technology brands in China (INAX, GROHE, and American Standard). In addition to this, LIXIL also has its Housing Technology and Kitchen Technology businesses, which includes brands like TOSTEM and LIXIL (prefabricated bathrooms).

Last year LIXIL also opened its first Fullhome Store in Shanghai last year. The store showcases LIXIL’s family of brands in China, starting with LIXIL, INAX and TOSTEM. Housing the full range of home products under one roof, the showroom is designed to offer a fully immersive and interactive experience, meant to transform the home shopping experience of consumers.

LIXIL's business purpose in Asia is to transform the end-to-end home solutions experience in the region to make it easy, enjoyable, and of true value to the consumer. The Asia R&D Hub manifests its significance in LIXIL's Global R&D journey- being the first one to support all of LIXIL Water Technology brands, realizing new technologies, such as HPC (High Pressure Casting), IoT, E-Bidet (healthcare), Prefab, Digital Solutions, Smart Home, 3D Software / Scanners, CNC (Computer Numeric Control) Machine, enabling LIXIL to stand out as the true industry leader.

**-Ends-**

#### **About LIXIL**

LIXIL makes pioneering water and housing products that solve everyday, real-life challenges, making better homes a reality for everyone, everywhere. Drawing on our Japanese heritage, we create world-leading technology and innovate to make high quality products that transform homes. But the LIXIL difference is how we do this; through meaningful design, an entrepreneurial spirit, a dedication to improving accessibility for all, and responsible business growth. Our approach comes to life through industry leading brands, including INAX, GROHE, American Standard, and TOSTEM, [as well as specialty brands such as DXV]. Over 70,000 colleagues operating in more than 150 countries are proud to make products that touch the lives of more than a billion people every day.

LIXIL Group Corporation (TSE Code: 5938) is the listed holding company for LIXIL's portfolio of businesses.

For more information about LIXIL, please visit <http://www.LIXIL.com/>

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