

**For Immediate Release****October 17, 2019****LIXIL Group Corporation**

## **LIXIL Appoints Nik Bafana as Synergy Creation Officer and Chief Integration Officer**

*Role to accelerate technology transfer from Japan and build key product growth platforms overseas*

**Tokyo** – LIXIL Group Corporation (“LIXIL Group”, TSE Code: 5938), maker of pioneering water and housing products, announced today that Nik Bafana has been appointed Synergy Creation Officer and Chief Integration Officer, effective October 28. He succeeds Yang Chin Chen, who was appointed CEO of LIXIL Water Technology Asia Pacific in July 2019.

In his new role, Bafana will lead the Synergy Creation Office, which promotes the creation of synergies across LIXIL Group’s geographic regions, to accelerate the transfer of technology from Japan into overseas markets. In addition, Bafana will lead New Category Business Development for LIXIL International, established in June 2019, developing the business strategies, business models, and key product platforms for important new growth categories such as shower toilets, prefabricated bathrooms and filtration for the global market. He will also work directly with the Group CEO and business leadership teams to build strategic relationships between LIXIL Group and overseas companies.

“Nik’s expertise will enable LIXIL Group to build on one of our greatest strengths: our ability to roll out the advanced technology and high-end products we have developed in Japan and integrate them across overseas markets via our portfolio of global brands. This is an opportunity unique to LIXIL Group and will be crucial to achieving our goal of becoming the world’s leading bathroom solutions provider,” said LIXIL Group CEO, Kinya Seto.

“LIXIL Group has a tremendous opportunity to leverage synergies across its global business to accelerate growth. Through the transfer of technologies into global markets and by establishing more focused product platforms that work to the advantage of all of regions, we will be able to drive the business forward. I look forward to working with my colleagues to unlock the true potential of LIXIL Group in the global market,” said Bafana.

Bafana brings with him two decades of experience in driving cross-regional strategies, M&A integration, and operational improvements. Since starting his career at The Boston Consulting Group, he has served in a series of management roles, including at W.W. Grainger, Inc.

In the fiscal year ended March 2019, approximately 30% of total revenue was generated by overseas businesses. The majority of overseas sales growth resulted from products developed through synergies within LIXIL Group and new business areas.

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## **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. With approximately 75,000 colleagues operating in more than 150 countries, we 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.**

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