

HOSHIZAKI ACQUIRES EUROPEAN COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATOR MANUFACTURER “GRAM Commercial”

Hoshizaki Electric Co. Ltd., headquartered in Toyoake, Japan is pleased to announce the wholly owned subsidiary, Hoshizaki Europe Holdings B.V., headquartered in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, is to acquire the Danish commercial refrigerator manufacturer Gram Commercial A/S. In accordance with the share purchase agreement which has been entered into on September 1, 2008, with Equity Datterholding 1 (GC) ApS who owns Gram Commercial, the amount to be paid for this acquisition is DKK 395 million (approximately JPN 8.6 Billion).^(Note 1)

Note 1) Payment will be made in Denmark KRONE (DKK), at the exchange rate of DKK 1 = JPY22.

Since its establishment in 1947, Hoshizaki Group has expanded its business in commercial kitchen equipment leveraging its high technology, strong sales and service network. While maintaining a large market share in Japan, Hoshizaki aims to increase its worldwide market share through turnover in overseas markets for continued growth in the commercial kitchen industry.

Hoshizaki business plan is to raise the current overseas turnover rate of 23.8% in consolidated sales to 34% in the fiscal year ending December 2012. To achieve this, it is essential for Hoshizaki to expand its market share in Europe particularly by refrigerator sales.

Gram Commercial is the market leader in terms of quality, functional design, and customer service. Hoshizaki anticipates the synergy with Gram Commercial will create significant growth in both profit and sales.

Gram Commercial, headquartered in Vojens, Denmark, is recognized as a leading manufacturer of commercial refrigerators and freezers in the European food service equipment market and target commercial kitchens utilized in restaurants, canteens, hotels, hospitals, nursing homes and institutions. Following the acquisition, Gram Commercial and Hoshizaki will develop new products combining technologies in energy saving products with natural refrigerant. Through the sales networks of both companies, and the exchange of refrigeration, ice machines and other products, new products will be available to European countries enabling the Hoshizaki Group to promote the globalization of foodservice kitchen equipment.

Photo of Gram Commercial headquarters



Products of Gram Commercial



□ Corporate Profile: Hoshizaki Electric Co., Ltd.

1. Company name: Hoshizaki Electric Co., Ltd.
2. Address of head quarter: 3-16 Minamiyakata, Sakae, City of Toyoake, Aichi
3. Description of business: Development, manufacturing and sales of commercial kitchen equipment such as ice machines, refrigerators, freezers, and dishwashers
4. Annual turnover: 58,015 Million Yen (Consolidated: 178,379 Million Yen)
※ December 2007 financial result
5. Number of employees: 1,301 (Consolidated 9,775) ※ As of December 31st. 2007

□ Corporate Profile: Hoshizaki Europe Holdings B.V.

1. Company name: Hoshizaki Europe Holdings B.V.
2. Address of head quarter: Amsterdam, The Netherlands
3. Description of business: Established in 2003 as 100% owned subsidiary of Hoshizaki Electric Co., Ltd. The holding company retains two subsidiaries in Europe and one subsidiary in Singapore.

□ Corporate Profile: Gram Commercial

1. Company name: Gram Commercial A/S
2. Address of head quarter: City of Vojens, Denmark
3. Description of business: Manufacturing and sales of commercial kitchen equipments such as refrigerators and blast chillers(Note 2). Main market segments are hotel, restaurant, medical sectors and food outlets such as pubs and bakeries.
Holds sales subsidiaries in Denmark, UK, Germany and Holland, and branches in France, Austria and Scandinavian countries.
Note 2) Blast Chiller · · · Kitchen equipment to rapidly cool cooked food to maintain food taste in hygienic way.
4. Annual turnover: 6,900 Million Yen ※December 2008 expected.
(1DKK=22Yen) 7,400 Million Yen is expected in December 2009.
5. Number of employees: 217 as of 2008
6. Remarks: In 2000, Gram Commercial became independent from Gram A/S established in 1901. Market share of commercial refrigerators in North Europe is currently ranked the 3rd. (Gram self-estimated)