

280th Business Plan Presentations Held on September 8 2026

Tech Hub Yokohama

1. Bioworks Corporation / President & Representative Director: Koji Sakamoto

Established: October 2015 | Capital Stock: JPY 1,657.36 million (approx. USD 10.4 million, including capital reserve)

Bioworks Corporation is a venture firm that is taking up the challenge of resolving environmental issues in the global textile industry, with a focus on the apparel and fashion fields, by applying Japanese manufacturing technology.

After more than 10 years of research and development, it has succeeded in creating the PlaX textile. This is a synthetic textile composed entirely of plant-derived material, and could replace oil-derived polyester textile, which current accounts for about 60 percent of the global textile market. As compared to polyester, it offers a reduction of CO2 emissions by between 50 and 70 percent, and is not made with any petroleum. The company is already receiving inquiries from many global apparel brands, which are promoting the value of its fabric. In Japan as well, its products are used by more than 70 companies, including THE NORTH FACE.

Besides being environment-friendly, PlaX has naturally-derived effects against bacteria and malodors, is gentle to the skin thanks to its weak acidity, and delivers an excellent performance as regards speedy drying. These features make it a material with a great suitability for underwear, T-shirts, socks, sports/outdoor wear, baby wear, towels, bedsheets, and other items. The company is continuing its quest to help this new material spread from Japan to the rest of the world.

【Commentary】 Mr. Sakamoto described how the textile industry places a heavy burden on the environment through factors including emission of greenhouse gases, generation of microplastics, and use of water in huge quantities. He said that the PlaX textile developed by his company improved resistance to heat, the product service life, and dyeability by adding plant-derived additives to polylactic acid (PLA), a biomass material. Moreover, because companies can use the manufacturing process and existing supply chains for ordinary polyester, it does not require special facilities and enables large-scale mass production even on the level of tens of thousands of tons. Mr. Sakamoto added that the company was receiving large subsidies for supply chain construction and had its eye on listing along with the advancement of its business going forward.



2. SUSTAINABLE CREATE Co.,Ltd. / President & Representative Director: Takeshi Ohshima

Established: August 2025 | Capital Stock: JPY 5.225 million (approx. USD 33,000)

SUSTAINABLE CREATE is currently developing Diaper Wash 100, the first dedicated treatment unit in Japan for used disposable diapers directed to businesses that generate them, such as hospitals and nursing facilities. It expects the unit to remain in development in 2026, but to enter production and sales in 2027. Rooted in the idea of “washing” disposable diapers without use of thermal energy (fossil fuels), the unit is a compact one that treats only used disposable diapers by sorting to recover plastic and pulp, and recycling of these materials by turning them back into resources and energy.

The company is receiving the cooperation of ShinMaywa Industries, Ltd. for manufacture of the prototype unit and WOTA Corp. for water treatment technology. Thus far, it has manufactured up to three prototype models, each an improvement on the previous model. A remaining task is high-efficiency recovery of the final pulp. It is planning to complete the fourth prototype model by the end of September and launch on-site proving tests in the field, at medical and nursing institutions (from two to three), beginning in October.

Thereafter, the plans call for the addition of final refinements and completion of the unit by the end of the year. The company has in mind consignment of the production to ShinMaywa Industries and organization of a sales setup that would divide Japan into eight blocks and consist of sales agencies (medical-service-related firms with sales routes to medical and nursing facilities). It envisions the start of sales in the area of Sapporo, Hokkaido and the Kanto area. In Hokkaido, it has already concluded an agency contract with HOKUYAKU TAKEYAMA Holdings, Inc. (the leading wholesaler of medical materials in Hokkaido). It wants to commence sales nationwide beginning in the second year. In terms of the number of units, it is planning for sales of about 50 in the first (fiscal) year, 210 in the second, and 240 beginning in the third.

【Commentary】 SUSTAINABLE CREATE has posted the mission of building a society that converts used disposable diapers into resources for circulation in the community instead of incinerating them, through application of resource recycling technology. As social background factors, Mr. Ohshima observed that used disposable diapers number about 30 billion per year, and that more than 90 percent of them are incinerated. In 2030, the yearly quantity is forecast to reach between 2.5 and 2.6 million tons. He also said that, as sales targets, his company was considering initially focusing on hospitals and nursing facilities, and then expanding the business to include kindergartens, local self-governing bodies, disaster response, and even overseas markets.



【感想】 Although one company had to cancel its presentation at short notice, the event was well attended both online and in person, making it a successful event.

The companies that presented this time are each working to drive innovation in their respective fields and create new markets. We look forward to seeing their continued growth and future activities.

NPO Venture Support Mechanism MINERVA
TNP Partners / ARKAS TNP Capital /
TNP THREADS OF LIGHT