

September 21, 2021

KANEKA CORPORATION

Use of KANEKA Biodegradable Polymer Green Planet™ expands to ITO EN's tea beverages following vegetable juices

- Adopted for telescopic straws in 250 ml paper cartons of “Oi Ocha Green Tea”, “Oi Ocha Roasted Green Tea”, and “Healthy Mineral Barley Tea” -

Telescopic straws made from KANEKA Biodegradable Polymer Green Planet™ (referred to below as "Green Planet™") by Kaneka Corporation (Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; President: Minoru Tanaka) have been selected by ITO EN, Ltd. (Headquarters: Shibuya-ku, Tokyo; President: Daisuke Honjo) for use in 250 ml paper carton tea beverages of “Oi Ocha Green Tea”, “Oi Ocha Roasted Green Tea”, and “Healthy Mineral Barley Tea”. These tea beverages with the telescopic straws will be sold in supermarkets and other outlets across Japan, starting from October 4th. Adoption of telescopic straws is being expanded, following ITO EN's “Jujitsu Yasai” with lactic-acid bacilli mixed which was introduced in June this year.

Green Planet™ is a 100% plant-derived biodegradable polymer developed by Kaneka. With its excellent biodegradability in a wide range of environments, Green Planet™ has been certified as biodegradable in seawater by “OK Biodegradable MARINE”*. ITO EN, Ltd. established the “ITO EN Group Medium- to Long-Term Environmental Goals” in November 2020 and has since been furthering initiatives to reduce its environmental impact. Green Planet™ was selected by ITO EN, Ltd. for its contribution to reducing marine pollution.

Based on our mission of “Kaneka thinks Wellness First”, Kaneka provides value globally as a solutions provider. Through the market development of Green Planet™, Kaneka will continue to help solve the problem of environmental pollution.

* Biodegrades at least 90% in seawater (30°C) within 6 months. The "OK Biodegradable MARINE" certificate was issued to Green Planet™ (formerly called PHBH™) in September 2017 by Vincotte, an international certifying body headquartered in Belgium. TÜV AUSTRIA Belgium NV took over the certification work from Vincotte in December 2017.



Oi Ocha
Green Tea



Oi Ocha
Roasted Green Tea



Healthy Mineral
Barley Tea



The telescopic straws made from
Green Planet™