

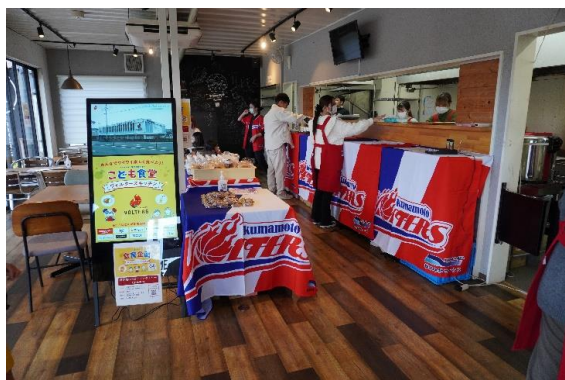
December 16, 2024

NOK Corporation

NOK Donates Locally Harvested Rice to Support Children's Cafeteria in Kumamoto

NOK Corporation (Headquarters: Shibadaimon, Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, Group Chief Executive Officer: Masao Tsuru; hereinafter "NOK") has entered into an official partnership agreement for the regular season with Kumamoto Basketball Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Kumamoto City, Kumamoto Prefecture; President: Satoshi Yunoue; hereinafter "Kumamoto Volters"), the operator of the professional basketball team Kumamoto Volters. Together, they are engaged in activities to revitalize the local community, focusing on supporting children.

As part of these efforts, NOK has donated rice to VOLTERS KITCHEN, a children's cafeteria operated by the Kumamoto Volters, since 2023. This year, NOK contributed freshly harvested rice grown under the Rice Paddy Owner Program, harvested in October and donated in November. The rice was used to prepare curry rice meals served to over 200 children and their families at VOLTERS KITCHEN events held on Sunday, November 17, and Saturday, December 7.



At VOLTERS KITCHEN, children enjoyed curry rice made with freshly harvested rice.

With its Kumamoto Plant located in Aso City, Kumamoto Prefecture, NOK has been a proud supporter of the Kumamoto Volters since 2019. By introducing children to the joy of sports and fostering enthusiasm for local teams, NOK aims to deepen their connection to the region. In collaboration with the Kumamoto Volters, NOK has undertaken various initiatives.

The donation of rice to VOLTERS KITCHEN, a children's cafeteria established by the Kumamoto Volters in 2022, began in 2023. In 2024, NOK delivered 40 kilograms of freshly harvested rice in November following its October harvest. By contributing a portion of this rice, NOK supports the continuity of VOLTERS KITCHEN's activities, helps expand community engagement and fosters stronger connections.

The donated rice comes from the Rice Paddy Owner Program, an initiative supported by NOK since 2019 as part of its groundwater conservation efforts in partnership with the Kumamoto Groundwater Foundation. NOK owns a 737 m² rice paddy in Ozu Town, Kikuchi District, and NOK employees and their families participate in farming activities. This year, the field produced approximately 270 kilograms of rice. The harvested rice is donated annually to VOLTERS KITCHEN and food banks in Kumamoto City, helping to support the wider community.

■ Supporting children's growth with locally produced fresh rice at VOLTERS KITCHEN

The VOLTERS KITCHEN events on Sunday, November 17, and Saturday, December 7, welcomed over 200 children and their families. This time, the menu featured curry rice and a selection of sweets, offering a satisfying and enjoyable meal. Participants were delighted to learn that the rice used in the curry was locally grown and freshly harvested. Many shared their impressions, saying, "The rice is glossy and delicious" and "It has a wonderful aroma and a fluffy texture." The meal provided a memorable and fulfilling dining experience, showcasing the unique flavors of fresh rice.



NOK employees also provide support



Curry rice made with freshly harvested rice
from the Rice Paddy Owner Program

■ Comment from NOK Kumamoto Plant

At NOK Kumamoto Plant, supporting the next generation of children is central to our efforts. As part of this commitment, we deliver rice harvested through the Rice Paddy Owner Program to local children via VOLTERS KITCHEN. It's rewarding to see the children enjoying the rice we harvested and spending quality time together. We hope this initiative strengthens their connection to the Kumamoto Volters and nurtures a deeper sense of local pride.

With over 50 years of history in the region, we remain dedicated to contributing to the development of the community and fostering its growth.

■ Supporting and nurturing the next generation through partnership with the Kumamoto Volters

NOK is proud to support the Kumamoto Volters while contributing to the healthy growth of local children and energizing Kumamoto Prefecture.

Key initiatives for children:

- Inviting 100 children per day to attend sponsored games.
- Distributing novelty goods to children on a first-come, first-served basis at sponsored games.
- Hosting "Dream Caravan," a basketball clinic led by Kumamoto Volters players for elementary and junior high school students, using NOK Kumamoto Plant's gymnasium as the venue.
- Donating logo-branded basketballs to teams participating in Dream Caravan as a donation partner.
- Providing the NOK Kumamoto Plant gymnasium as the activity base for the Kumamoto Volters' regional junior high school club, Kumamoto Volters U15 Aso.
- Organizing factory tours for children from Kumamoto Volters U15 Aso to deepen their understanding of local businesses that utilize the gymnasium.

■ Overview of VOLTERS KITCHEN events featuring NOK's rice donations

- 1st event date/venue: November 17, 2024 / Medimesse Sakura Juji (Chuo Ward, Kumamoto City, Kumamoto Prefecture)
- 2nd event date/venue: December 7, 2024 / Marubishi Holdings (Mashiki Town, Kamimashiki District, Kumamoto Prefecture)
- Participants: Approximately 100 children and adults at each event
- Details: The events provided affordable meals and sweets for children while creating a space for community interaction. Inspired by the Kumamoto Volunteers, these gatherings brought people together to share meals, engage in conversations, and create moments of joy and connection.

■ Additional Initiatives by NOK Kumamoto Plant to support and nurture the next generation

As a responsible corporate citizen, the NOK Group values communication with local communities, striving to be trusted and respected while fostering mutual growth. In particular, the company focuses on activities that contribute to the sustainable development of the communities where its facilities are located and initiatives that support and nurture the next generation. At the NOK Kumamoto Plant, the following activities are undertaken:

- Donation of rice harvested through the Kumamoto Groundwater Foundation's Rice Paddy Owner Program. Since 2019, the rice has been donated annually to Food Bank Kumamoto via the Kumamoto City Children's Cafeteria Support Project.
- Sponsorship of the Aso Elementary School Baseball Rookie Tournament. Held annually in October, this event is co-sponsored by three companies within the NOK Group.
- Hosting volleyball clinics by the women's volleyball team FOREST LEAVES KUMAMOTO. The first session was held in September 2024.
- Providing the NOK Kumamoto Plant gymnasium for public use. The gym is made available for activities such as high school club practices and preschool sports events (in case of rain).

■ Sustainability initiatives through sponsorship of the Rice Paddy Owner Program

The rice donated to VOLTERS KITCHEN is harvested through the Rice Paddy Owner Program, organized by the Kumamoto Groundwater Foundation. Located in Aso City, Kumamoto Prefecture, the NOK Kumamoto Plant benefits from the area's abundant water resources, drawing groundwater for industrial use in producing seal products. Recognizing its reliance on this vital resource, the plant has sponsored the program since 2019 to support groundwater conservation.

By collaborating with local producers, the program repurposes fallow rice paddies, maintaining these fields as natural groundwater recharge systems while supporting the region's rice production — a key local industry. These efforts address regional challenges, such as the shortage of agricultural workers. Additionally, the program plays a role in preserving the beautiful satoyama* landscapes of Aso.

* Satoyama: Traditional Japanese rural landscapes where agricultural land, forests, and human settlements coexist in harmony with nature.



Rice planting in June 2024



Rice harvesting in October 2024



Participants in the 2024 Rice Paddy Owner Program rice harvest

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■ About NOK Group

The NOK Group is dedicated to "Essential Core Manufacturing — The manufacture of pivotal products that shape society." Through this approach the Group demonstrates its commitment to providing greater safety and comfort, the cornerstones of a prosperous society. The NOK Group consists of 93 companies located in 15 countries and regions with approximately 38,000 employees.

Product development is built upon a robust base of foundational research, resulting in large-scale, stable and high-quality production. Moving forward, the Group will continue to provide technologies and products for all industrial areas including automobiles and other mobility sectors, electronic products — centered on PCS and smartphones- office automation equipment, medical and healthcare devices, industrial robots, and satellites.

■ About NOK Kumamoto Plant

NOK Kumamoto Plant produces O-rings and other seal products; one of NOK's core products designed to seal gases and liquids. These seal products are widely used in various applications, including automobiles, construction machinery, agricultural equipment, and residential systems.

Location: 2089 Nagakusa, Aso City, Kumamoto Prefecture