

Coca-Cola bottlers Japan's Hakushu plant earns AWS gold certification

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Coca-Cola Bottlers Japan Inc. (CCBJI) announced that its Hakushu Plant (Hokuto City, Yamanashi Prefecture) has earned the Gold Certification of Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) Standard, an international certification for the responsible use and management of water resources (water stewardship). This is the first time for a CCBJI plant to earn an AWS Standard certification.

The AWS Standard is an international framework for water stewardship, defined as the use of water in a manner that is socially and culturally equitable, environmentally sustainable, and economically beneficial. The AWS Standard promotes water resource management across watersheds by fostering collaboration with stakeholders and water-using sites. It also establishes criteria to ensure water is used and managed responsibly.

At CCBJI, we are committed to conserving water resources, aiming to reduce water usage by 30 per cent by 2030 and achieve a 200 per cent water source replenishment rate by 2025. Our plants strictly control the water used in production, continuously refine manufacturing processes and facilities, and set targets to lower the Water Use Ratio (WUR) per litre of product. Additionally, we identify challenges in our plants' water sources through scientific surveys conducted by a specialised agency and the Coca-Cola System's Source Vulnerability Assessment (SVA). Based on these findings, we formulate a Water Management Plan (WMP) and implement disaster countermeasures and replenishment activities at plant water sources. Identified, land-specific water risks and vulnerabilities are compiled into a Facility Water Vulnerability Assessment (FAWVA) report, which includes risk response measures. These detailed and verified reports guide the Coca-Cola System in Japan in developing medium- to long-term strategies for sustainable water resource conservation, flood impact mitigation, and improved water use efficiency.