## Introduction to Valqua Technology News No. 38 Winter 2020



We sincerely wish everyone a happy spring of the second year of Reiwa era. Thank you for regularly reading the Valqua Technology News.

In the era of Reiwa, interest and expectations for the role of innovation for corporate growth are increasing. In the changes brought by technological innovations such as IoT and AI, there is a transition that requires a single product technology development solution to be combined with other technology solutions, and that complex and diversified new value-added products and services be offered to the market. In addition, in technology development to support this change, creating results that pursue efficiency and speed, and establishing an ecosystem of technology development that organically connects a wide variety of technology development activities that are being deployed globally is essential, and such is being implemented under the keyword of open innovation involving industry, government, and private sectors.

In this trend, we have taken various measures in our mid-term business plan NV·S8, which began in 2018, to keep up with the times. In particular, in the previous year, we opened the Valqua Advanced Materials Technology Research Laboratory of in the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology and promoted the creation of a system that utilizes technologies from startup companies, such as those in Silicon Valley. In the new medium-term management plan beginning from this year, using these new technological solutions, we will incorporate cutting-edge new materials, sensing technology, and IoT and AI technology into core technology areas such as sealing technology that we have accumulated since our founding, and resin processing technology such as fluororesin, as well as strengthen our technology development activities to provide H&S products in areas that encompass everything from hardware products to services with solutions that customers truly seek. Furthermore, in order to provide cutting-edge technology solutions to the market as high-quality products, we are promoting activities that include the introduction of RPA for production technology innovation.

Against this background, in this issue of Technology News, we look ahead to the introduction of next-generation technologies that we are promoting, firstly focusing on the core technology of seal engineering, which is the base, and prepared an essay introducing our technology and an introduction to our core products. As for the technical essay, it is an analysis of the effect of the tightening method on the sealing characteristics of large-diameter flanged fasteners, consideration of compression behavior due to gland packing tightening, and performance evaluation of semi-metallic gaskets that readers can refer to for safety and security of their plants. Furthermore, as for the introduction to our products, we take up the quick opening and closing cylinder valve and the newly developed cleaning Spray Ball<sup>TM</sup>, the usefulness of which has been once again recognized in the market, and provide useful information for customers in future product selections.

Thank you for your patronage and we hope you will continue to enjoy the Valqua Technology News this year.

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