



Press Release

April 24, 2025  
Calbee, Inc.

## Calbee Expands Research Building at Utsunomiya R&D Center

*Building is now twice as large, enhances core R&D capabilities, and modernizes how teams work*



**Tokyo** – Calbee, Inc. (“Calbee”) announced today that it has completed the expansion of the Research Building at its R&D Center in Utsunomiya City, Japan. The building now offers nearly double the total floor area and triple the space dedicated to research. Its expansion is designed to strengthen Calbee’s expertise in basic, applied, and quality-focused research, as well as in flavor and texture development—key drivers of its long-term innovation and growth.

## Background

Since its opening in 2004, Calbee's R&D Center has served as the company's hub for research and development, as well as pilot-scale production of new products.

Within the Research Building, Calbee carries out research such as on the benefits of natural ingredients, as well as product development efforts such as creating new product concepts and packaging solutions. To foster greater collaboration, Calbee has added new areas to and renovated the building. Construction began in February 2024 and was completed on April 1, 2025.

## Features of the Research Building

The expanded Research Building dedicates nearly three times as much space to research, significantly increasing the number of laboratories. At the heart of the facility is an open workspace designed around Activity-Based Working (ABW)\*<sup>1</sup> and a free-address system. This environment allows employees to choose where they work based on their daily tasks and preferences—encouraging cross-departmental collaboration and supporting both productivity and job satisfaction.

To further enhance the working environment, the building incorporates the principles of Biophilic design. Locally sourced wood and Oya stone from Tochigi Prefecture are used throughout the workspace interiors. By integrating natural textures and materials, the space is designed to reduce stress and promote focus.



*Laboratory*



*Workspace*

## Driving Growth Through Research

As part of its growth strategy, Calbee has set a target of achieving a 5% sales ratio from new business areas, focusing on expanding its agribusiness and the food and health sectors. Research efforts cover crops such as potatoes, sweet potatoes, and beans, as well as emerging fields like gut health and sleep.

Calbee will continue to strengthen its research foundation and develop its R&D talent—contributing to healthier lives and a more sustainable future.

**Comment:**



Today, we open a new chapter with the renewal of Calbee's Research Building. Now nearly twice the size, with triple the research space, and more laboratories, the expansion enables us to further strengthen our research and development capabilities. To grow into a company that thrives well beyond 100 years, strengthening our research foundation is essential. We will continue advancing our research to contribute to the health, well-being, and joy of people everywhere.

- Masae Nakano, Chief Technology Officer, Calbee, Inc.

**Overview of Building**

**Name:** Research Building, R&D Center, Calbee, Inc.

**Location:** 23-6 Kiyohara Industrial Park, Utsunomiya City, Tochigi Prefecture, Japan

**R&D Center Site Area:** Approx. 45,400 m<sup>2</sup>

**Building Floor Area:** Approx. 9,100 m<sup>2</sup> (New Area: Approx. 5,100 m<sup>2</sup> / Existing Area: Approx. 4,000 m<sup>2</sup>)

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**Note to Editors:**

- More information about Calbee's growth strategy, 'Change 2025', is available [here](#).

**About the Calbee Group**

Since 1949, we have embraced our corporate philosophy of "harnessing nature's gifts, bringing taste and fun, and contributing to healthy lifestyles." As a company that provides essential goods, we place sustainability at the core of our management approach, creating the future of food by solving social issues through our corporate activities. (<https://www.calbee.co.jp/en/>)