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THEY  
CHOSE  
FRANCE

IN 2020

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# THEY CHOSE FRANCE

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MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND DEVICES

After opening its new factory in Lieusaint (Ile de France/Paris region) in 2019, Iris Ohyama, which specializes in the production of a wide variety of interior and everyday products for the general public, decided to set up a surgical mask manufacturing line there, which until now it produced only in China. This €8 million investment, decided on at the height of the Covid-19 crisis in April 2020, will be operational in the first quarter of 2021. Thirty machines will be installed, with a production capacity of 40 million masks per month, resulting in the creation of 70 jobs. Even before this project was launched, and faced with the shortage of medical equipment seen at the start of the crisis in Europe, the Japanese firm had agreed to donate 500,000 masks to healthcare professionals in France.



KOKUSAI PULP&PAPER CO.,LTD.

GLASS, CERAMICS, MINERALS, WOOD, PAPER

KPP specializes in the distribution of pulp and stationery products, which is now gaining strength in new sectors (packaging, visual communication media, etc.). Due to the stagnation of the stationery market in Japan, the group is seeking new opportunities outside Asia through mergers and acquisitions. This is what led it to take over the French company Antalis, one of the world's largest distributors of industrial paper and packaging as well as media for audiovisual communication, which was in difficulty following the judicial liquidation of its majority shareholder in 2019. This investment, which was made in the summer of 2020, consolidates the position of Antalis, whose head office is located in Boulogne-Billancourt and which employs more than 500 people in France. It also allows KPP to establish itself in Europe by benefiting from the expertise of the French company in the priority sectors of the group.

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## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND DEVICES

Nipro, the Japanese leader in disposable medical equipment (glass tubes, injection needles, transfusion equipment, etc.) decided to expand its factory of glass tubes for pharmaceutical use located in Aumale, Normandie (Nipro Pharmapackaging France). This project will comprise the construction of a new building, as well as the installation and commissioning of two new furnaces for 2022 and 2024. The firm has decided to launch this major investment to meet the glass shortage that exists on the French and European markets and the needs of large pharmaceutical company customers, such as Sanofi Pasteur, who have "premium" quality requirements for drawn glass tubes intended to be used for vaccines. This project, worth €45 million, will create 30 new jobs within two years.



## AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

In 2019, Toyota announced plans to expand its car assembly plant in Onnaing (Hauts de France region) for the launch of a second sport utility vehicle (SUV) model. The plant has so far produced only one model, the Yaris, since opening in 2001. In 2018, the group had already invested €300 million to introduce a new platform to produce an additional model. This new announcement involves an additional investment of €100 million and the creation of 400 permanent jobs. The first models of the new vehicle will leave the factory in 2021, with 300,000 vehicles expected to be manufactured every year, up from the 224,000 produced in 2019.

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Production and design: Business France

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