



**TAIYO NIPPON SANSO**  
The Gas Professionals

June 14, 2017

Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation

### **TNSC and LPW Announce Strategic Alliance for AM metal powder**

Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation (TNSC) and LPW Technology Ltd, today announced a strategic alliance to drive the adoption of AM into the production environment. TNSC is one of the world's largest suppliers of industrial, specialty, and electronic gases. LPW Technology is the leading global provider of metal powder and metal powder quality control solutions for 3D Printing and Additive Manufacturing (AM).

Through their extensive sales and distribution channels, TNSC will be supplying a new range of AM metal powders developed and optimised by LPW Technology. This forms part of a total solution including gases, metal powders, and metal heat treatment techniques. All products will be readily-available through TNSC's established sales network. Initially, the LPW products will be available through TNSC group sales hubs in Singapore and China, and in the USA through its subsidiary company Matheson Tri-Gas.

Metal welding solutions are considered by many as the basic building blocks of today's 3D metal printing technologies. TNSC will leverage its industry expertise in welding processes, metal heat treatment and controlled gas atmospheres to help lower costs, streamline production and eliminate defects for metal AM customers globally.

With the demand for AM metal powder forecast to grow by around 60% in 2017, LPW is investing in new UK based manufacturing facilities capable of processing 1000 tons of metal powder each year. Building on its R&D and applications expertise, the company has already developed a comprehensive range of metal AM products and services. In addition to new alloys, LPW has developed PowderLife.

PowderLife is a unique Additive Manufacturing (AM) powder lifecycle management solution to control and manage the traceability and quality of metal powders within the customer's AM process. It includes powder storage hoppers, sensors to monitor the powder, and software to store all the material related data from atomisation through to use within the AM machine. With a laser-like focus on safety critical aerospace, biomedical, automotive and energy sectors, LPW is certified to ISO 9001, AS9100, AS9120, and ISO 13485.

With plans to offer differentiated technology solutions by welding and heat treatment expertise, TNSC has a dedicated Additive Manufacturing technical team at its gas application R&D lab in Yamanashi, Japan, and will work with LPW, supported by technology alliances with industry partners including established AM machine manufacturer, Optomec. This will be the first integrated Metal Additive Manufacturing Technology Lab in Asia and is dedicated to advancing the uptake of metal AM around the world.