

[Company Profile]

Address	753 Hoshiro, Himeji, Hyogo 670-0804, Japan
No. of employees	100 (as of January 2015)
Capital	51 million yen
Founding	June 1961 (started business in 1954)
Representative	Yoshitaka Sawa, Representative Director

[Business Overview]

Surface treatment: adding extra functions, including corrosion resistance, conductivity, and hardness, to metallic or resin components by applying plating, such as electroplating and electroless plating

[Technology]

Surface Treatment Manufacturer Capable of Applying Surface Treatment Using Full-automatic Lines



Full-automatic rotating barrel acidic zinc plating apparatus No. 6, equipped with a carrier-type after-treatment device



Full-automatic reel-to-reel copper/nickel/silver plating apparatus No.1

In various technology fields, companies engage in fierce competition to develop new technologies. Under these circumstances, surface treatment technology is and will remain indispensable because it can provide the multifunctional protection features (color stability, corrosion resistance, hardness, conductivity etc.) to the material surface. Since the company foundation in 1954, Sawa Plating Industries Co., Ltd. has long provided stable, high-quality plating. Directing our energies into automatic treatment from the beginning, we now boast high-level industrial technology and process management. Application of more than 50 different high-quality plating is available at one time by using over 70 automatic lines, enabling shipment the day after we receive the materials to be plated. Our excellent technology enables treatment to be applied to products in various sizes, from 2 μm to 3 m, with ~~coating~~ the plating film thicknesses from 10 nm to 5 mm (electroformed molds for LIGA processing). Furthermore, we take charge of every phase of surface treatment, from quality assurance to distribution. Our

current capabilities is the result of our efforts for thorough mechanization and manpower saving. High-quality plating with short lead time is available not only for mass-produced products but also for high-variety products produced in low volumes, including antimicrobial plating “KENI FINE,” which helps guard against E. coli O157, MRSA, and other pathogenic bacteria, great concerns in our modern daily life. The department in charge of facilities, which helps us provide our high levels of treatment, is vigorously working on maintenance for automatic treatment apparatuses and development/manufacture of jigs for distinctively shaped products.

[History of development]

In step with the rapid advancement and proliferation of technologies, we strive to meet the needs of a wide range of industries by enabling application of surface treatment to all new materials using our enhanced development capabilities. We stay busy continuing our research and development to improve plating performance globally through unified efforts, for example, by publishing our *SAWA Technical Report* to foster better understanding and awareness of ever-evolving surface treatment technologies. As a result, we have succeeded in applying plating to many materials, treatments previously thought difficult, one after another.

[Originality]

Automobile components are required to maintain stable quality for a long time at high temperatures and humidity. To endure stable quality, we of course control the coatings we apply every day. Furthermore, we also manage surface treatment solutions on our own. Besides general plating with gold, silver, copper, iron, nickel, hard chrome, zinc, and zinc alloys, we also deal with chemical conversion coating, electrodeposition coating, and antimicrobial plating. Sawa Plating Industries Co., Ltd. can provide one-stop service, from prototype plating to mass production. In addition, the manufacture of electroformed molds for LIGA processing is also available.

[Future development]

Sawa Plating Industries Co., Ltd. is proficient in both electroplating and electroless plating. In addition, to further improve our services, a heat treatment plant is now under construction. Heat treatment related to plating technology includes baking treatment to prevent hydrogen embrittlement, reflow (re-melting) treatment to prevent the occurrence of whiskers, and heat treatment to increase hardness and abrasion resistance of plated coatings. Future commencement of the new plant’s operations will realize a seamless system for plating by applying heat treatment to enable plated materials to have ideal hardness and toughness. We strongly believe that the new plant will help enhance the reliability and functionality of our products.

[Corporate History]

- 2017 Certified as a Hyogo “Only-one” Company for FY 2017
- 2005 Obtained ISO 14001:2004 certification
- 2003 Participated in the Hyogo Prefecture COE Program designed to support industry-academia-government collaboration

- 2002 Obtained ISO 9001:2000 certification
- 2001 Started antimicrobial plating
- 2000 Yoshitaka Sawa took up the post of Representative Director.
- 1961 The plant was relocated (753 Hojo, Himeji) and Sawa Plating Industries Co., Ltd. was established.
- 1959 Relocated to 2-70 Kamiya-cho, Himeji, and the number of employees increased to 30.
- 1954 Hisayoshi Sawa founded Sawa Plating Company (3-37 Tatsunomachi, Himeji) and started business with three employees.