

Press release | Alicante, 8th February 2024

Nippon Gases supports the ELLIS Alicante Foundation

Nippon Gases makes a donation to ELLIS Alicante to support research and innovation in Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Europe

Nippon Gases, the European business of **Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation**, leader in the industrial, medical and semiconductor gases sector, announces its support to the ELLIS Alicante Foundation. The company has made a donation to the non-profit organization that promotes research and innovation in the field of responsible artificial intelligence (AI) for social good in Europe.

ELLIS Alicante is part of ELLIS, the European network of excellence in AI, fostering talent, collaboration and knowledge exchange among the leading research centres and companies in the sector. Artificial Intelligence is a key technology for the future, which offers solutions to the major social, economic and environmental challenges facing the world.

This contribution reaffirms Nippon Gases' ongoing dedication to fostering sustainable development within the European industrial sector and driving digital transformation across companies and society. The company takes pride in its role in advancing Artificial Intelligence in Europe, finding satisfaction in its meaningful contribution to this progress. *"Through this donation, Nippon Gases aims to support the development of Artificial Intelligence in Europe with the values of our society, contributing to promote gender equality in the sector and a safe advancement in the digitalization of our industry."* said Eduardo Gil, President of **Nippon Gases**.

"We are convinced that Artificial Intelligence is a fundamental tool to improve the quality of life of people and to generate new business opportunities. That is why we want to support Fundación ELLIS Alicante, which performs an essential work to promote the European Artificial Intelligence ecosystem and to attract and retain talent in this field".

Nuria Oliver, co-founder and Scientific Director at ELLIS Alicante, thanked Nippon Gases for their gesture and highlighted the importance of having the support of the private sector: *"ELLIS Alicante is thrilled to formalize this collaboration with Nippon Gases. In the name of the Foundation, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for their generous support. Their dedication to foster more gender diversity in engineering is fully aligned with our values and our actions to build diverse teams and bring a gender perspective to AI research. Furthermore, Nippon Gases' commitment to supporting our research in responsible AI for Social Good not only propels our mission forward but, I am sure, will serve as an inspiration for others. I look forward to many years of joint work to achieve a more inclusive and sustainable future with the help of AI."*

The signing of this partnership between the company and the foundation took place yesterday at Fundación ELLIS Alicante headquarters in Alicante, with Eduardo Gil and Nuria Oliver, alongside César Callejo and Astrid Nilsen—CIO and Talent Director Europe, respectively, at Nippon Gases.

By supporting ELLIS Alicante, Nippon Gases contributes to the ethical development of Artificial Intelligence, guaranteeing a safe future for all its stakeholders.



About ELLIS Alicante | <http://www.ellisalicante.org/ia>

ELLIS Alicante is a private non-profit foundation focused on research in ethical, responsible, and socially beneficial Artificial Intelligence (AI).

ELLIS Alicante is part of ELLIS (European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems - www.ellis.eu), the European network of research excellence in Artificial Intelligence. It is the first Spanish unit to be part of ELLIS and the only one created from scratch, with the spirit of a scientific startup and a clear focus on people-centered Artificial Intelligence. Hence, it is nicknamed the Institute of Humanity-Centered Artificial Intelligence. The aspiration is to become a European and global reference in AI research for and by people. To achieve this, ELLIS Alicante develops three fundamental research areas: 1) AI that understands us; 2) AI that interacts with us; 3) AI we trust.

ELLIS Alicante has been established thanks to the drive, commitment, and funding from the Generalitat Valenciana. It also receives funding from various public and private institutions, including the Banco Sabadell Foundation, the Balearia Foundation, Intel, and Nippon Gases. The foundation's work has been awarded significant prizes, including the 500k XPRIZE Pandemic Response Challenge by Cognizant (2021) and the Social Innovation Award (2022)

About Nippon Gases

Nippon Gases, one of the leading industrial and medical gases companies in Europe, is part of the Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation, which has over 100 years of experience and also boasts a major presence in Japan, Southeast Asia, Australia, the United States and Canada, operating in more than 30 countries with above 20,000 employees around the world. Our presence in Europe positions us as a leading company with over 3,200 employees of which 27% are women, operating today in 13 countries and serving more than 150,000 customers. Safety, priority number one in our company, is constantly improving due to the search for risk factors and behaviours, and the observance of our safety principles by all our employees. Nippon Gases commitment to our customers, employees and associates and to the communities in which we operate is a reflection of our dedication to the environment and to sustainability. Together, we are "The Gas Professionals" and we all have the same goal: "Making life better through gas technology".

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