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For Immediate Release

SHINAGAWA GROUP: Gouda Refractories Group Celebrates 125 Years of Excellence

On May 29, 2026, Gouda Refractories Group celebrated a remarkable milestone: 125 years of innovation, craftsmanship, and excellence in the refractory industry.



Founded in 1901, Gouda Refractories Group has grown into a leading supplier of refractory solutions across the world, operating its main manufacturing facilities in the Netherlands along with four service locations throughout Europe. The company is particularly recognized for its high-alumina refractory bricks, castables, and precast shapes.

The event carried the theme “East Meets West,” reflecting the strong relationship between Japan and the Netherlands and the international spirit of the SHINAGAWA Group. Guests experienced a vibrant Japanese-inspired street scene featuring traditional food stalls and cultural elements, highlighting the connection between the two countries and the shared values that unite them. The anniversary celebration brought together employees, customers, partners, and distinguished guests, including His Excellency Rokuichiro Michii, Ambassador of Japan to the Netherlands, and The Honorable Pieter Verhoeve, Mayor of Gouda.



Pictured: Miki Heiki (SHINAGAWA REFRA), Rokuichiro Michii (Ambassador of Japan to the Netherlands), Marcus Schuchmann (Gouda Refractories Group), Pieter Verhoeve (Mayor of Gouda)

Since joining the SHINAGAWA Group in 2024, Gouda Refractories Group has become an important part of the company's global network. Following SHINAGAWA's own 150th anniversary celebration in 2025, Gouda's 125-year milestone serves as another reminder of the enduring heritage, technical expertise, and commitment to innovation shared across the Group.

As Gouda Refractories Group enters its next chapter, the company remains committed to building upon 125 years of excellence while continuing to serve customers across Europe, the Middle East, and around the world.