

Mass production of liquid hydrocarbon from coal and natural gas

Registration No.	Number 00303		
Registration Date	September 14, 2021	Registration Category	Category 1

Name (Model, etc.)	Commercialization of synthetic oil production via the Fischer-Tropsch process
Location	Takikawa-shi, Hokkaido
	Takikawa Regional History Center
Owner (Custodian)	Owner: Takikawa City Administrator: Takikawa City Board of Education
Manufacturer (Company)	Hokkaido Synthetic Oil Company, et al.
Year Manufactured	1938-1953
Year first appeared	—
Reason For Selection	This collection describes the commercialization of a synthetic oil (liquid hydrocarbon) production system based on the Fischer-Tropsch (F-T) process. Commercialization of synthetic oil production accelerated during the late 1930s, amidst heightened international tensions associated with limited oil supplies. There is a range of documents and records from this time that covers the commercialization process, catalysts and synthetic oils, and relevant literature. The collection includes 80 flowcharts and drawings, 63 research reports and reference materials, 123 operational documents such as factory site acquisition records and employee registers, 11 photographs and photo albums, and 26 items of experimental materials such as synthetic oils and bottles of reagent. The semi-governmental Hokkaido Synthetic Oil Company was set up as a national security initiative in 1938 to drive the commercialization of synthetic oil production using coal liquefaction via the F-T process. Production commenced in 1942 but further expansion was hindered by material shortages during the war. After the end of the war, the operation was unable to compete with cheaper oil from the Middle East, and production ceased in 1952. The collection is significant in that it illustrates the influence of the wider socio-economic imperatives of the time on technical development and commercialization.
Registration Standard	1-E (Have significant educational value in the task of handing on scientific and technological skills as examples of trial and error, failure, etc.) 2-C (Show an important event or phenomenon in the relationship between society and culture on the one hand and science and technology on the other.)

Open/Closed to Public	Limited public release		
Photo	Reference materials and research reports	Other documents	
Flowcharts and drawings			
			
Photographs and photo albums	Sample related		
			
		<i>Kuroyuri</i> synthetic oil	<i>Kozakura</i> synthetic oil
Other useful information			