

# FAYETTE COUNTY NEWS

## Calpis cuts ribbon in Peachtree City



Calpis President Fujio Yamada, surrounded by county officials and company executives cuts the ribbon on the Dividend Drive location one year after ground was broken.

### CALPIS

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Yamada noted that the company had opened its doors in Japan in 1917 and Calpis' key product and the company's namesake went on sale in 1919.

"Production continues to run smoothly and we are able to celebrate the completion of our first product on April 17 and we have successfully had stable production as of today."

Yamada also noted that the decision to center their research and company headquarters in Peachtree City had gone as planned.

"I would simply like to offer you my best wishes for your good health and continued success. Calpis will continue to be honored by the support and friendship of all of you gathered here today," Yamada told the crowd.

"As of this year, the company is celebrating

95 years of being sold in its home country of Japan and Calpis brand products are now being sold in over 30 countries. Our company slogan is 'peace for you body'. The commitment is a deepening contribution to society through products and technologies that promote healthy bodies and minds."

Calpis is a producer of direct-fed microbial product, Calsporin animal feed ingredients, which is used widely in the livestock industry to supply a naturally occurring microorganism. Operations are anticipated to begin in April 2014, and Georgia Quick Start, will assist the company with its training needs.

Calpis' long-standing livestock microbial product was launched in 1987 in Japan. The microbial product takes advantage of the bacte-

rial species *Bacillus subtilis* to produce the fermentation product Calsporin containing a naturally occurring microorganism which, according to research, may help build a preferable intestinal environment.

The site on Dividend Drive off Highway 74 and TDK Blvd, is home to a \$15 million facility on 11.84-acres. The production building is 36,370 square feet and there is also a 10,136 square foot office building.

"Since its founding our company has sold many different products. It was in 1987 that we began selling Calsporin, a probiotic product for animals. Today we are now able to provide this product in many regions of the world, focusing primarily on poultry and swine in North America."

After the ceremonies concluded, officials of both the city and county, as well as other guests, received a tour of the new facilities before attending a luncheon at the Dolce Atlanta-Peachtree. Notable names included the Honorable Kazuo Sunaga, the Consulate Gen-

eral of Japan in Atlanta; Director of International Investment for the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Scott McMurray; Yohsei Hiraguri, the Acting Chairman of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Georgia; Regional Manager, Yamato Transport U.S.A., Inc.; Fayette County Commission Chairman Steve Brown; Matt Brass, District Field Representative for Congressman Lynn Westmoreland; and Masato Yoshida, President of Calpis America, Inc.

The Georgia Department of Economic Development partnered with the Fayette County Development Authority to manage this project. McMurray, director of the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Logistics, Energy, Agriculture and Food Processing Industry team, assisted Calpis on behalf of the state. Yumiko Nakazono, director of Georgia's Japan office, coordinated the introduction of the company to the state during the SEUS-Japan conference in July 2012.