

Kansai Electric Power Expands its Electricity Bill Credit Card Payment Service

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The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.

JCB Co., Ltd.

Credit Saison Co., Ltd.

Orient Corporation

In September 2002, the Kansai Electric Power Co., Ltd. began offering Japan's first electricity bill payment service, using the JCB card, through an alliance with JCB Co., Ltd. Now, Kansai Electric Power has formed alliances with Credit Saison Co., Ltd. and Orient Corporation to substantially expand the lineup of credit cards that can be used for its electricity bill payment service. Applications for the service, which begins in May 2003, will be accepted from April.

Kansai Electric Power has started the credit card payment service to enhance customer service through diversification of payment options and improvement of bill collection efficiency. The credit card payment service makes household financial management easier, as payments are made by automatic bank transfer once a month on a set date, regardless of the meter inspection day. It also allows users to collect service points from their credit card company's points program. As a result nearly 20,000 customers have used the service since its inception six months ago. The numerous customer requests for an expanded lineup of choices in the cards used for payment led to mutual agreement to the alliances with both Credit Saison

and Orient Corporation.

Details of Expansion

It is now possible to use any credit card issued by JCB, Credit Saison or Orient Corporation as well as any credit card bearing the JCB, VISA or MasterCard brand, for payment of electricity bills: a lineup that covers approximately 90 percent of all customers.

As with the current JCB card electricity bill payment service, application forms may be requested through Kansai Electric Power's service desks or the websites of any of the companies. The applications will be sent to customers by mail to be filled out and submitted.

The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc. works for the further enhancement of its customer services so that customers will continue to use its electricity in the future.