

News Release

September 4, 2025
Proterial, Ltd.

Sponsorship of the 18th Amulet Sword (Omamori Katana) Exhibition

Proterial, Ltd. (hereafter referred to as "Proterial") is pleased to announce its sponsorship of the 18th Amulet Sword Exhibition.

1. About the Amulet Sword Exhibition

Amulet Sword have been carried since ancient times to protect oneself from evil spirits. Even today, Amulet Sword are widely used as a gift for childbirth celebrations, weddings, funerals, and other ceremonies, with hopes for a child's healthy growth or the protection of their owner.

The Amulet Sword Exhibition showcases selected outstanding works collected from swordsmiths and sword artisans nationwide. Since its inception in 2005, the exhibition aims to preserve and enhance traditional sword-related craftsmanship while contributing to the sound development of traditional Japanese arts.

Name: The 18th Amulet Sword (Omamori Katana) Exhibition

Sponsored by: All Japan Swordsmith Association, Amulet, Sword Exhibition Executive Committee,
Museum of Tetsu and Hayashibara Museum of Art

Date: The Museum of Tetsu (Sakakimachi, Nagano)

September 6, 2025 to November 16, 2025

Hayashibara Museum of Art (Okayama City, Okayama)

November 29, 2025 to January 18, 2026

2. Background behind the co-sponsorship of the event

Proterial's main factory, the Yasugi Works (Yasugi City, Shimane Prefecture), is the former site of the Unpaku-Steel Limited partnership, established in 1899 by financiers who practiced the ancient method of tatara ironmaking. Initially, they shipped kera (steel bloom), tamahagane (steel made from iron sand), and refined iron (typically used for knives) made by the tatara method nationwide. Over time, by applying the tatara method and enhancing production efficiency with corner furnaces, Proterial, while developing technology to the current day, produces world-class specialty steel by continuing the spirit of ironmaking fostered by tatara ironmaking.

Furthermore, Since 1977 (when Hitachi Metals, Ltd. was in charge), Proterial contributes to the production of tamahagane, the sole material for Japanese swords, by supporting the tatara operations organized by the Nihon Bijutsu Token Hozon Kyokai. The aim of which is to preserve the technique and culture of tatara, one of the starting points of Proterial.

Against this context, we sponsor the Amulet Sword as Proterial to support the continuation and improvement of the traditional techniques of tamahagane Amulet Sword, which embody the essence of traditional Japanese craftsmanship.

Proterial, Ltd.

Toyosu Prime Square, 5-6-36 Toyosu, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-0061, Japan

3. Details of the 18th Amulet Sword Exhibition Sponsorship

- Awarding the Proterial Prize* to the particularly outstanding sword
- Financial support for operational expenses

Furthermore, Proterial will also be placing advertisements at stations including Nagano, Okayama and Kurashiki in conjunction with the hosting of the 18th Amulet Sword.

*Note: Proterial Prize: Award to one particularly outstanding sword, including swords from jury members and invited exhibits and excluding swords from holders of Important Intangible Cultural Property. Voting is conducted by all jurors, excluding those from the exhibition jury.



The ads will look like these images.

Media Inquiries: Corporate Communications Dept.

https://www.cntct.proterial.com/contact/publish/inquiry_eng?g=01&c=001-01

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■About PROTERIAL

PROTERIAL

The Thinking Behind our Company Name

“Proterial” combines “**pro-**” with the word “**material.**”

“Pro-” represents elements of our Values:

- **Unparalleled Professionalism**
- **Unbounded Progressiveness**
- **Unleashing Proactiveness**

“Material” refers to the high-performance materials that our original technologies produce and underpinned by the three pros. With our focus on solving customer issues and bringing new levels of value, we promise to contribute to the realization of a sustainable society through the products and services that embody our philosophy.

■Proterial, Ltd. — Company Overview

Established: April 1956

Head office: Toyosu Prime Square, 5-6-36 Toyosu, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-0061, Japan

Capital : 310 million yen (as of March 31, 2025)

Representative : Sean M. Stack

Representative Director, Chairperson, President, & CEO

Sales revenue: 768.6 billion yen (Term ended March 2025)

History: 1910: Founded as Tobata Foundry Co.

1937: Merged with Hitachi, Ltd.

1956: Established separately as Hitachi Metals Industries, Ltd.

2023: Renamed from Hitachi Metals, Ltd. to Proterial, Ltd.

Proterial is a participant of the United Nations Global Compact and adheres to its principles-based approach to responsible business. In January 2025, Proterial received a Silver rating in the EcoVadis Sustainability Assessment.

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