

## Tsuchiya Kaban unveils Japan's first ever Mylo™ prototypes

Tsuchiya Kaban forms a capital and business alliance with Bolt Threads (US) to start a new chapter of craftsmanship, revealing co-developed six prototypes



Tsuchiya Kaban (headquartered in Adachi-ku, Tokyo), the leather goods brand established in 1965 has developed a new series of products alongside US cutting edge biotechnology company Bolt Threads using Mylo™, the leather alternative derived from mycelium for the first time in Japan.

Tsuchiya Kaban started working with Bolt Threads since last summer, and is now partnered in material/product development and invested in the company. After creating various samples, Tsuchiya Kaban is pleased to announce the unveiling of six prototypes of Tsuchiya Kaban products, including Randoseru (School bags), bags, and small goods. One product (L zip purse) will launch commercially by the end of 2022. Combining innovative leather alternative Mylo™ with Tsuchiya Kaban's rich history of Japanese craftsmanship will formulate unseen ideas and creations.

■ Mylo™ landing pages (English)

(Tsuchiya Kaban) <https://tsuchiya-kaban-global.com/pages/mylo>

(objcts.io) <https://objcts.io/en-us/pages/mylo-unleather>

## Reasons why we have decided to use Mylo™

The idea of what an "Endearing Product" means is different from person to person. Tsuchiya Kaban has decided to incorporate Mylo™ in products that represent each of its three brands (Tsuchiya Kaban - bags for adults, Tsuchiya Kaban "Randoseru" - School bags, and objcts.io) to adapt to an consumers' ever evolving needs in materials.

Mylo™ is an alternative material that can provide a rich and fine texture like animal leather while being able to scale supply. To fulfill Tsuchiya Kaban's mission of "Creating Timeless Value," we will continue to take on the challenge of creating new products and delivering "Endearing Products" that meet the needs of the times.

### TOP Message

**From : Bolt Threads CEO, Dan Widmaier**

Working with the Tsuchiya Kaban team has been an honor and a glimpse into what the global expansion of Mylo™ will create. The collaboration with their highly-skilled artisans has produced a collection of Mylo™ products showcasing the beautiful harmony that comes from pairing a deep rooted commitment to craft with an eye to innovation for a better future.

**From : Tsuchiya Kaban Representative Director, Masanori Tsuchiya**

When I touched Mylo™ for the first time, I was surprised that innovative technologies could create such an incredible material feel. At the same time, I felt that Mylo™ could be a valued product in a world where customers' values and needs are more diversified than ever. Combining Japan's long history of craftsmanship with Bolt Threads' cutting-edge innovation will spawn new ideas in our pursuit to create "Endearing Products", and I look forward to working closely with the Mylo™ material and Bolt Threads team to launch products together.

## About Mylo™



Mylo™, the leather alternative material that sparked a "mushroom leather" movement, is made from mycelium, the underground root structure of mushrooms, an infinitely renewable resource. Mycelial fibers provide a soft, supple feel with fine texture. Mylo™ was designed to have flexibility, making it highly versatile to be used in a variety of products.

The mycelium is grown in less than two weeks with mulch, air, and water in state-of-the-art vertical agriculture facilities powered by 100% renewable energy, allowing Bolt Threads to scale supply.

## ■ About Prototypes

Tsuchiya Kaban has begun product development with Mylo™ at its workshop in Tokyo since last summer. After creating various sample products, our first expected product is the "Mylo™ L zip purse". It is currently under development for commercial release by the end of this year.

### Message from Tsuchiya Kaban Product Planning Office, Megumi Oniki

We chose "L Zip Purse", one of the most popular products in Tsuchiya Kaban, for our first Mylo™ product. We believe that having customers try out new material on familiar products will lead to more feedback and faster product iteration.

Mylo™ has an elegant, leather-like quality, and its suppleness and soft texture makes it suitable for smaller products. In commercializing Mylo™ products, we have achieved a Mylo™ ratio of 90% through making various samples and conducting multiple strength and usage tests. We will continue product development so that more Mylo™ products will be available for purchase in the near future.

## Prototypes under development



### Tsuchiya Kaban Mylo™ L zip purse

Mylo™ is used for the exterior and interior (Mylo™ ratio is 90%).

It is based on Tsuchiya Kaban's classic L-Zip mini wallet that can hold bills, coins and credit cards.

\*Under development for commercial release by the end of this year.

Size(cm) : Height 8.8 × Width 11.6 × Depth 2.2cm



### Tsuchiya Kaban Randoseru (School bag)

Mylo™ is used for exterior materials(Mylo™ ratio is 82%).

Tsuchiya Kaban's classic Randoseru shape.

Size(cm) : Height 32.3 × Width 26.0 × Depth 18.1cm



**Tsuchiya Kaban**

**Square Bag**

Mylo™ is used for all exterior materials.

A briefcase bag that fits in well with a variety of styles.

Size(cm) : Height 26.5 × Width 39.0 × Depth 6.0cm



**Tsuchiya Kaban**

**Slim case**

Mylo™ is used for all exterior materials.

Slim case with flat design with Mylo™.

Size(cm) : Height 22.0 × Width 31.0 × Depth 0.5cm



**objcts.io**

**Backpack Medium**

Mylo™ material on back and top of the exterior.  
Lightweight backpack made of a combination of luxury nylon "Davis".

Size(cm) : Height 45.0 × Width 30.0 × Depth 10.0cm



**objcts.io**

**Wallet bag**

Mylo™ is used except for the shoulder strap, which is made of recycled nylon.

Size(cm) : Height 18.2 × Width 13.0 × Depth 1.5cm

Strap length: 58cm

## ■ Showcasing Mylo™ at our Shibuya store

6 prototypes with Mylo™ can be seen for a limited time at our Shibuya store.

We highly encourage you to touch and feel the products for yourselves.

Duration :

June 9th (Thu) - June 30th(Thu) 10:00-21:00

Location :

Tsuchiya Kaban Shibuya

(2-24-12 Shibuya, Shibuya Scramble Square 11F,  
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo)



## ■ About Tsuchiya Kaban

Tsuchiya Kaban is a leather goods company founded in 1965. The company has approximately 200 craftspeople in Japan, and offers Randoseru (school bags), leather bags, small leather goods, home goods, etc. In 2022, leather brand "objcts.io", launched by former Tsuchiya Kaban employees, was added to its lineup. The company has 23 stores in Japan and 2 stores overseas (Hong Kong and Taiwan).

— 900,000 Randoseru produced and sold

The company has produced and sold approximately 900,000 Randoseru (school bags) to date, providing high-quality products made in Japan using more than 150 parts and involving more than 300 processes (handwork), as well as a free repair warranty service for six years. The quality of service that our craftspeople continue to provide is also supported by our customers.

Although a long-established company, Tsuchiya Kaban has been introducing new Randoseru and services in response to the changing times. For example, it has increased its color variation over the past 20 years and now offers approximately 50 colors. In 2021, the company has launched a new series of genderless school bags called "RECO" for new students entering school in 2022.

— Opened stores overseas, selling leather goods for adults.

We first entered the adult bag market in 2000. Currently, in addition to bags, we also offer a full lineup of accessories such as wallets and pen cases. In 2012, we opened our first overseas store in Hong Kong. In November 2021, we began full-scale development of a series of home goods, thereby expanding our product range.



## ■ About Bolt Threads

Bolt Threads is on a mission to create way better materials for a way better world by developing sustainable solutions for the apparel and beauty industries. With nature as inspiration, Bolt invents and scales materials that put us on a path towards a more sustainable future. In 2020, Bolt announced the Mylo™ consortium with iconic global companies – adidas, Kering, lululemon, and Stella McCartney – coming together to secure exclusive access to its mycelium-based leather alternative, Mylo™. Bolt Threads is based in the United States in Emeryville, California, and is one of Fast Company's Most Innovative companies. To learn more, please visit [www.boltthreads.com](http://www.boltthreads.com), [www.mylo-unleather.com](http://www.mylo-unleather.com) or @mylo\_unleather on social.

## ■ Company Overview

- Company Name : Tsuchiya Kaban CO., LTD.
- Representative : Masanori Tsuchiya
- Address : 7-15-5, Nishiarai, Adachi-ku, Tokyo, Japan 123-0841
- Business Description : Planning, manufacturing and sales of leather bags and other small items under the original brand.
- URL : Tsuchiya Kaban (Leather Products) <https://tsuchiya-kaban.jp/>  
Tsuchiya Kaban (Randoseru) <https://tsuchiya-randoseru.jp/>  
objcts.io <https://objcts.io/>

### 【Press Inquiries】

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