Global Vision with TRADITION AND INNOVATION

Navigating global success, Kitao Cosmetics' minimalist approach blends traditional Japanese ingredients with innovative skin care technology, making a global impact. By Sasha Lauture and Bernard Thompson



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itao Cosmetics, a company deeply rooted in Japanese tradition, is making waves globally with its innovative skin care products. Led by President and CEO Kazuhiro Kawabata, Kitao emphasizes minimalism and quality, using fewer, highly effective ingredients. This philosophy contrasts with the more elaborate routines popularized by Korean beauty brands, highlighting the unique appeal of J-Beauty.

Kitao's commitment to quality is exemplified in its use of matcha, a traditional Japanese ingredient known for its health benefits. "We follow a meticulous process to ensure our matcha is of the highest quality, preparing the soil for three years without chemicals," says Mr. Kawabata. This dedication to sustainability and natural ingredients resonates with today's eco-conscious consumers, enhancing the brand's reputation.

Globally, Kitao Cosmetics has successfully penetrated U.S. and European markets, leveraging the growing popularity of matcha. The company's approach includes collaborations with influencers and marketing agencies to introduce Japanese culture alongside its products. This strategy has earned the firm a strong online presence, boasting over 12,000 Instagram followers and numerous influencer partnerships.

Looking forward, Mr. Kawabata emphasizes the importance of collective efforts among Japanese firms to compete with Korean brands, particularly in the U.S. and European markets. By combining traditional Japanese values with modern marketing strategies, Kitao Cosmetics is poised to continue its global growth.