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# E-MAIL MAGAZINE

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## 1. JAPAN-KOREA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY SUMMIT MEETING HELD IN FURANO

On July 13, 2017, the 11th Japan-Korea Chambers of Commerce and Industry Summit Meeting was held in Furano, Hokkaido, with participation of 33 people from Japan, including Mr. Akio Mimura, Chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Mr. Hiroshi Ozaki, Chairman of OCCI, and 25 people from South Korea led by Mr. Yongmaan Park, Chairman of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Chairman Ozaki gave an address titled “The Current Condition and Future Vision of the Japanese Economy,” stating, “Although Japanese companies’ business sentiment has gradually improved in a wide range of industries, some still have cautious views on the path forward. It is therefore expected that the economy will stay at



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the same level.”He also said, “The boom caused by an increased number of international tourists to Japan have generally increased the diffusion index in Osaka and Kansai region, but we are faced with the effects of labor shortage.”

Additionally, the “Consultation on Recruiting Korean Human Resources”, jointly held with OCCI and its MOU partner, Japan-Korea Industrial Technology Co-Operation Foundation, was introduced as a Japan-Korea joint initiative to

solve the problem of labor shortage at Japanese companies. Osaka’s candidacy for the expo 2025 was also featured at the meeting. Chairman Ozaki emphasized that an expo in Osaka under the theme “Designing Future



Society for Our Lives”would connect both countries by facilitating Japan-Korea intercorporate collaboration in the healthcare and life science fields, appealing to Korea to support Osaka’s bid to host the expo. Furthermore, the first Japan-Korea summit between Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and newly inaugurated Korean President Jae-in Moon held on July 7 raised our expectations for more active economic exchanges. The next Japan-Korea Chambers of Commerce and Industry Summit Meeting will be held in Pusan, Korea.

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**2. CHAIRMAN OZAKI ATTENDS THE PORT OF OSAKA’ S 150TH ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY**

On Friday, June 14, 2017, the Port of Osaka’s 150th anniversary ceremony was held at the Hyatt Regency Osaka, located in Osaka Nanko Port. The ceremony was hosted by the ”Port of Osaka 150th Anniversary Project Steering Committee”,attended by OCCI Chairman Ozaki; Mr. Keiichi Ishii, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Mr. Ichiro Matsui, Osaka Prefecture Governor; Mr. Hirofumi Yoshimura, Osaka City Mayor and nearly 600 other participants. At the

ceremony, awards were given to those who have performed distinguished service, and a memorial lecture was given.

Having developed as a port for the citizens since opening to foreign vessels on July 15, 1868, the Port of Osaka this year marks its 150th year. The port is designated as an “international strategic port”, the highest rank for a port in Japan, and

plays an important role as an international trade port in supporting production and consumption in the Kansai region with 21 million population. The Port of Osaka has sister- or friendship-port relationships with seven ports worldwide, including San Francisco, Melbourne, Valparaiso, Shanghai, and Saigon, striving for further mutual



development. In addition to the anniversary ceremony, the “Port of Osaka Minato Festival” took place on the port’s anniversary day (July 15) and on Marine Day, a national holiday (third Monday of July). Various events, including races of six-oared cutters, fun yacht races, and trial boarding of Access Dinghies, were held at the festival.

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### **3. PARTICIPATION IN SELECT USA INVESTMENT SUMMIT FOR THE FIRST TIME**

From June 18 to 20, 2017, the Select USA Investment Summit took place in Washington DC, U.S. This was the fourth summit, hosted by the U.S. Department of Commerce, with which OCCI formed an alliance in February 2015. The summit was attended by U.S. representatives, including Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt, and Secretary of Labor Alex Acosta. This year’s summit attracted a record attendance from abroad of 3,000 people from 64 countries, including 128 people from Japan, the third largest country after China and Taiwan. The OCCI sent the top management of Osaka Gas, as its first summit representatives.



This summit aims to attract investments in the U.S., resulting in total investment of 20.6 billion USD from event participants in the past three years. Representing the business world, CEOs of major companies, such as GM, GE, Oracle and Siemens, also appeared at the summit, discussing that we were entering an age of innovation based on big data

and digital technologies, and further

production and promotion would require efforts in such innovation. OCCI representatives have also visited an accelerator that promotes an eco-system in Boston, as part of our efforts to promote exchanges with innovation-creating zones in North America.

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**4. PARTICIPATION IN JAPAN ROUND TABLE HELD IN THE UK**

On June 16, 2017, OCCI sent staff members to the Japan Round Table held by the TVCC (Thames Valley Chamber of Commerce), its MOU partner. This meeting, held in Marlow, UK, united 20 companies from the UK and Japan to discuss collaboration opportunities in the UK’s global strategy, creation of innovations, research and development. The OCCI staff introduced activities of its International Division, and examples of SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) with excellent technologies, while actively exchanging opinions with other participants for further exchange between Osaka/Kansai and the Thames Valley area.

In addition to OCCI, the International Division of the Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI-Kansai) and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) sent representatives to the meeting. In October, 10 companies specializing in AI, will visit Osaka on behalf of TVCC, hoping to expand exchanges between the two regions.

For Further Information:

<http://www.thamesvalleychamber.co.uk/thames-valley-open-for-business-japan-roundtable/>

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## 5. LOGO FOR EXPO SELECTED, AND PROMOTING HEADQUARTERS WEBSITE ESTABLISHED

On June 7, 2017, the 2025 Japan World Expo Committee, aiming for Osaka to host the world expo in 2025, published a logo for the expo to achieve further international recognition during the campaign and to generate public enthusiasm (See the website link below). The committee called for logo entries under the theme “Designing Future Society for Our Lives,” the same as the expo.



As a result of the selection process, the logo designed by Yukihide Okawa, a professional designer, was selected. He says that he “modeled the logo from emoji, a Japanese oriented digital ideogram, based on the concept that people with happy smile gather from around the world.”

To realize an expo hosted by Osaka/Kansai, on June 16 OCCI displayed large panels, posters, and other items with the logo of the 2025 Japan World Expo candidacy campaign on the first, third and

fourth floors of the building, and on the same day launched the website of the 2025 Japan World Expo Candidacy Promoting Headquarters. For More information: Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry’s 2025 Japan World Expo Candidacy Promoting Headquarters.

(In Japanese) [www.osaka.cci.or.jp/2025expo/](http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/2025expo/)

OCCI Chairman Ozaki (as the head of the OCCI 2025 Japan World Expo Candidacy Promoting Headquarters) and the expo candidacy logo panel displayed in the reception lobby on the first floor of the OCCI building. (Facebook page in Japanese)

<https://www.facebook.com/osakacci/photos/a.514078411989462.1073741827.136821876381786/1535349096529050/?type=3>

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**6. REPORT ON VIP VISITORS**

June 2 (Fri.) Mr. Raman Singh, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh State, India

June 23 (Fri.) Mr. Zhang Jun, President of General Incorporated Association

China Chamber of Commerce in Western Japan (CCCJ)

June 23 (Fri.) Mr. Gustavo AYARES Ossandon

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Chile

June 28(Wed.) Mr. Silas Chu, Director of Hong Kong Trade Development Council of Japan

June 28(Wed.) Mr. Cheng Yonghua, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Japan

July 12 (Wed.) Ms. Ruth Kahanoff, Ambassador of Israel



Information about scheduled events (in Japanese only):

If you wish to receive information about scheduled events, please visit

<http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/Jigyuu/Sonota/annai.htm>

and submit your subscription request to OCCI Email Station.

Alternatively, please check out information about scheduled seminars and other events on the OCCI's website (in Japanese only).

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Back Numbers of OCCI e-Magazine: <http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/e/emagazine/>

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