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E-MAIL MAGAZINE

Issue 139 [November 2019]

OCCI e-Magazine

<Back number available at <http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/e/emagazine/>>

1. **ADVANCED STARTUPS GATHER IN OSAKA FROM EIGHT COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD! GLOBAL INNOVATION FORUM (GIF) 2019 HELD**



The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) held the Global Innovation Forum 2019 at Grand Front Osaka on October 10 and 11. A total of 17 startups with state-of-the-art technologies in AI/IoT, digital health, VR, image recognition, automated driving, and other fields gathered in Osaka from eight countries (USA, China, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Singapore, and the UK). Unlike conventional forums, demonstrations to actually experience the latest products, short presentations, and individual business meetings were also organized.



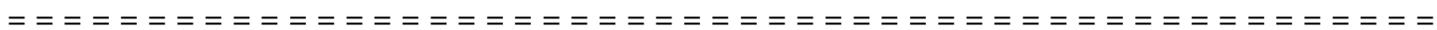
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At the Opening Ceremony on the 10th, those present and cutting the ribbon included OCCI Chairman Hiroshi Ozaki; Chikara Takagishi, Senior General Manager of Urban Management Division of Hankyu Hanshin Properties Corp.; Junzo Tateno, President of the Osaka Business Development Agency (Osaka Innovation Hub);

Hiroyuki Nemoto, Director-General of Japan External Trade Organization, Osaka; Consul General Karen Kelley of the U.S. Consulate General Osaka-Kobe; Consul General Li Tian Ran of Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Osaka; Consul General Werner K?hler of the German Consulate General Osaka-Kobe; and Senior Commercial Officer Ken Harada of Israel Trade Office, Western Japan. In addition, Consul-General Jules Irrman of the Consulate General of France in Kyoto, Consul-General B. Shyam of the Consulate General of India, Osaka-Kobe; Consul-General Luigi Diodati of the Consulate-General of Italy in Osaka; Consul-General Gerard Michels Consulate-general of the Netherlands in Osaka; Consul-General Krit Tankanarat of the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Osaka; Consul-General Vu Tuan Hai of the Consulate-General of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in Osaka participated in GIF. Participating companies then gave demonstrations on the main stage and introduced their products at their respective booths, attended by approximately 300 general visitors.

On the 11th, Mr. John Byrnes, Ai Collaborator Founder/Co-CEO, an AI startup consultant from Silicon Valley, spoke on the subject of "Startup Innovation, Technology and Investment: Silicon Valley and Beyond" at .Tower C in the Grand Front Osaka North Building (137 participants). Furthermore, startups had short presentations and a total of 97 individual business meetings (38 companies participated). This forum marked a large step toward creating innovation through global collaboration in Osaka and promoting the attraction of foreign capital to Osaka.



2. “ECONOMIC MISSION TO THAILAND” DISPATCHED, LED BY CHAIRMAN OZAKI

From October 14 (Mon) to 19 (Sat) the OCCI dispatched an economic mission to Thailand (Bangkok, Eastern Economic Corridor: EEC) with the participation of OCCI Chairman Ozaki as well as OCCI Vice

Chairman Furukawa and International Business Committee Chairman Tomita. A total of 24 mission members were dispatched, including partial participants.

In Thailand, mission members had an interview with Deputy Prime Minister Somkhid. Based on the results of a previously conducted questionnaire (for details, see below), Chairman Ozaki showed the high expectations of companies in Osaka for Thailand becoming a member of the TPP 11 (Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement). Deputy Prime Minister Somkhid said in response, “We will realize our participation in the TPP 11.” Also, to facilitate the active roles in Osaka for excellent human resources from Thailand, mission members provided a list of companies that are actively utilizing foreign workers in Osaka, and conveyed the OCCI’s intention to help facilitate matches between Thai workers and Osaka companies. After that, mission members went on a study tour at the EEC. They also went on study tours at Laem Chabang Port, and leading-edge plants and logistics bases of Japanese companies that had entered Thailand, and held an informal meeting with local Japanese economic organizations.

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3. RESULTS OF ASEAN’S QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT FOR THE TPP 11

In July this year, the OCCI conducted the “Survey on Trade & Investment, and Human Resource Utilization in ASEAN” for approximately 2,500 companies, including member companies. The purpose of this survey was to grasp the business needs of each company for capturing the vitality of the growing ASEAN region. Valid responses totaled 186.

For the question related to trade and investments on “Which country do you most expect to participate in the TPP 11?” 79 companies (42%) chose Thailand, 40 companies (22%) chose Indonesia, and 11 companies (6%) chose the Philippines. Also, for the question “What kind of effect do you most expect from these countries becoming members of the TPP 11?” many companies selected such answers as “Advantage of exemption from tariffs” (106 companies) and “Speeding up clearance procedures” (91 companies).

In addition, while 45 companies (24%) showed their intention for “Active recruitment” for the question related to foreign workers, “Which country are you interested in most when recruiting foreign workers?”

Vietnam came first chosen by 79 companies (42%), followed by Thailand chosen by 46 companies (25%), and the Philippines chosen by 24 companies (13%).

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4. “ECONOMIC MISSION TO MYANMAR” TO BE JOINTLY DISPATCHED WITH JETRO

The OCCI will jointly dispatch an “Economic Mission to Myanmar” with JETRO Osaka Headquarters from November 24 to 29. Mission Leaders will be International Business Committee Chairman Minoru Tomita (Executive Officer and Osaka Branch Head of Marubeni Corporation) and Director Ichiro Sone of JETRO Osaka Headquarters. Mission members will go on study tours at Thilawa Special Economic Zone, into which Toyota announced its entry the other day; Bago Industrial Park; and MICT Park (IT base), and will have informal talks with companies that have made an entry into Myanmar. They are scheduled to also visit Mandalay in addition to Yangon.

Myanmar is currently attracting attention as a destination for overseas investment using its abundant labor force as a weapon. With its high growth rate of 6% to 7% annually, Myanmar is expected to see expansion of its local market, and the possibility of serving as a distribution hub because the country borders five countries, including China, India, and Thailand.

For details, please visit <https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/event/seminar/201908/D11191124017.html> (in Japanese)

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5. “MISSION TO DISCOVER OVERSEAS START-UPS IN MONTREAL & BOSTON” TO BE DISPATCHED

From March 8 to 15, 2020, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry will dispatch a “Mission to Discover Overseas Start-ups in Montreal & Boston.” The advisor for the mission will be Vice Chairman Minoru Furukawa (Adviser for Hitachi Zosen Corporation) and the Mission Leader will be International Business Committee Chairman Minoru Tomita (Executive Officer and Osaka Branch Head of Marubeni Corporation).

Mission members are scheduled to conduct individual business negotiations with start-ups with advanced technologies, and to visit accelerators and research institutes. Through this Mission's dispatch, we aim to promote matching with Japanese companies, which seek development of new products and business based on technical tie-ups with foreign start-ups and foreign start-ups' entry into Osaka, and to establish an innovation ecosystem in Osaka.

Montreal, the largest city in the province of Quebec, Canada, with six universities, such as the University of Montreal, which has globally attracted attention for its research on AI technology, and McGill University. The Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal is in a sister chamber relationship with the OCCI. OCCI has so far invited five start-ups related to clean technologies and AI from the city and have held business forums twice. This time, the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal will host a presentation session on needs of Japanese companies and arrange b2b meetings with AI startups in Montreal.

The city of Boston, Massachusetts in the U.S. has a concentration of the world's top-class universities, mainly the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University; state-of-the-art technology research institutes; and from 2,900 to 3,900 start-ups, and receives the second highest investment amount of capital from VCs following Silicon Valley. This time, mission members are scheduled to hold a "Japan Caf? Night" at the Venture Caf? Cambridge, which is a working space for entrepreneurs and a public space for networking, as well as to announce business and technology to the Boston startups.

For details, please visit

<http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/event/seminar/201911/D11200308018.html> (in Japanese)

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6. WE SUPPORT GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT OF START-UPS IN JAPAN! "GO GLOBAL! BOOT CAMP"

During the period from December 9 to 11, the OCCI will conduct a three-day intensive "Boot Camp" for start-ups in Japan that aim for overseas development, inviting two mentors from American accelerator USMAC (US Market Access Center) located in Silicon Valley. This program aims to realize a mindset that focuses on currently non-existent markets and products & services recognizing risks as opportunities based on the

entrepreneur training method of UC Berkeley.

Specifically,

- 1) Developing from an “entrepreneur in the community” to a “global entrepreneur”
- 2) Proposal of powerful values and establishment of strong business models
- 3) Differences in business customs between Silicon Valley and Japan
- 4) Introducing one’s own companies’ “Story” for 20 to 30 seconds or four minutes
- 5) What to look out for when collaborating with a large company
- 6) Establishing sustainable and valuable partnerships for the long term
- 7) How to form a network in Silicon Valley
- 8) Perfect opportunity to be able to learn how to make a presentation for investors

& VCs in Silicon Valley directly from experienced entrepreneurs from the U.S.

The participation fee is a flat rate of 30,000 yen (tax included) both for members and non-members. The targets are start-ups and intra-ventures that are motivated to advance overseas.

For details, please visit

<http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/event/seminar/201911data/D11191209028.html> (in Japanese)

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7. REPORT ON VIP VISITORS (9/28~11/20)

10/3 Mr.Jules IRRMANN, Consul-General, Consulate-General of France in Kyoto

10/25 His Excellency Mr. Mohamed ELLOUMI, Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia in Japan

11/8 His Excellency Mr. Yerlan BAUDARBEB-KOZHATAYEV,

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kazakhstan

11/13 Mr. Krit Tankanarat, Consul-General, Royal Thai Consulate-General in Osaka



O-BIC as one-stop service center for creating a foothold in Osaka

<http://o-bic.net/>

Osaka Business & Investment Center (O-BIC), established in 2001, is operated through the joint efforts of the Osaka Prefectural Government, Osaka City Government, and Osaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

As your one-stop service center for business investing, O-BIC provides a comprehensive yet detailed support system. International companies, foreign government offices and economic organizations as well as foreign-capitalized companies located in Japan are welcome to use the center to obtain accurate information and essential advice for creating a foothold in Osaka.

For further information, please contact: o-bic@osaka.cci.or.jp



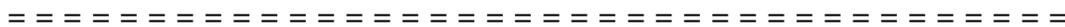
Information about scheduled events (in Japanese only):

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

<http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/mailstation/>

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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