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 SEPTEMBER)>



E-MAIL MAGAZINE

Issue 171 [September, 2022]

OCCI e-Magazine

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

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1. GIF OSAKA 2022: MIDDLE EAST & SOUTHWEST ASIA SESSION A ROARING SUCCESS; EUROPE SESSION UNDERWAY

The second round of GIF Osaka 2022, the nation's foremost forum for matching international start-ups with Japanese companies, is underway, featuring exciting startups from the Middle East and Southwest Asia. The live pitch session was held on August 30, and it was a lively affair indeed, with the seven startups' presentations attracting numerous questions from the audience. The technologies and business models on display were all highly innovative, the product of the startups' considerable effort and creativity.

The eventual winner was Wanka Tanka, an Israeli startup

that pitched bracelets as a wearable solution delivering constant transdermal dosing of medicines and supplements. Company representatives have been invited to visit Japan in February 2023. One-on-one meetings between the startups and interested Japanese companies were held on September 13 and 14. Demand was high, with many local companies seeking to pursue deals with the startups. The next phase of GIF Osaka 2022 features startups from Europe. Online exhibitions open on September 30, followed by live pitches on October 27 and one-on-one meetings on November 9 and 10. For an overview of GIF Osaka 2022 and online booths, and to sign up, visit the

2. OCCI AND O-BIC LAUNCH THE KANSAI INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM TO FORGE STRONGER CROSS-BORDER TIES

On September 14, the OCCI and O-BIC held the inaugural event of its Kansai International Exchange Program to Forge Stronger Cross-border Ties: a tour of the Entrepreneurial Museum of Challenge and Innovation and informal get-together for consuls general stationed in the Kansai region. The event attracted consuls from 9 countries, who were greeted with speeches from OCCI Chairperson Shingo Torii and Tsutomu Himeno, ambassador in charge of the Kansai region, before beginning their tour of the museum and exchanging views on preparations for the World Expo to be held in Osaka in 2025. A core message of the event was the collective determination of the OCCI and O-BIC to bring fresh momentum to the local region in the run-up to the expo, for instance by bolstering ties with local consulates, helping them keep the Osaka community up to date with all the latest from their countries, matching innovative startup ventures with local companies, and assisting with delegation visits to Osaka.

3. FOUR OVERSEAS BUYERS ANNOUNCE ATTENDANCE AT KAIMASSE 2022

The OCCI has announced that fully 56 buyer companies have signed up for Kaimasse 2022, the 26th edition of our trade show where buyers discover the next hit products and vendors forge new sales channels. Kaimasse 2022 will be held at the Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium on November 10. At Kaimasse, supermarkets, department stores, and other major distributors set up "buyer booths" where small-scale manufacturers and wholesalers can pitch their products. The event is among the largest of its kind in Japan, and has a strong focus on helping SMEs forge and expand sales channels. This year's Kaimasse will feature four buyers from overseas, including two newcomers: San Xie Cheng Enterprise Co., Ltd., from Taiwan, and Shinwa Pte., Ltd., from Singapore.

4. OCCI SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL GREEN TECH PARTNERSHIPS

The OCCI has announced its International Green tech global collaboration program, in which it seeks to assist the global expansion of local green tech enterprises and promote cross-border open innovation using the best green tech from around the world. The chamber has already launched a partnership program with Manchester, UK. Most recently, a seminar was held in July to outline Manchester's green tech policies, and Osaka is due to host a delegation from Manchester on October 4, with business matching and discussions on the agenda. Moving forward, the OCCI plans to offer support for local businesses seeking to enter the enticingly large ASEAN market, beginning with Thailand and Vietnam, with which Japan has joint crediting mechanisms (JCM) in place. To start with, the OCCI will offer information outlining JCM and its potential benefits for business partnerships. We are dedicated to nurturing local green tech businesses, for instance by bringing together major corporations, administration authorities, and local startups with the aim of new ventures. In this way, we are striving to foster a corporate community that incorporates innovative technologies and a variety of other strengths.

< EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN>

EXHIBITORS OF PAVILION FOR PRIVATE SECTORS REVEALED BASIC CONCEPT

Three years to go event Thematic Project "Brilliance of Life Project"On April 18, 2022, "Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan 3 Years to go Event ~Presentation of the thematic project 'Brilliance of Life Project'~" was held at Iino Hall & Conference Center in Tokyo. Aiming to realize the Expo which will be created through Co-creation, the message of "Join 2025" was distributed, and eight thematic project producers announced basic plans that summarized the concept of the "Brilliance of Life Project".

*The contents of the event are available from the link below as an archive video. Please take a look.

*https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZla85 gQkA (Japanese)

Further information available online

https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/report/report-20220819-01/
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(Republic of South Africa) 13th September
-H. E. Lulama Smuts Ngonyama, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Embassy of the Republic
of South Africa
(Italy) 14th September
-Mr. Marco Prencipe, Consul-General of the Consulate General of Italy Osaka
(People's Republic of Bangladesh) 27th September
- Mr. Jalalul M Hai, Vice President of Japan-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JBCCI)
(Republic of Singapore) 29th September
-Mr. Lam Yi Young, CEO, Singapore Business Federation
INFORMATION FOR COVID-19
Japanese Government
https://japan.kantei.go.jp/
Osaka Prefecture Government
https://covid19-osaka.info/en/
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[O-BIC as one-stop service center for creating a foothold in Osaka]
http://o-bic.net/
[Information about scheduled events (in Japanese only)]

https://intl.osaka.cci.or.jp/



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Back Numbers of OCCI e-Magazine:

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* No official English translation could be reliably confirmed for this term. This is our own unofficial translation.
