

E-MAIL MAGAZINE

[CONTENTS, MARCH
2018]

1. 2019 G20 SUMMIT TO BE HELD
IN OSAKA

2. REPORT ON HYDROGEN FUEL
CELL BUSINESS DELEGATION TO
THE UK AND GERMANY

3. BUSINESS PLATFORM
PROJECTS AIMED AT HELPING
SMES ENTER ASEAN COUNTRIES;
SECOND BUSINESS DELEGATION
TO INSPECT THE INVESTMENT
ENVIRONMENT OF MYANMAR

4. REPORT FOR AI BUSINESS
IDEA CONTEST

5. OCCI REPRESENTATIVES
OBSERVED THE 2018 CONSUMER
ELECTRIC SHOW; THE OCCI
BEGINS ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS FROM OPEN
INNOVATION COMPANIES
INTERESTED IN CONDUCTING
EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH IN
OSAKA

6. VIP REPORT

Issue 122 [March2018]

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

1. 2019 G20 SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN OSAKA



In preparation for the 14th meeting of the “Group of Twenty” (G20 Summit) to be held for the first time in Japan next year in Osaka, on March 6, 2018, in Tokyo, in collaboration with Osaka City and Prefectural governments and economic organizations in Osaka, including OCCI established a Cooperative Association for Promoting Kansai. Osaka Governor Matsui was inaugurated as Chairman, Chairman Ozaki as Vice Chairman

On the same day, government and organization representatives discussed their memorandum of association, during which a board of organizers and a secretariat were established. Following the first general assembly for establishing the association, the representatives met with Prime Minister Abe, Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga, and Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakane, to whom they reported that they are taking all possible measures to prepare for helping host the summit and expressed their hope of cooperating with the national government in bringing success.

=====



たんと繁盛

2. REPORT ON HYDROGEN FUEL CELL BUSINESS DELEGATION TO THE UK AND GERMANY



Entrusted by the Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI-Kansai), the OCCI currently undertakes a project aimed at enhancing collaboration between hydrogen fuel cell companies in Osaka, Europe, and the U.S. This project selects companies from hydrogen fuel-cell-industry cluster leading the Kansai region’s economy and helps them enter overseas markets.

As part of the project, the OCCI offered hands-on support to two core companies that requested support in developing business opportunities in Europe. From February 4 to 11, a project manager and OCCI staff took representatives of the two companies with them to Germany and Switzerland, where they visited companies, related facilities, and governmental organizations, exploring possibilities for business cooperation with German and Swiss companies and organizations.

In addition, the project manager and company representatives participated in a networking event with German companies and an exhibition both co-hosted by the Osaka prefectural government and a German state government. Company representatives gave presentations on their technologies and products and held individual meetings with German companies, for networking opportunities to start their business to Europe.

The OCCI plans to continue helping hydrogen fuel cell companies in Osaka create opportunities for enhancing business cooperation with European companies and promote their expansion to overseas countries.

=====

3. BUSINESS PLATFORM PROJECTS AIMED AT HELPING SMES ENTER ASEAN COUNTRIES; SECOND BUSINESS DELEGATION TO INSPECT THE INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT OF MYANMAR

With two years having passed since the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community, more companies in Osaka are actively conducting business in the ASEAN region OCCI sent two delegations of company business representatives to Myanmar, one in July 2017 and another in January 2018, to which it welcomed a total of 18 participants from 14 companies. With



The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry

cooperation from the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, which has renewed its cooperation agreement, the OCCI held a networking for delegation members and local company representatives. In addition, the members inspected rental factory spaces in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, with which the OCCI has concluded

observation member sent in January included company representatives wanting to hire Myanmar workers, who held interviews and decided to hire two people as full-time employees.

One of the members shared his thoughts saying, “This mission provided me with a broad range of information on the local area, including its current state, information inaccessible from Japan”; another said, “The social networking program with Myanmar workers was a very useful networking opportunity.”

The OCCI established a “Platform for Companies Interested in Expanding Business to the ASEAN Region” comprising, as of February 1, 2018, 103 representatives of 94 companies planning to expand their business to countries in the ASEAN region, of which 74 representatives of 71 companies are interested in Myanmar.

=====

4. REPORT FOR AI BUSINESS IDEA CONTEST

On February 16, 2018, with cooperation from the Artificial Intelligence Technology Consortium (AITC) of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC), OCCI held the final screening for the AI Business Idea Contest. Following the screening, the OCCI Chairman Award went to “Fashion Pocket” for its business plan presentation titled “Disseminating Women’s Fashion Trends with Artificial Intelligence and E-commerce.” The OCCI and AITC will continue supporting Fashion Pocket in bringing its idea into existence.



The aim of this contest is to encourage companies to produce new AI business ideas by awarding companies that present excellent business plans and helping them turn their plans into projects. This event was the first of its kind held in Japan by a chamber of commerce and industry.

Roi Shigematsu, president of Fashion Pocket, who won the OCCI Chairman Award, received from Chairman Ozaki an

award certificate, a commemorative trophy, an award list, and a prize of ¥1,000,000. The AITC Award (comprising conferment of the right to establish a working group and an operation grant totaling the equivalent of ¥1,000,000) went to Sho Okiyama, president of Aillis, Inc., for his business plan presentation titled “Developing a Device for Performing Deep-learning Diagnoses of Pharynx Images.”

The OCCI has concluded a comprehensive partnership agreement with Osaka City and currently supports companies with new business projects incorporating such advanced technologies. In addition, as the secretariat of the AITC Kansai branch, the OCCI is supporting projects designed to effectively use AI for business purposes, partly for which aim it held this contest. From here on, the OCCI and AITC will continue supporting the contest award winners in bringing their business ideas into existence by providing them with, for instance, match-making and promotional support.

=====

5. OCCI REPRESENTATIVES OBSERVED THE 2018 CONSUMER ELECTRIC SHOW; THE OCCI BEGINS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FROM OPEN INNOVATION COMPANIES INTERESTED IN CONDUCTING EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH IN OSAKA



In January 2018, OCCI sent 2 staffs to the Consumer Electronics Show (CES), the world’s largest consumer electronics trade fair held in Las Vegas, Nevada. From all around the world, the CES welcomes more than 180,000 visitors and 4,000 company exhibition booths. From this visit, OCCI staffs learned about advanced technologies developed by a broad range of business organizations from major technology companies to energetic startup enterprises.

New technologies attracted great attention at the venue with their potential for evolving our everyday-life convenience included the following: 5G, AI, robots, facial recognition, AR/VR, smart city, sports innovation, and digital therapeutics.

In addition, under its comprehensive cooperation agreement with Osaka City, the OCCI currently welcomes the following: experimental-project proposals for effectively using advanced technologies available in public spaces and facilities managed by the city, and applications from foreign and national companies and startups

interested in launching experimental projects. The OCCI believes that taking this opportunity to launch an experimental project will allow your business organization to widely publicize your services and products in Japan.



Applications are currently welcomed for projects in the following fields:

- 1) advanced city planning; 2) IoT and RT (robotics); 3) drones; 4) AI (artificial intelligence); 5) healthcare; and 6) open data and big data.

Details are provided at the following URL (in Japanese):

https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/innovation/open_innovation/link.html

We look forward to welcoming as many proposals as possible.

=====

6. REPORT ON VIP VISITORS

3/13 Mr. She Chun-Ming,
Director of Shandong Department of Commerce, China



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/Jigyou/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).

=====

Chief Editor : Susumu SAITO, Director of International Division, OCCI

Mailed by : Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, International Division

Address : 2-8 Hommachi-bashi, Chuo-ku, Osaka, Japan 540-0029

Tel : +81-(0)6-6944-6400

Fax : +81-(0)6-6944-6293

Contact Persons : Yumiko NAGOSHI (Ms.), Morihiro UTSUKI (Mr.)

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

=====

* Please contact us by email (mo-utsuki@osaka.cci.or.jp) to inform us of your change of e-mail address, or of your wishes not to receive OCCI e-Magazine.