



**1987-2017 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRE**

**LET'S LOOK BACK AT 1987**

**Speech by H.E. Mr. Van Agt, Ambassador, Head of the EC Delegation at the press conference for the launching of the EC-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation on 2 June 1987**

For the Commission the establishment of the EC-Japan Centre represents an opportunity for the Community and Japan to move in a more positive direction. The immediate task of the Centre can be expressed quite simply: it is to stimulate and to assist our industrialists to work together in ways which they have not done before. The long-term objective of the exercise is also clear - it is the fusion of important points of our respective industrial economics, characterised by stronger and more balanced flows of capital and technology from one partner to the other. We believe that this process eventually contribute to long-term economic stability and the reduction of trade tensions, but we can only reach that objective by small steps, and we hope that the Centre will make those steps easier for European industrialists to make.

The activities which the Centre is to undertake - the training in Japan of European managers and engineers, on the one hand, and the provision of information services to assist European companies to establish themselves in Japan either independently or with Japanese partners - seems to us to be a reasonable and practical attempt to help industry. (...)

In conclusion, the Commission hopes that European and Japanese companies alike will give the Centre a try, and will help to transform it progressively from what it may appear as now, an unstable-looking rope-bridge across the economic divide into what could become a very busy highway. In the present climate of EC-Japan relations we need such solid bridges rather badly.



 **EU-Japan Centre**  
for Industrial Cooperation  
日欧産業協カセンター

日欧産業協カセンターでは、季刊英文ニュースレター「EU-Japan News」を通じて、さまざまな日・EU関係の情報を発信しています。

欧州連合日本政府代表部/欧州委員会より

- News from Japan..... 19-22
- News from the EU ..... 15-18
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日・EU中小企業間のパートナーシップ促進支援エンタープライズ・ヨーロッパ・ネットワークより

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**30 YEARS 周年**

 日欧産業協カセンター

**EU-Japan Centre**  
for Industrial Cooperation

## LITHUANIAN DELEGATION VISIT TO THE CENTRE

Mrs. Lina Sabaitienė, Vice Minister of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania visited our Tokyo Office on the 24th of March together with Mr. Egidijus Meilūnas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Lithuania to Japan and Mr. Saulius Arelis, Director of Visoriai Information Technology Park.



Mrs. Lina Sabaitienė, Vice Minister of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania and Silviu Jora, General Manager of the EU-Japan Centre

Same as other Baltic states, Lithuania is one of the most active users of our programmes, particularly the training activities with 46 company executives and 15 Vulcanus young engineers in the last 10 years. Starting from this year, Lithuanian companies are also hosting Japanese interns (Vulcanus in Europe). During the meeting the Lithuanian

delegation expressed a particular interest in the SMEs support services of the Centre such as the EEN (a partnering support), Step in Japan (a logistic support), Technology Transfer and Public Procurement Helpdesks, and the S&T support activities focusing on the ICT sector. The Centre representatives expressed their readiness to provide

further details and concrete support to Lithuanian companies interested in Japan in close coordination with the Lithuanian Embassy in Tokyo. In the last years, the Centre have proved its practical usefulness to the EU Member States, particularly to those that do not have large trade support services or a national chamber of commerce in Japan.

## SEMINAR ON CLIMATE CHANGES

A seminar on climate policy was held on 7 March 2017 in Tokyo under the title of "All hands on deck: partnership building to deliver on climate action".

During the seminar, Japanese and EU policy makers presented their vision on how to translate the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) into actionable policies. In the ensuing panel discussion with additional participants from business, local government and academics, there was an active debate on how to build partnerships and engage in climate action both in national and international arena.



Mr. Jake Werksman, Principal Advisor of European Commission's DG CLIMA explained EU policy to implement the Paris Agreement

<http://eu-japan.eu/events/all-hands-deck-partnership-building-deliver-climate-action>

## JAPANESE INDUSTRY AND POLICY NEWS - FEBRUARY ISSUE

### Topics covered in this issue:

- Guidebook for Utilisation of Camera Images Formulated
- Scope of Applications for Trademark Registration Entitled to the Accelerated Examination/Appeal Examination Systems Expanded
- A New "Fukudzukuri 4.0" Project Started on an Existing IT Platform

- Winners of the 3rd Nippon Venture Awards Announced

### COMPANY NEWS

- Nidec ASI Closes Contract for a Large Order for UK's Power Storage System
- Construction of the Second Mega Solar Power Station in the Disaster Hit Minami-Soma Area of Fukushima Announced

- TEPCO Organises an Idea Competition for Better EV Use

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

- European Vegetable Growers Group in Saitama Wins an Innovation Network Award
- Creating Winners' Medals from Discarded Electronic Devices

<http://www.eu-japan.eu/publications/february-2017-japanese-industry-and-policy-news>

## EUROPEAN INNOVATION DAY

On 10 March 2017, the European Innovation Day has been hosted by Accenture Japan in Tokyo. The event, was jointly organised by the EU-Japan Technology Transfer Helpdesk (an initiative of the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation), EURAXESS Japan, French Tech Tokyo (in collaboration with Hello Tomorrow Challenge), and was supported by Accenture Japan.



The event brought together innovation-oriented researchers, students, managers, and startupper, and allowed them to network and learn about the European innovation landscape and policies, venture investing, licensing and how to perform technology transfer operations in selected countries that have been described in the detail during the afternoon session.

It was a dual event, with a pitching competition in the morning (with 5 selected projects/startups and a jury of 9 members from academia and the corporate world), and a series of presentations from experts in the afternoon. The afternoon seminars provided all the attendees with crucial insights on how to succeed in their innovation-related endeavours by looking at Europe's potential and best practices in terms of tech transfer at large.

➔ <http://www.eu-jp-tthelpdesk.eu/european-innovation-day-2017>

## THE EU-JAPAN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER HELPDESK HAS JUST REACHED ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY SINCE ITS INCEPTION

The Helpdesk offers a bundle of products and services aimed at supporting EU and Japanese companies and individuals in their steps to search for and acquire technologies, as well as bridging the knowledge gap about current available technologies from both Japan and the EU.



The available resources, reachable from <http://www.eu-jp-tthelpdesk.eu> provide general content about intellectual property rights, technology transfer and innovation.

### IN ONE YEAR THE HELPDESK:

- Has reached a constantly growing number of users of the website (ca. 600 in February 2017)
- Has realised and published 11 webinars that attracted hundreds of participants
- Has realised in conjunction with some major partnerships (with law firms and consulting firms, EURAXESS, etc...) 3 major seminars/conferences with hundreds of attendees on intellectual property and innovation-related topics:

<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/latest-developments-intellectual-property-law-eu-and-japan>  
<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/recent-developments-intellectual-property-eu-and-japan>  
<http://www.eu-jp-tthelpdesk.eu/european-innovation-day-2017/>

- Has interviewed, and published an article about the most prolific inventor in history: Dr. Yamazaki
- Has collected the most promising technologies from several EU and Japanese research institutions (e.g. European Space Agency, the Italian National Research Council, Waseda University, OIST, etc...) and created one of the largest free databases of available technologies, and patent documents available today featuring more than 80 million files overall.
- Has helped several EU and Japanese companies and research projects in finding partners or additional information to strengthen the relationship with Japanese or EU entities.
- Has created a podcast series with interviews made with innovation experts available from the official website.

### The services of the Helpdesk are dedicated to:

- European companies, universities, and research institutions
- Japanese companies, universities, and research institutions
- Japanese and European individuals working for the above entities

➔ <http://www.eu-jp-tthelpdesk.eu>

## NEXT MISSIONS TO JAPAN - EXHIBIT IN JAPAN

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE NEXT BIOTECH, ICT AND NANOTECH MISSIONS TO JAPAN

You are working in an EU company or cluster that is operating in the biotech, ICT or nanotech sectors?  
Your company is planning to access the Japanese market or aiming further expansion in Japan?  
You would like to have the opportunity to exhibit in a sectorial trade fair and meet potential Japanese partners and clients?

Since 2012 the EU-Japan Centre has been organising matchmaking missions to Japan for EU Clusters and companies working in the following sectors: Biotech / ICT / Nanotech.

The missions last 3 to 4 days and coincide with relevant trade fairs in Japan:

- "BioJapan" Expo (<http://www.ics-expo.jp/biojapan/en/>) in Yokohama;
- "Japan IT Week" trade fair (<http://www.japan-it.jp/en/aki/>) in Chiba;
- "nano tech - International Nanotechnology Exhibition and Conference" (<http://www.nanotechexpo.jp/index.html>) in Tokyo.

During the 3-day fair you will attend showcase sessions and B2B meetings and meet with Japanese visitors.

In order to maximise your partnering opportunities, you will be able to exhibit in the EU Delegation booth.

A partnering event will be organised one day before the "BioJapan" Expo and the "Japan IT Week" trade fair.

### BIOTECH MISSION

10-13 October 2017

Application deadline:

Thursday, 25 May 2017



<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-cluster-sme-mission>

### ICT MISSION

7-10 November 2017

Application deadline:

Thursday, 29 June 2017



<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/ict-cluster-sme-mission>

### NANOTECH MISSION

14-16 February 2018

Application deadline:

Thursday, 26 October 2017



<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/nanotech-cluster-sme-mission>

## ABOUT THE BIOTECH MISSION...



By **THEODORA PAPAYFANTI**, Business Development Manager, Hellenic Bio Cluster, <http://hbio.gr>  
Attended the Biotech Cluster and SME Support Mission 2016

*"The biotech mission to Japan was one of the first HBio's extroversion activity outside Europe and specifically to Asia. Japan, as the second pharmaceutical global market, depicts the challenges in Life Sciences innovation thus offering up-to-date business insights. Although, Japanese cluster organisations are towards defining their scope are still good examples for the European organisations for re-evaluating and adjusting their strategic management. Our cluster followed a hybrid approach for maximising impact for the*

*cluster organisation as well as for selected members addressing the requests of the Japanese companies. We had the opportunity to have many prescheduled and fringe meetings with global leaders, newly established companies and research institutions in realistic and creative basis. It was an overall useful experience highly demanding in terms of preparation yet promising in terms of direct and short coming results."*



By **JAN ALENFALL**, CEO, Follicum AB, <http://www.follicum.com>  
Attended the Biotech Cluster and SME Support Mission 2016

*"The Biotech Cluster and SME support mission to Japan was very interesting and even though, I have had some experience in the past with interacting with Japanese companies, the mission has given much helpful insights in Japanese culture, economy and industry trends, particularly in the health care sector, especially pharma and biotech industry. The mission gave a great introduction how to do business in Japan.*

*The mission was very well planned and organised, providing support for the organised meetings and for the stay in Japan. This allowed for a wide network of contacts to be created that could serve as an opportunity for future expansion of our company. My visit to both European biotech & pharma partnering conference in Osaka and subsequently the BioJapan conference in Yokohama, gave very valuable insight to and exposure into the Japanese industry. Many good contacts to potential business partners in the pharma industry were established during these meetings and hopefully they will be transformed into long-lasting, successful professional relationships."*

## ABOUT THE NANOTECH MISSION...



By **ANDER DE BUSTOS**, Business Development Manager, Simune, <http://www.simune.eu>  
Attended the Nanotech Cluster and SME Support Mission 2016

*"SIMUNE's services help leading R&D groups to save costs and time, and accelerate the whole materials design process in a variety of applications such as semiconductors, energy storage, catalysis, new compounds, etc. We train researchers on atomic-scale simulations, cooperate with them in complex simulation challenges and code development and give them expert support.*

*Japanese Industry leads the development of highly technological products that implement new materials with innovative properties and it is indeed an interesting market for SIMUNE. Our business model, based on services, requires of a deep understanding of the Japanese business culture. I shared the EU-Japan mission to nanoTECH Japan 2016 with other 18 European companies working on nanotechnology, and gained a highly-valuable experience that will for sure influence the future decisions of our company and our approach to the Japanese market.*

*Regarding my personal goals, I was impressed by the mix of organisation, culture, technology and tradition that Tokyo suggests. This will of course influence my future relationships with our Japanese collaborators and help us better understand the needs of our partners and clients.*

*Our service business model is in development in Japan and it is our objective to establish long-term relationships with Japanese partners and clients, as well as to find new opportunities to expand our business. I expect that the EU-Japan Centre will help us with this ambitious goal, and I am sure that this collaboration will be as positive as it was during the mission. Finally, I think that all this will lead to have more and better business opportunities to collaborate between European and Japanese companies."*

## ABOUT THE ICT MISSION...



By **HAKAN UMIT**, Managing Director, Pôle Position, <http://polepositionbe.com>  
Attended the ICT Cluster and SME Support Mission 2016

*"I have attended the ICT mission in 2016 in Yokohama in which I had the opportunity to personally meet some very important players in the Japanese IoT market, such as Toshiba, Panasonic and NEC. The mission consisted of condensed seminars on the Japanese business culture as well as the ICT sector, in which specific questions of the participants were addressed carefully. We visited IT companies and had an exclusive opportunity to showcase our products and services in Asia's largest expo on IoT.*

*I have benefited and learned a lot during the ICT mission. For example, I had the opportunity to promote a brand-new product that was funded by the EU. During my meetings with different Japanese companies, the EU etiquette paid off well and I met a Japanese high-tech firm that will be an intermediary for our products and services for the Japanese market. I can easily say that the mission was beyond my expectations".*



By **DORIN CRISTEA**, Executive Director, RomSoft SRL, <http://www.rms.ro>  
Attended the ICT Cluster and SME Support Mission 2016

*"The Cluster Support Mission was a good opportunity to participate in the IOT Exhibition. My goals were to get in contact with Japanese companies interested in IOT applications, especially in the medical field. I met two companies: one was interested to see what we are doing in the medical field and to find common interests to cooperate in the future. This company is part of the Hitachi group.*

*In May 2016, I attended the Centre's HRTP 4-week programme in Japan. In that period, I met the second company. It is a software development company for the Japanese market. By attending this mission in November, I had the chance to continue the negotiations and have the final result to start working together.*

*That is a very good result, by starting to work from 2017. In this way, combining two programs from EU-Japan Centre we got the best results. I am glad to have had the chance to be supported by the EU to get in connection with Japan".*

## LEAN IN EUROPE - VISIT 13: RATIONAL AG

23 MAY 2017, LANDSBERG AM LECH, GERMANY



On Tuesday, 23 May, the EU-Japan Centre will organise a Lean in Europe visit to Rational AG ([https://www.rational-online.com/en\\_gb/home](https://www.rational-online.com/en_gb/home)), in Landsberg am Lech, in Bavaria (Germany).

### THE VISIT WILL FOCUS ON

- 100% KANBAN for purchasing material and in-house component production
- cascade shop-floor management
- entrepreneur within the enterprise (personal responsibility)
- 100% customer order-related
- pilots in industry 4.0

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 10 April 2017.

Should you have any questions, please send an email to Ellen Murrell [e.murrell@eu-japan.eu](mailto:e.murrell@eu-japan.eu).

Online application at:

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/lean-europe-rational-ag-visit>

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## LEAN VISIT - RESULTS OF PREVIOUS VISIT TO ODELO SLOVENIJA D.O.O.



The 11th visit in the LEAN in Europe Driving Competitiveness series took place on the 6 December 2017 in Slovenia.

A total of 37 people (of 15 EU nationalities) took part in the visit. Odelo (<http://www.odelo.si>), a manufacturer for automotive signal lightings, opened their doors and demonstrated their road to WCM and their strategy 4.0.

A preparatory evening was organised the previous day and included lean activities organised by the EU-Japan Centre's WCM advisor - Prof. Richard Keegan.

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/lean-europe-visit-11-odelo>

## WCM TRAINING MISSIONS IN JAPAN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The 5-day World Class Manufacturing training mission (WCM) gives senior European engineers the perfect opportunity to visit some of the world's most advanced factories to see for themselves:



- how leading Japanese companies use world-class manufacturing techniques to drive their businesses
- how to interact with senior Japanese production engineering managers and lean experts

### The training mission in Japan provides participants with:

- in-depth analysis of Japanese manufacturing methodology
- Lectures, seminars and panel discussions presented by experts from Japanese industry
- Company and factory floor (Gemba) visits
- Preparation and post-visit review

No tuition fee for SMEs and the European Commission grants €600 scholarships to participants from SMEs.

**Training dates: 11-15 September 2017 - Application deadline: Thursday, 27 April 2017**

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing>

## LEAN VISIT TESTIMONIAL



By **FABIO CIMMINO**, CEO, Manifattura Foderami Cimmino, <http://www.cimmino.com/it>  
Attended missions\*

*"Personally and professionally I found the Lean in Europe visits extraordinarily rewarding. It is inspiring to see different ways, sometimes original, sometimes very personal, of applying lean principles. Lean visits mean to see systems, machinery, processes and people in action.*

*A unique chance to meet such dedicated and motivated teams all striving to continuously improve.*

*Feel the passion of every staff member and touch the dedication at all levels of management.*

*Such a high level achieved at some of the sites visited that I realised how many more opportunities there are at my own site. Every time I am back in my company, I always try to be very quick and extremely effective when planning new steps to move forward on our lean journey. Even if the factories are unrelated to your own industry, the message is more about the process and disciplines used to get the business to the current state. Small steps to achieve the ultimate goal, remembering that each one of these businesses started off somewhere and then lean became a "need" for business continuity. Every visit exceeded my expectations. Each plant tour, Q&A and debriefing were always very professional and informative. Moreover, every visit is a special occasion for sharing and exchange views with other participants. This experience constantly enlightens and energises me to intensify the lean efforts within my organisation".*

\*List of activities, Fabio has joined: WCM I Mission (July 2013), H RTP 51 (2015); Lean visits to Robert Bosch (Wernau-Germany), Audi (Brussels-Belgium), Danfoss (Grodzisk-Poland), DHL (Nijmegen-The Netherlands), Rottapham-Mada (Dublin-Ireland), Maserati (Turin-Italy), Odelo (Prebold-Slovenia), LEAN Master class with Professor Keegan- WCM Advisor (Dublin-Ireland)

## WCM MISSION TESTIMONIAL



By **ANJA FIJAVZ**, Head of Lean Management, Helios Group, <http://www.helios-group.eu>  
Attended the WCM mission 2016 September

*"World Class Manufacturing programme organised by the EU-Japan Centre in September 2016 offered a great insight in Japan working culture and the logic behind. An abundant emphasis is given to the development of employees. In other words, the empowerment of the people for the Japanese culture is the key to success. Strategic education in the company, enablement of the individual to stop the line and utilisation of current assets show that Toyota Production System is not only a set of tools, but it is a way of thinking.*

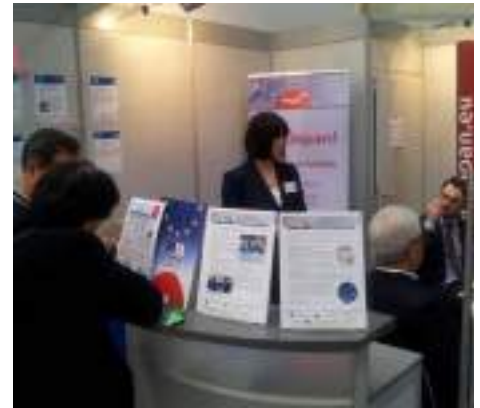
*Therefore, for a greater lean implementation in our company we will focus on a clearer and more frequent communication on lean via various channels, such as newsletter, workshops, educational courses and benchmark tours. In addition, we will place greater focus on the standardisation of work, in order to put more credit and responsibility into shop floor workers, through various lean methods optimise and develop our business processes all on the basis of simple thinking!"*

## THE CENTRE AT CEBIT

### SPECIAL MATCHING SUPPORT OFFERED FOR EU AND JAPANESE SMES

The Centre's participation in this year's CeBIT was special because Japan was this year's CeBIT partner country. The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) hosted large Japanese Pavilions in halls 4 and 12 with more than 100 companies.

Besides its promotion activities towards European CeBIT participants, the Centre used this occasion to strengthen its network with Japanese ICT companies. Many of the smaller Japanese companies at CeBIT presented their products and services for the first time in the European market and are looking for partners in view to access the European market. In talks with nearly 50 Japanese SMEs, the Centre's staff introduced the services they can provide, and promoted a B2B Business Matching event which will be held on 7 November 2017 in Tokyo.



As part of the Enterprise Europe Network activities at CeBIT, the EU-Japan Centre supported Japanese registrants at the local B2B Brokerage Event "Future Match". Six registered Japanese companies had meetings in the dedicated meeting area or at their own companies' booth.



#### Japanese companies participating in Future Match B2B Brokerage event

Company name	Showcased Products/Services	Website
alfaTKG Co.,Ltd.	Series of software solutions for a manufacturing IoT system, created especially for small and medium-sized companies	<a href="https://a-tkg.com/en">https://a-tkg.com/en</a>
CONNEXT Inc.	Software development, IT solution for musicians, browsers and UI engines for embedded equipment, beacon solutions etc.	<a href="http://www.connnext.co.jp/">http://www.connnext.co.jp/</a>
FORUM8 Co., Ltd.	Custom built VR simulation and modeling software for urban transport planning, emergency planning, road safety etc.	<a href="http://www.forum8.com/">http://www.forum8.com/</a>
Fujikin Inc.	Precision electronic valves, smart flow control systems and innovative life science products	<a href="http://www-ng.fujikin.co.jp/fujikinhp_e/">http://www-ng.fujikin.co.jp/fujikinhp_e/</a>
Intermedia Laboratory Inc.	Personal identification technology, combining smart cards based on electric capacitance codes with touch screen devices	<a href="http://www.im-lab.com/english.html">http://www.im-lab.com/english.html</a>
ITS, Inc.	Iris authentication and biometrics technology to be developed into multimodal products	<a href="http://www.its-japan.com/company_eng.html">http://www.its-japan.com/company_eng.html</a>

Together with the local Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) partner, Leibniz Universitaet Hannover, the EU-Japan Centre organised a Guided Tour for Future Match participants to the booths of 6 Japanese exhibitors. The visited Japanese companies presented technologies ranging from equipment for the creation of virtual reality environment to latest RFID chip technology for the internet of things.



Japanese companies of the Japan Pavilion Guided Tour		
Company name	Showcased Products/Services	Website
KANEKO Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	Real-time, multi-view, glasses-free 3D endoscope system for medical education as well as to avoid surgical errors	<a href="http://www.t-kaneko.co.jp/?lang=en">http://www.t-kaneko.co.jp/?lang=en</a>
Design M Plus, Inc.	Network services and software applications for touch devices including an application for musicians and students of music	<a href="https://www.design-mplus.com/en">https://www.design-mplus.com/en</a>
Kid's Plates Inc	Radio-controlled 360 degree camera for the creation of virtual and augmented reality environments	<a href="https://www.kidsplates.jp/english/">https://www.kidsplates.jp/english/</a>
Phoenix Solution	Innovative RFID tags that are readable even if placed on the back of metal products for broader global IoT in various industries	<a href="http://www.phoenix-sol.co.jp/english/index.html">http://www.phoenix-sol.co.jp/english/index.html</a>
Flexsche Corp.	Flexible and easy-to-use production scheduler for the manufacturing industry	<a href="https://www.flexsche.com/en/">https://www.flexsche.com/en/</a>
Fujikin Inc.	Precision electronic valves, smart flow control systems and innovative life science products	<a href="http://www-ng.fujikin.co.jp/fujikinhp_e/">http://www-ng.fujikin.co.jp/fujikinhp_e/</a>

Japanese companies participating with the cooperation of NEDO		
Company name	Showcased Products/Services	Website
CYBERDYNE	Innovative Cybernic System: "HAL" The world's first cyborg-type robot	<a href="http://www.cyberdyne.jp/english/">http://www.cyberdyne.jp/english/</a>
tmsuk	RODEM, the world's first robot wheelchair that enables easy and safe transfer and movement of elderly and disabled persons	<a href="http://www.tmsuk.co.jp/english/">http://www.tmsuk.co.jp/english/</a>
Phoenix Solution	World's first RFID tag that is readable even when attached to the back of metallic products	<a href="http://www.phoenix-sol.co.jp/english/index.html">http://www.phoenix-sol.co.jp/english/index.html</a>
16Lab	Ring shaped wearable computing device "OZON"	<a href="https://16lab.net/">https://16lab.net/</a>
enRoute	High-performance multirotor drone with 10kg load capacity	<a href="http://enroute1.com">http://enroute1.com</a>
AIST	AI-enabled robot for handling soft materials that can develop potential functions through machine learning	<a href="http://www.aist.go.jp/index_en.html">http://www.aist.go.jp/index_en.html</a>
AIST	Advanced wearable and flexible sensors	<a href="http://www.aist.go.jp/index_en.html">http://www.aist.go.jp/index_en.html</a>
JAPER A	Flexible sheet sensor for simultaneous detection of pressure and temperature	<a href="http://japera.or.jp/index1.html">http://japera.or.jp/index1.html</a>

## VULCANUS IN EUROPE

Through this scheme, every year, EU companies and research centres can host Japanese trainees for an 8-month internship in the EU from August onwards.



The trainees come from leading Japanese universities and are students in engineering or other scientific/high-tech fields. Thanks to a 4-month intensive language course before the placement, the trainees are able to communicate in the EU company's language. By welcoming a trainee, the main benefits for the Host Companies are a valuable addition to their R&D workforce and an insight into Japanese culture, which is extremely useful for conducting successful business with Japan.

More information for session 2018 will be available online starting from May.

Application deadline scheduled for September 2017.

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/vulcanus-europe>

## FINAL CEREMONY

On 20 March 2017, 17 Japanese participants in the Vulcanus in Europe 2016-17 session gathered together in Brussels, along with the representatives of their respective host companies, to attend the Vulcanus Final ceremony.



### “A GOOD CHANCE TO IDENTIFY JAPANESE TALENT”

*Atsushi Miyasaka, Keisuke Nagashima and Kyoichi Sugahara joined Applus IDIADA HQ Spain last year. They have helped us to develop various projects in the field of Vehicle Dynamics, Electric Vehicles and Passive Safety. We are extremely satisfied with this experience, not only with the knowledge and best practices that the students have brought, also with the personal values that they have left in our teams.*

*Since 2007, when we started to take part in this programme, we have hosted a total of 22 students, helping us to identify and attract Japanese talent. For us is important to bring to the students the opportunity to join Applus IDIADA as engineers, which means taking part in automotive development projects in one of 25 countries, including Japan. Our collaboration with Japanese industry is growing year after year, and we are sure this programme helps us to reach our targets.*



By **ANGELS MAS** - Human Resources Director of Applus IDIADA <http://www.idiada.com>

## VULCANUS IN JAPAN

“Vulcanus in Japan” is a 1-year internship programme for European engineers and science-major students, managed by the EU-Japan Centre.

Every year, 30-40 skilled and highly motivated Vulcanus participants are selected to undertake industrial internships in Japan for 8 months, following intensive 4 months of Japanese language courses and seminars. Typical internship projects include Mechanical/Electrical Engineering, ICT, Chemistry, Biotechnology and Life Sciences, Architecture, etc.

The programme starts every year in September with an intensive Japanese language class, followed by an industrial internship from January to August.

Companies based in Japan interested in hosting Vulcanus interns may contact the EU-Japan Centre in Tokyo, Vulcanus in Japan team, e-mail: [VinJ@eu-japan.gr.jp](mailto:VinJ@eu-japan.gr.jp), Phone: +81-(0)3-6408-0281

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/host-european-trainee-japan>



## MID-TERM MEETING

On 10 March 2017, 35 European participants in the ongoing session of Vulcanus in Japan gathered together in Tokyo for the annual Mid-Term meeting at the premises of the Delegation of the European Union to Japan.



By **NIKOLA CVETKOVSKI**, FYROM – trainee at Asial Corporation, Vulcanus in Japan 2016-2017

*“My participation in the “Vulcanus in Japan” programme is something that I would never have imagined a year ago, but now is an irreplaceable part of my life and I am really glad to have experienced it.*

*This programme is a great opportunity for self-improvement and personal growth by getting work experience and an opportunity to learn work ethics from a top Japanese company, all the while spending a year in a country with a different culture and even a different mindset from that of the Western world.*

*Every day you experience and learn something new whether through interactions with your classmates during the intensive Japanese course, interactions with your co-workers during the internship or by experiencing the culture of Japan in your everyday life and on your travels. You get to have so much fun and meet so many inspiring people and yet, at the same time, you acquire many skills and qualities that will be of great help to your professional career. It is because of this that I feel deeply honoured and grateful to have been part of this life changing programme.*

*I greatly appreciate my company “Asial Corporation” for accepting me as their intern and giving me the opportunity to be a part of their team. As working in a Japanese company was one of my dreams ever since I started high school, this placement was a true dream come true for me, and the fact that I get to work in a company where the people are so nice and I get to learn so much from them, adds even more value to the meaning of my placement.”*

## “MINERVA” EU-JAPAN FELLOWSHIP

Minerva is an in-house fellowship scheme in Japan.



The scheme lasts 6 months and it targets EU and Japanese academics, trade / economic analysts and civil servants.

Fellows are expected to produce a policy report on topics that are relevant for the EU-Japan Centre, as well as to support the daily analytical activities of the Centre.

There are 2 slots per year

- The 1st 2017 slot will start on 1 April and last 6 months
- The 2nd 2017 slot will start in October

Deadline to apply for the 2nd slot: 15 July 2017

Fellowship: €2000 / month - Location: Tokyo, Japan

For more info about the Minerva fellowship, please visit below link or email [minerva@eu-japan.gr.jp](mailto:minerva@eu-japan.gr.jp)

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/other-activities/minerva-fellowship>



*“The MINERVA Fellowship Programme was a unique opportunity to build Research skills on Microalgae, Biomass and Circular Economy, not only by performing desk research in the office, but by participating in interesting seminars, organising important events or conducting numerous interviews”.*

By **MANUEL HERRADOR MUÑOZ**, Ph.D., Minerva fellow 2016

## “STEP IN JAPAN” A HOT DESK IN TOKYO! LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

For EU SMEs planning to go to Japan, the EU-Japan Centre offers FREE logistical support and business assistance from its Tokyo office, for up to one month.

### DETAILS OF THE SUPPORT MEASURES OFFERED:

- office facilities in Tokyo on the Centre's premises which includes an internet connection and telephone
- full access to meeting and seminar facilities on the Centre's premises

### BEFORE LEAVING, PREPARE YOUR TRIP!

- free access to sector specific reports and webinars and to a thorough intercultural crash-course
- assistance in using the Enterprise Europe Network service while in Japan
- a help desk for all information inquiries about business in Japan

Any SME wishing to benefit from this support should contact: [StepInJapan@eu-japan.gr.jp](mailto:StepInJapan@eu-japan.gr.jp)



By **HELEN TUNG** – Step in Japan, November 2016

*"I am a lawyer and PhD researcher of Greenwich University. I took part in the "Step-In-Japan" scheme and conducted research on unmanned maritime systems and GNSS.*

*I would like to thank the EU-Japan Centre for the fruitful stay and for the support and contribute to the panel discussions.*

*My stay culminated when I took part in the Unmanned systems and GNSS seminar alongside Prof. Yasuo Arai, President of the International Association of Institutes of Navigation Technical College; Mr. Hiroshi Yoshida; Director of Marine Technology Development Department of Marine Technology (MARITEC) of Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC) and Mr. Takuo Kashiwa, Department General Manager of Furuno Co. Ltd."*

A summary report can be found here: <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/unmanned-maritime-systems-and-gnss>

For more info about "STEP IN JAPAN", please visit ➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/logistical-support-step-japan>



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON JAPAN

### DO NOT MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET ACCESS TO JAPAN RELATED INFO

With [www.EUbusinessinJapan.eu](http://www.EUbusinessinJapan.eu) one of the Centre's websites, EU companies wishing to do business in Japan will be able to get access to a lot of practical information on how to do business with Japan.

The Centre published on this website a wide variety of webpages, expert reports and e-learning resources, and regularly organises 2-3 webinars per month covering Japan-related operational matters, industrial sectors and cultural aspects to assist EU companies in seizing opportunities in the Japanese market. Feel free to register on <http://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/user/register>



## NEXT "ABOUT JAPAN" WEBINARS

Each month the EU Japan Centre organises webinars designed to improve EU companies' knowledge of conducting business in Japan or to present successful EU-Japan cooperation projects within H2020. **The forthcoming webinars are:**

### WEBINAR 91: EU-JAPAN SMART CITY PROJECT - CITY PLATFORM AS A SERVICE (CPAAS.IO)

What role does an open city platform play in creating smart city innovation? - Date: 11 April 2017

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/webinar-91-eu-japan-smart-city-project-city-platform-service-cpaasio>

### WEBINAR 92: EU-JAPAN COLLABORATIVE PROJECT ON INTELLIGENT KNOWLEDGE-AS-A-SERVICE (IKAAS)

How to generate and manage knowledge in multi-cloud environments? - Date: 09 May 2017

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/webinar-92-eu-japan-collaborative-project-intelligent-knowledge-service-ikaas>

## LATEST REPORTS

### MARKET FOR SAFETY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT IN JAPAN

This report gives an overview of the Japanese market for personal protective equipment, such as helmets, safety goggles or protective footwear. After discussing various regulations for importing safety equipment to Japan, it also analyses the market conditions and provides information on the market volume, recent trends, key players and distribution channels.

➔ <http://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/report-market-for-safety-and-protective-equipment-in-japan>

### THE JAPANESE COMPOSITE MATERIAL SECTOR

This report gives an overview of the Japanese market for composite materials. In particular, it discusses the market trends for composite materials in the aerospace & defence industry, the automotive industry, the construction industry and the wind energy industry.

➔ <http://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publication/report-the-japanese-composite-material-sector>

Nearly 100 reports have been released within the frame of the EU Business in Japan website, they are available for members at:

➔ <http://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/library/publications>

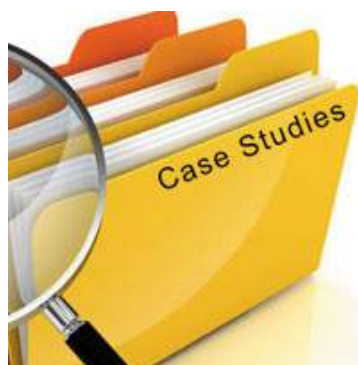
## CALL FOR EXPERTS IN KEY BUSINESS SECTORS IN JAPAN

In a framework of its next 3 sectorial missions, the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation is calling for experts in Japan's ICT, biotech and nanotech sectors to give a presentation during a webinar.

A pre-departure briefing will be organised before each mission, in order to better prepare and familiarise participants with key characteristics of a target sector. During the webinar, the selected expert will give approximately a 30-minute presentation on the sector's status in Japan and provide further insights on challenges and opportunities to EU companies for a successful market entry.

**Deadline for proposals: 30 April 2017.** For further information contact: Ms. Diane Lula at [d.lula@eu-japan.eu](mailto:d.lula@eu-japan.eu)

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/news/call-experts-key-business-sectors-japan>



## DUTCH COMPANY OCELLO

Ocello B.V. was founded in 2011 in Leiden. It is a privately owned contract research organisation based on technology developed at Leiden University.



Ocello excels in the development of clinically relevant in vitro human micro-tissue models that can be used for the screening and profiling of small molecules and biologics.

The analysis of these models, many of which use patient-derived material, is enabled by Ocello's unique high throughput 3D imaging and phenotypic profiling technology.

As well as providing measurements of cell growth and viability, phenotypic profiling allows the measurement of more complex biology that better correlates with clinical endpoints. Furthermore, compounds with the optimum therapeutic profile or optimum target specific profile can be selected to enable a better ranking of compounds at early stage in the drug development process.

### WHY JAPAN?

When asked why he chose to do business in Japan, Mr. Price noted that at first he didn't consider going to Japan as it would be more difficult to do business there than in Europe.

However, when his colleague came across the EU-Japan Centre's mission to Japan, it struck them as an interesting opportunity.

It is true Japan has a reasonably big market and a big pharmaceutical industry. Moreover, it is an industry that is very dependent on service providers coming from outside Japan.

From a personal perspective too, Japan drew their interest. Mr. Price pointed out that Japan is an intriguing place and that you may as well enjoy the place you are going to. Driven by these two factors, the company managed to join the mission and make its first steps into the Japanese market.

### STEPS TAKEN

During their stay in Japan in 2014, Mr. Price and his colleague attended the BioJapan fair as part of the Biotech Cluster and SME Support mission organised by the EU-Japan Centre (<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-cluster-sme-mission>).

They did not develop any immediate leads with Japanese companies interested in their services, but they did manage to get in touch with an agent. This agent was a European, but had

been living and working in Japan for many years and spoke fluent Japanese. They made an agreement to include Ocello in the agent's portfolio that also consisted of numerous other European companies providing services to pharma and could be introduced to Japanese companies.

About a year after the mission, Mr. Price travelled again to Japan and this time with the goal to visit potential Japanese business partners that had been identified with the help of the agent. He went by some 10 companies in a week and upon return he had managed to identify 3 leads. Now in early 2017, he has completed several contracts with one company and is in negotiation with another.

### CHALLENGES

When asked about what challenges he faced when doing business in Japan, Mr. Price mentioned two points.

In the first place, he thought that it was particularly difficult to identify what companies were working on. In the pharma industry in general there is a lot of secrecy, but he had the feeling that in Japan there is a little bit more. On top of that, the language barrier means that you really don't know what is going on in many cases. However, their agent had a clever way around this; he would send a list around of all the services that they could provide. The Japanese clients in his portfolio could then tick

off what they were interested in and indicate what they wanted to talk about. Remarkably, during some of the visits to interested companies, Mr. Price noticed that they hadn't ticked off all the items that appealed to them. Only toward the end of the meetings, they would verbally point out their interest in particular services to try to get some insight.

In the second place, Mr. Price said that doing business in Japan was slow. As an example, he said that with a European it would take 2 or 3 versions to get to a fine quote. With a Japanese company on the other hand, it would more likely be 5 or 6 versions. There is a lot of questions going back and forth, and one has to provide a lot of details. This means that one has to be very patient when doing business with Japan.

Yet, Mr. Price said that these challenges weren't necessarily problems, but more obvious differences to get used to.

### CURRENT STATUS - NEXT STEPS

Given the contracts he already made as well as the company's he is still in touch with, Ocello will be active on the Japanese market in the future too. Currently, they are planning another visit to Japan and are looking into launching some new products there. With the help of their agent, they hope to find additional business partners.

Interview made with **LEO PRICE**, CSO and Founder of Ocello <http://ocello.nl>

More case studies are available in [▶ http://www.eubusinessinJapan.eu/library/publications](http://www.eubusinessinJapan.eu/library/publications)

# INFORMATION ABOUT EUROPEAN COMMISSION H2020 CALLS THAT ARE POTENTIALLY OF INTEREST TO JAPANESE RESEARCHERS

## MICRO-NANO ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGIES SUITABLE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

**Today, semiconductors and their value chains underpin innovation and competitiveness in all major sectors of the economy. In Europe, the semiconductor ecosystem itself employs approximately 250,000 people directly. More than 800,000 people work on the integration of components into systems, applications and services across Europe, and more than 2,500,000 are employed in the complete components value chain. Overall, micro- and nano- electronic components and systems enable the generation of at least 10% of GDP in Europe and the world.**

More than 450 billion has been invested in micro- nano-electronics and smart embedded components and systems by the European Commission in the past ten years. More efficient electrical cars, smart textiles, revolutionary health devices are some of the examples of about 110 research and innovation funded projects<sup>[1]</sup> contributing to the progress of miniaturisation (More Moore) and improved functionality (More than Moore) at an affordable cost.

Being at the forefront in the manufacturing and design of these technologies, doubling the economic value of the semiconductor component production in Europe by 2020-2025, is one of the main goal of the European Commission. This ambitious goal is part of the **European Industrial Strategic Roadmap** and the related Implementation Plan<sup>[2]</sup>, agreed on June 2014 between the European Commission and the Electronic Leaders Group (ELG)<sup>[3]</sup>.

Beside the Joint Technology Initiative on Electronics Components and Systems (JTI ECSEL), the Horizon 2020 calls has fostered the generic technology development focused on exploratory research for the continued shrinking of horizontal and vertical physical feature sizes. The global cooperation with the goal to facilitate the international consensus on future micro- nano- electronics is expected to be encouraged in the Call for Proposal, opened last December 2016.

In particular in this call text, specifically in the case of Research and Innovation Actions, it is stated "International cooperation with clear EU industrial benefits may be considered, preferably with nations that have substantial research in the area (e.g. Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and USA)." In the frame of Idealist NCP Network, micro- nanoelectronics technologies innovation ecosystems and available funding mechanisms has been introduced, in order to make easier the connection between European and relevant Third Countries organisations.

[1] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/node/76954#EU%20Investmentshtmlfile%5CShell%5COpen%5CCommand>

[2] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-industrial-strategic-roadmap-micro-and-nano-electronic-components-and-systems-0>

[3] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/ELG.pdf>

Specific H2020 Call:	ICT-31-2017 Micro- Nanoelectronics technologies
Targeted Countries:	Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and USA
Budget:	19M€ - The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 2 and 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately
Deadline:	25th April 2017
Type of action:	Research and Innovation Action
Technological targets:	Proposals should foster i.) the development of new approaches to scale functional performance of information processing and storage and ii.) the 3D sequential integration (at transistor scale) possibly mixed with 3D parallel integration (at circuit level) for system solutions to increase functionalities and capabilities
More info:	➡ <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/ict-31-2017.html">http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/ict-31-2017.html</a>

## COMMISSIONER MALMSTRÖM AND JAPAN'S MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONFIRM **COMMITMENT FOR AN EARLY CONCLUSION OF EU-JAPAN FTA NEGOTIATIONS**

Commissioner Cecilia Malmström and Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Fumio Kishida met on the 19 February 2017 in Bonn to discuss the way forward for the negotiation of a Free Trade Agreement between the EU and Japan.

Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to reach a highly comprehensive and ambitious agreement as early as possible. *"Negotiations are very advanced. While it was not possible to conclude by the end of 2016, as we had hoped, tremendous progress has been registered over the last few months. As often in a negotiation, the few remaining issues are the most difficult to be solved, but I am confident that the distance between our respective positions can be bridged soon"*, said Commissioner Malmström.

Source: European Commission

➔ <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm>

The meeting also allowed for an exchange of views on some domestic reforms that Japan is undertaking, and on their possible impact on the negotiating process calendar, as well as on the international situation and the perspectives for world trade. Commissioner Malmström and Minister Kishida agreed that negotiations should continue without interruption and instructed their Chief Negotiators in this respect. Both parties also confirmed their commitment to concluding in parallel a Strategic Partnership Agreement, to ensure that the whole EU-Japan relationship is consolidated and made fit for current challenges.

## THE 8<sup>TH</sup> **EU-JAPAN JOINT CUSTOMS COOPERATION COMMITTEE**

**Held on the 25 January 2017 in Tokyo, the JCCC was co-chaired by Mr. Stephen Quest, Director General of Taxation and Customs Union at the European Commission and Mr. Mikio Kajikawa, the Director General of the Customs and Tariff Bureau from the Ministry of Finance of Japan.**

The meeting agenda included discussions on the reliable traders and how to tap the full potential of the existing EU-Japan Mutual Recognition Agreement on the respective 'trusted trader' programmes. Identification of reliable traders allows focusing more on the risky ones thereby upgrading customs efficiency and accelerating trade flows. It has been agreed to raise awareness and visibility among the trade community and continue dialogue on the enhancement of benefits.

In the area of risk management, the EU and Japan explored possible collaboration on several initiatives related to high risks and "accelerated trade lanes".

In addition, the JCCC discussed cooperation in the international arena, policy and legislative developments, mutual administrative assistance and the recent state of play in negotiating the customs provisions for the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement.

Source: European Commission

➔ [http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/business/international-affairs/international-customs-cooperation-mutual-administrative-assistance-agreements/japan\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/international-affairs/international-customs-cooperation-mutual-administrative-assistance-agreements/japan_en)

## **EU-JAPAN COOPERATION RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROJECT LAUNCHED**

**The EU-Japan cooperation project, InRel-Npower, will focus on advanced materials for power electronics. Improvement in wide band gap material properties are expected to lead to a substantial improvement in device performance, reduced in-service degradation and lower maintenance needs and costs. The research consortium with nine European and two Japanese partners started their research activities on 1 January 2017.**

The European Commission launched a call for proposals to support research and innovation on advanced wide band gap materials for power electronics coordinated with co-funding for Japanese partners from the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) services. This is the first time the co-funding scheme developed by JST in close cooperation with the European Commission is applied. The co-funding scheme was agreed in May 2015 by the third meeting of the EU-Japan Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation.

The scheme is part of the 2011 agreement ([http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/japan\\_agreement.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/japan_agreement.pdf)) between the European Union and the Government of Japan on Cooperation in Science and Technology.

Source: European Commission

➔ <http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?amp;pg=japan>

## MEET THE **EU-SME INSTRUMENT DELEGATION ATTENDING FOE 2017!**

As part of the Horizon 2020 programme, the European Commission hand-picks potentially disruptive businesses to support through the SME Instrument. As part of the SME Instrument, the Overseas Trade Fair Participation programme supports innovative European SMEs in commercialising their cutting-edge technologies globally. It does this through bringing delegations of up to 15 European SMEs to major international Trade Fairs taking place across 11 countries outside the European Union, including Japan.

Only those SMEs with a disruptive innovative idea and a solid business plan are selected based on the criteria of expected impact (on the market, customers and competitors, as well as their ambition to go global), their fit with the trade fair and their commitment. Moreover, these SMEs have also been previously recognised for their excellence by being selected amongst the 7% out of 10 000 applications submitted per year to receive an SME Instrument grant of up to 2.5million EUR. By accessing overseas markets the EU aims to allow these SMEs to leverage business opportunities outside the EU, further enhancing their growth potential.



After a thorough evaluation process, the SME Instrument – Overseas Trade Fairs team is proud to introduce you to the 10 EU Champions selected for FOE 2017 (<http://www.foe.jp/en>), which will take place on 5-7 April, in Tokyo. Meet the EU delegation here [https://ec.europa.eu/easme/sites/easme-site/files/catalogue\\_otf\\_alternative\\_foe.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/easme/sites/easme-site/files/catalogue_otf_alternative_foe.pdf).

For more information on the EU Champions at FOE or a meeting request, please contact the SME Instrument – Overseas Trade Fairs team at [overseastradefairs@sme-instrument-otfs.eu](mailto:overseastradefairs@sme-instrument-otfs.eu)

Participating companies			
CBT Global Lda	Portugal	Matching digital talents with digital jobs	<a href="http://www.cbtalents.com">http://www.cbtalents.com</a>
Elettrosystem	Italy	Twimp: fiber laser cutting/welding machine	<a href="http://www.elettrosystem.com">http://www.elettrosystem.com</a>
Hungaro Lux Light Kft	Hungary	Pioneer in led technology & street lighting	<a href="http://www.hungarolux.hu">http://www.hungarolux.hu</a>
InPhoTech Sp. z o.o.	Poland	Design the future with photonics	<a href="http://www.inphotech.pl">http://www.inphotech.pl</a>
Lightbee	Spain	Modulating LEDs & transmitting data to the cloud	<a href="http://www.lightbeecorp.com">http://www.lightbeecorp.com</a>
Platform.Sh	France	Continuous deployment cloud hosting solution	<a href="http://www.platform.sh">http://www.platform.sh</a>
RHP Technology GmbH	Austria	Novel materials and advanced manufacturing	<a href="http://www.rhp-technology.com">http://www.rhp-technology.com</a>
Seven Solutions	Spain	Timing and synchronisation telecom equipment	<a href="http://www.sevensols.com">http://www.sevensols.com</a>
Sparrow Quantum A/S	Denmark	Photonic quantum technology components	<a href="http://www.sparrowquantum.com">http://www.sparrowquantum.com</a>
VI Systems GmbH	Germany	High-speed optical & electrical components	<a href="http://www.v-i-systems.com">http://www.v-i-systems.com</a>

## **INNOVACCESS** - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PORTAL

The main goal of the Value Intellectual Property for SMEs (VIP4SME) funded by the European Commission is to sustainably enhance Intellectual Property (IP) support services to SMEs in order to allow them to understand the value of the intellectual capital they create and own, and to define strategies and management practices allowing them to better turn this capital into commercial values and competitiveness. This challenge will be jointly addressed by National Intellectual Property Offices (NIPOs) from EU member states and countries participating in Horizon2020 together with local partners working in close cooperation with NIPOs and which are mostly business support providers having easy access to their local SMEs.

➡ <http://www.innovaccess.eu/vip4sme-project>

# EU GATEWAY | BUSINESS AVENUES OPENS FOR MARKET SCOPING MISSIONS TO JAPAN

## EU GATEWAY | BUSINESS AVENUES RETURNS TO JAPAN

The EU-funded initiative has been active in this market since the early nineties, organising approximately 100 business missions for over 3,000 European companies. Two thirds of previous participants reported positive business collaboration results and between 2017-2019 there will be a maximum of 12 market scoping missions open to a total of 480 European companies, including former applicants.

The programme is currently targeting these sectors:

- Construction & Building Technologies <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/node/24>
- Green Energy Technologies <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/node/23>
- Environment & Water Technologies <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/node/22>
- Healthcare & Medical Technologies <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/node/25>
- Railway Technologies & Services <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/content/railway-technologies-services>

EU Gateway to Japan offers a well-tested and holistic set of coaching services (<https://www.eu-gateway.eu/content/services>) to sound out business and minimise the costs typically required to enter a new market. Selected European companies will participate in a one-week market scoping mission focused on a specific sector, with bespoke trade information, exhibition days and business matchmaking.



The inaugural market scoping mission (<https://www.eu-gateway.eu/business-missions/missions-calendar/green-energy-technologies-japan>) will take place in Osaka from 18-22 September 2017 in Green Energy Technologies. This is a unique opportunity to tap into a promising market ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVPCQg\\_uCTY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVPCQg_uCTY)) with the backing and support of the EU.

During the intense but rewarding week, up to 40 selected European companies will exhibit at the World Smart Energy Week Osaka 2017 (<http://www.wsew.jp/en>), leveraging on pre-arranged business meetings with Japanese potential clients, suppliers, distributors and partners. Participants will also attend a site visit, a business networking event and in-depth presentations on the Japanese market by local sector experts.

The application deadline is 19 May 2017: companies meeting the eligibility criteria can apply online or request support to [coaching.network@eu-gateway.eu](mailto:coaching.network@eu-gateway.eu). The second market scoping mission will take place in Chiba (Tokyo) 27 November - 1 December 2017 for Railway Technologies & Services and will be listed on the calendar together with all the new and upcoming missions.

Eligibility criteria: <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/content/eligibility-criteria>

Online application: <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/business-missions/missions-calendar/green-energy-technologies-japan>

Calendar: <https://www.eu-gateway.eu/business-missions/missions-calendar>

➔ <https://www.eu-gateway.eu>

## EU MAG

Europe magazine EU Mag is a monthly online Japanese-language magazine issued by the Delegation of the European Union in Japan. EU MAG covers a wide range of EU topics, from regulations and policies to culture and people in a colourful, engaging format. It is aimed at a wide readership, but would also be of use to those researching the EU and its policies. It sets out to be comprehensible and accessible.

europe magazine  
**EU MAG**

Source: Delegation of the European Union in Japan

➔ <http://eumag.jp/eumug-backnumber>

## FOREIGN MINISTER FUMIO KISHIDA'S WORKING LUNCH WITH EUROPEAN COMMISSIONER FOR TRADE DR. CECILIA MALMSTRÖM **ON THE JAPAN-EU EPA NEGOTIATIONS**

On 17 February, commencing at 1:00 p.m. local time (9 p.m. JST), Mr. Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, who is visiting Bonn, invited Dr. Cecilia Malmström, European Commissioner for Trade for a 1-hour working lunch to discuss the negotiations on the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). The overview of the working lunch is as follows.

Mr. Kishida and Dr. Malmström reaffirmed that the Japan-EU EPA is the most important agenda in the relationship between Japan and the EU, and that it is extremely important for Japan and the EU to reach an agreement on fundamental elements of the Japan-EU EPA negotiations as early as possible to counter protectionist movements.

On that basis, they shared the view that both Japan and the EU should continue the negotiations with a strong will and maintain the existing momentum, and that the schedule of the next meeting of the negotiations needs to be arranged at officials' level immediately.

Mr. Kishida and Dr. Malmström also agreed that they directly touch with each other as necessary.



Source: Mission of Japan to the European Union

➡ [http://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ie/page1e\\_000133.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ie/page1e_000133.html)

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## **EATRIS AND KYUSHU UNIVERSITY** SIGNED A MoU ON ACADEMIC COOPERATION

The Center for Clinical and Translational Research (CCTR) of Kyushu University in Japan is an organisation that provides support to clinical trials, physician-led clinical research and translational research (TR). The CCTR's mission is to turn the "dreams of future medical care" into reality. To fulfil this mission and promote innovative medical technologies, the centre collaborates with regions in Japan including Kyushu, Shikoku, and the Western Japan region as well as with countries in Asia and the U.S. The centre aims to promote "region-based" translational research, which can be specifically in those regions.

During the 21-24 December, Dr. Daisuke Sugiyama, Deputy Director of the CCTR, and Dr. Yuichi Mine from CCTR paid visits to the EU-Japan Centre (Brussels), EATRIS (European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine, Amsterdam), Radboud University Medical Center (Nijmegen) and ECRIN (European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network, Paris). At each site, they had very active and productive discussions regarding translational medicine, and EATRIS and the CCTR reached a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) on academic cooperation.



Both parties will promote and develop academic cooperation through (1) exchange of academic staff and administrative staff; (2) plan for joint research; (3) exchange academic information and publications; (4) promote education and best practice exchange; (5) joint advocacy; (6) comparative analyses of European, Japanese and other regional efforts in translational research and the evaluation of individuals and institutions engaged in translational research; (7) and other academic exchanges. The CCTR is open for inquiries from researchers, related institutions or companies in Europe regarding translational research support.

➡ <http://www.med.kyushu-u.ac.jp/crc/english/index.html>

## **EARSC PRESENTS AT S-NET 4<sup>TH</sup> SECTORIAL MEETING** “SPACE AND DATA PLATFORM – OPPORTUNITIES IN EU AND JAPAN” IN TOKYO

On 15 February 2017, the National Space Policy Secretariat of the Cabinet Office and the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation co-organised the Space New Economy Creation Network (S-NET) 4th Sectorial Meeting “Space and Data Platform – Opportunities in EU and Japan” in Tokyo. The meeting was held at the premise of the Delegation of the EU to Japan and with the attendance of more than 100 people from both industry and public sector.

S-NET is a networking initiative coordinated by the National Space Policy Secretariat of the Japanese Cabinet Office, and its objective is to bring space and non-space companies together to promote and facilitate cross-disciplinary collaborations. In December 2016, S-NET commenced a series of sectorial meetings focussed on EO data utilisation with each meeting covering a different field of EO. The latest seminar on 15 February was the fourth edition, and the theme was on the data platform for EO data, and collaboration with IT technologies. Geoff Sawyer, the Secretary-General of the European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC), and several EARSC member companies were invited to the meeting by the National Space Policy Secretariat to present their thoughts on EO data platform as part of the cooperation with Japan Space Systems (J-spacesystems). EARSC and J-spacesystems signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 23 November 2016, to cooperate in the utilisation of Earth-observation (EO) technology between Europe and Japan. The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation plays a key role in the MoU as an intermediary support role. The meeting was commenced with the opening remarks from the centre’s Deputy Manager, Fabrizio Mura.

Mr. Sawyer then presented the current status of the EU’s space policy including Copernicus Earth-observation program, and an overview of EARSC’s data platform project, EO Marketplace. This was then followed by presentations from EARSC member companies; Hugues Pavie from Airbus Defence & Space, Celestino Gomez from GMV and Massimo Comparini from e-GEOS, where they presented their company’s EO services, and their thoughts on engaging with IT sector.

Hisanobu Takayama from J-spacesystems presented their Space Business Court (SBC), Japan’s first EO data and business support and networking platform, where a teaser site has been operating since September 2016. The English version of the platform was launched in January 2017 to enable space-related companies from overseas, particularly Europe, to establish presence in the Japanese market and explore possible collaboration opportunities with Japan. The seminar also had presentations from the Remote Sensing Society of Japan and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science & Technology (AIST) on the latest developments in EO with Artificial Intelligence and Big Data Analytics.

The attendance at the meeting was a clear indication of the growing interest in Japan for consolidating EO and IT, with many non-space companies being present at the meeting. J-spacesystems and the National Space Policy Secretariat are going to work together to further accelerate this movement through the full launch of SBC, which is scheduled for May 2017.



[http://qzss.go.jp/events/snet\\_tokyo\\_170313.html](http://qzss.go.jp/events/snet_tokyo_170313.html)

### **J-SPACESYSTEMS ASSIGNS A SPACE BUSINESS COORDINATOR FOR EUROPE**

As part of the ongoing cooperation with EARSC, Japan Space Systems (J-spacesystems) has assigned Ryuichi Sato ([sato-ryuichi@jspacesystems.or.jp](mailto:sato-ryuichi@jspacesystems.or.jp)) to be responsible for the activities of J-spacesystems in Europe from 20 February 2017. Ryuichi worked as a MINERVA research fellow for the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation in Tokyo during 2016, where he conducted a comprehensive market analysis of the Japanese Earth-observation (EO) industry. Based in Brussels, Ryuichi will effectively operate as a liaison to connect Europe and Japan in the field of EO, and explore new collaboration opportunities between the two regions.

## **FIRST EARSC & J-SPACESYSTEMS JOINT EO & IT SEMINAR**

On 16 February 2017, Japan Space Systems (J-spacesystems) and the European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC) organised their first joint seminar on EO & IT as a follow-up to S-NET 4th Sectorial Meeting “EO X Data Platform”. The seminar was held at the conference hall in J-spacesystems’ premise in Tokyo.

Since December 2016, J-spacesystems has been by hosting a series of information sessions on the consolidation of Earth-observation (EO) and IT technologies in order to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and encourage

greater collaboration between the two industries. The sessions have attracted keen interests from several prominent IT start-ups and venture companies in Japan, particularly those offering services and solutions using Artificial

Intelligence (AI) and Big Data Analytics. The EARSC & J-spacesystems Joint EO & IT seminar was organised to give an opportunity for the two industries to come together and exchange ideas from fresh perspectives.

Furthermore, the workshop enabled EARSC and the three member companies – Airbus Defence & Space, GMV and e-GEOS, to make new connections with Japan's active IT community.

The seminar was attended by nearly 40 companies from both EO and IT services sector. Hisanobu Takayama from J-spacesystems presented Space Business Court, followed by presentations from EARSC and its member companies.

➔ <http://www.jspacesystems.or.jp/en/>

The second half of the seminar had presentations from several IT start-ups and venture companies in Japan, including XCompass, Torus and Creative Hope, as well as the market analysis of EO and IT by MM Research Institute, and the current status of EO and IoT services in Japan by NTT Data Research Laboratory. The seminar invoked vivid discussions during and after the seminar at the networking reception.

It was evident that the EO data is recognised as part of Big Data, and that the IT companies in Japan are exploring ways in which they can incorporate it into their respective services. However, the discussion also identified key issues including better access to and understanding of EO data by the IT industry, and the possible need to support the creation of data scientists with sound knowledge of EO data.

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## FORUM FOR INNOVATIVE REGENERATIVE MEDICINE (FIRM) CALL FOR SPEAKERS

FIRM has just launched the process of speaker recruitment for its fourth partnering event Regenerative Medicine Crossroad in Tokyo #4, which is going to be held on 1 June 2017 in Tokyo, Japan.

The event is meant to provide a “speaker’s corner” for those who seeks to engage partnerships with Japanese companies with respect to the development of their own product pipelines and/or technology seeds in Japan.

The organisers herewith encourage those who are seeking partners in Japan to come visit Tokyo and talk directly to the hearts of your potential partner candidates.

For more information please contact:

Mr. Fuyu Mori, [info-tf@firm.or.jp](mailto:info-tf@firm.or.jp).

Deadline for the preliminary registration: 19 April 2017

➔ <https://firm.or.jp/rmit/archives/268>

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## “IT MARKET IN JAPAN” SEMINAR IN BALTIC COUNTRIES AND KRAKOW

In the last week of January (23-27), a series of seminars about Japanese IT market were held in the Baltic countries (Vilnius, Riga, Tallinn) and in Poland (Krakow) by JETRO Warsaw. The events were designed for local IT companies interested in the Japanese market, organised by JETRO and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) with the support from local partners (Enterprise Lithuania, LIAA, Enterprise Estonia, PAIIZ (PAIH)).

During the seminar, presentations about the attractiveness of Japanese market were given, including the speech by Mr. Akira Makino, Japanese IT specialist, as well as by Mr. Naofumi Makino, director general of JETRO Warsaw, on Japanese economy and JETRO's support programme for foreign companies. Apart from those presentations, representatives of local companies shared their experience in the Japanese market. In total, more than 100 participants from IT industries listened to presentations at the seminars.

The Japanese IT market is the third largest in the world and doing business in Japan is much easier than ever. Especially, such areas as IoT, cyber security, big data, FinTech are attracting enormously high attention in the market which is becoming more and more open thanks to many structural reforms conducted by the Japanese government.

Source: JETRO Warsaw



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## JETRO **CEBIT BUSINESS NETWORKING**

On the 21 of March, JETRO organised a Business Networking at CeBIT 2017 together with the German Chamber of Industry & Commerce (AHK) and Germany Trade & Invest (GTAI). In addition to the regular trade fair activities the Business Networking offered foreign companies the opportunity to meet 44 small and medium-sized companies from Japan and discuss the possibilities of future cooperation.

➔ <http://www.jetro-cebit-networking.de>

## NEDO HELD THE 8<sup>TH</sup> GERMAN-JAPANESE DIALOGUE FORUM FOR ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

On February 9 and 10, 2017, NEDO held the 8th German-Japanese Dialogue Forum for Environment and Energy in Tokyo in collaboration with the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi).

This year's theme was a "New Framework for Energy that Contributes to Global Environmental Conservation Measures." Presentations and discussions were conducted regarding the latest technology development efforts and future directions to be addressed for development of technologies necessary for the further introduction of renewable power, particularly "power supply stabilization," "technology innovation" and "policies for promoting the introduction of renewables," based on the abundant experience of Japan and Germany in proactively promoting the introduction of renewable energy. Approximately 300 people visited over the two days, indicating great interest in the forum.

Source: New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization

➡ [http://www.nedo.go.jp/english/whatsnew\\_20170213.html](http://www.nedo.go.jp/english/whatsnew_20170213.html)

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## BREXIT AND THE FUTURE OF EUROPE: FOCUSING ON THE INCOME GAP

A special lecture by Emeritus Professor of Tohoku University Dr. Soko Tanaka on "Brexit and the Future of Europe: Focusing on the Income Gap" was held on Friday, 27 January 2017 at Hakozaki Campus, Kyushu University. The lecture was organised by the Kyushu University EU Centre as part of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence-Kyushu (JMCoE-Q) Seminar Series. Approximately 200 people, including university students and researchers, as well as those from the public, participated.



▲ (left) Prof. Kenji Iwata, Director of KU EU Centre (centre) Prof. Soko Tanaka (right) Ms Machiko Hachiya, Advisor of KU EU Centre

Following the introduction by Prof. Kenji Iwata, Director of Kyushu University EU Centre, Faculty of Economics, Kyushu University, Prof. Soko Tanaka, a distinguished scholar who has long been leading EU Studies in Japan, delivered his impassioned speech which included a variety of significant data.

In his speech, he discussed challenges facing the EU and presented a perspective for a future Europe, following the situation surrounding Brexit. He argued that, judging from an economic point of view, leaving the EU

(especially the WTO status) is something against reason for the UK economy, because the UK has prospered as a part of the EU-wide supply chain. However, he pointed out that neoliberal policies, including globalisation, pursued by advanced economies, and their consequences such as the income gap and immigration issues lay behind the Brexit vote.

He also argued that after the Lehman crisis in 2008, the world economy entered a "Populism Stage" characterised by economic domination of great powers. In his concluding remarks,

Prof. Tanaka explained that the EU economy is facing a series of challenges to accommodate itself to this "new reality" through establishing EU systems to remedy the gap amongst member states and a new FTA between the EU and the UK following Brexit, and finally pointed out that the result of the upcoming French presidential election is likely to be a watershed. The seminar ended successfully, and it was impressive to see the many students and researchers who formed a queue to ask questions directly to Prof. Soko Tanaka.

➡ <http://eu.kyushu-u.ac.jp/jmcoe.html>

## JAPAN AND GERMANY TO FOSTER **JOINT R&D PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY SMEs**

Last year German chancellor Ms. Angela Merkel invited Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Shinzo Abe to make Japan the official partner country of this year's CeBIT, the world's biggest IT fair, annually taking place in Hannover, Germany.

### JAPAN PARTNER COUNTRY AT CEBIT 2017

In his address during the CeBIT Welcome Night on 19 March, Mr. Abe introduced the so-called "Hannover Declaration", a document which details Germany's and Japan's collaboration efforts regarding current and future challenges and opportunities that both countries' economies are facing in today's digitised world. Later that night, the declaration was signed by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI), the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan (MIC), and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy of Germany (BMWi).

Both the Internet of Things and Industrie 4.0 concepts make up the foundation for this declaration, which has now been expanded by new fields of collaboration – one of which is supporting joint international R&D projects between Japanese and German companies. In his speech, Mr. Abe identified innovation as *the* most important issue concerning the future of Germany, Europe and Japan, adding that *"in both Germany and Japan, it is in small companies where many of those taking on innovation can be found. That is a common factor deserving special mention. Accordingly, every time Chancellor Merkel and I meet, we discuss how to foster exchanges among German and Japanese mid-sized and small- and medium-sized companies (SMEs)."*

In order to strengthen the innovation potential and industrial competitiveness of Japanese and German SMEs, Minister Mr. Hiroshige Seko of METI, Chairman Mr. Kazuo Furukawa of New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organisation (NEDO), and Minister Ms. Brigitte Zypries of BMWi signed a joint statement of intent on bilateral cooperation in research, development and innovation on March 19 as well. The signing will soon be followed by the first German-Japanese call for proposals for joint R&D projects, focusing on developing innovative products and applications in all technological and application areas. NEDO and BMWi (assisted by co-ordinator AiF Projekt GmbH) will provide access to public funding for joint projects provided by the METI Co-funding Program and by BMWi's Central Innovation Programme for SMEs (ZIM).

For more information on the call for proposals, please visit the websites of:

NEDO: ➡ <http://www.nedo.go.jp/english/index.html>

ZIM: ➡ <http://www.zim-bmwi.de/internationale-fue-kooperationen/ausschreibungen>

Source: AiF Projekt GmbH

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## FESTIVAL **CALL FOR EXPERIMENTERS**

**FESTIVAL (FEderated interoperable Smart ICT services deVelopment And testing pLatforms) project provides an homogeneous access to a federated testbed platform between Europe and Japan.**

FESTIVAL partners developed an "Experimentation as a Service" model for testing added value services in different domains (city, building, health, public services, art/culture, etc.) with real-life physical testbed environments involving real end-users.

FESTIVAL Portal brings together these European and Japanese testbeds that allow access to various resources such as open data, Internet of Things (IoT), Infrastructure testbeds (IT) and living lab resources.

You are a scientist willing to test your algorithm on "real" resources? A technical expert wanting to get a proof of concept of your product? A student curious to put your IoT lessons into practice? Or an ingenious developer ready to try your latest work?

Get involved in FESTIVAL's Call, become one Experimenter and access FESTIVAL Portal with easy-to-use APIs, and:



- Access to a large set of testing facilities all in one place;
- Gain time and money in preparing own testing environment;
- Test and demonstrate smart solutions in real world;
- Be part of a large and active community of experimenters and experts.

FESTIVAL Call for Experimenters opened on 12/02/2017.

➡ [http://www.festival-project.eu/en/?page\\_id=941](http://www.festival-project.eu/en/?page_id=941)

## CEBIT: ENERGY STORAGE COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH JAPANESE COMPANIES

On the eve of CeBIT 2017, partners from Japan and Niedersachsen signed an agreement in Hannover to build a multi-megawatt energy storage facility in Varel.



Varel, in the Friesland district of north-west Niedersachsen, will see the construction of one of the biggest batteries in north Germany; the Japanese project for a hybrid energy storage facility will cover an area nearly as large as a soccer pitch. On 19 March 2017 Niedersachsen's Minister for Economics, Labour and Transport Olaf Lies signed a Memorandum of Understanding to initiate the project with representatives of the Japanese economic development organisation NEDO (New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization) and the Oldenburg EWE energy utility on the occasion of the CeBIT computer fair. Such large battery systems guarantee stable electricity supply despite fluctuating generation from renewable sources.

Minister Olaf Lies: *"The Japanese, too, are seeking solutions to one of the crucial challenges of the energy transition: efficient interim energy storage. Nowhere else in the world have they found such favourable conditions for this demonstration project than in Niedersachsen."*



### SECURING GRID SUPPLY STABILITY

The special feature of the energy storage project is its hybrid battery system, which combines the advantages of lithium-ion batteries and sodium-sulphur batteries, enabling it to cope with various demands ("system services") within the energy supply network. The principal aim is to guarantee stable voltage supply when generation and input from renewable sources fluctuates.

### 20 MWh CAPACITY

The battery storage facility consists of lithium-ion cells with a capacity of 2.5 MWh delivering up to 7.5 MW in combination with sodium-sulphur cells delivering up to 4 MW from a capacity of 20

MWh – in total this corresponds to the output of six average wind turbines. At around 4,000 square metres, the facility will cover an area almost as large as a soccer field. The battery cells will be installed in containers in Japan for delivery, installation and connection in Varel, next to the local transformer station; commissioning is scheduled for late 2018.

Cost of the project is around 24 million Euro, financed by the Japanese economic development organisation NEDO. Operators are Hitachi Chemical, Hitachi Power Solutions and NGK Insulators, together with the Oldenburg energy utility EWE.

➔ <http://www.invest-in-niedersachsen.com>



## SAXONY AND JAPAN - STRONG PARTNERSHIP

Saxony has been maintaining close economic relations with the "land of the rising sun" for many years now which have been further intensified and enhanced through regular, reciprocal visits since 1992. With about 40 company participations and ten service offices (a total of about 5,700 jobs), Japan is the most important Asian investor in Saxony and the sixth most important of all investors. As measured by the trade volume, Japan is the second most important partner in Asia behind China.

With its 200 stakeholders active in nanotechnology, Saxony is one of the top 5 nanotechnology locations in Germany. Saxony also assumes a superb position and has gained an excellent reputation in Japan's nanotechnology sector. Already since 2007, Saxony has been represented with a joint booth at the nano tech in Tokyo – the most important international trade show in the nanotechnology sector – where it also conducts workshops and seminars. Japanese delegations travel to Saxony at regular intervals to inform themselves about the latest trends in nanotechnology. For a number of years, a cooperation was initiated and has been maintained between the nanotechnology clusters from Saxony and the region around Yonezawa.

This resulted in close cooperation and the conclusion of several agreements.

This year as well, Saxony continues to affirm its strategic presentation on the Japanese market with numerous activities revolving around the leading trade show nano tech.



## INNOMUNICH - A NEW INITIATIVE FOR ACCELERATING GLOBAL BIOPHARMACEUTICAL INNOVATION BY JOINING COMPETENCES OF GERMAN-JAPANESE R&D



The global health challenge is to transfer academic results efficiently into pharmaceutical products. Since research findings often cannot be transferred directly from academic institutes into big industry, SEMs can act as catalysts, accelerating the innovation process significantly by undertaking smaller, consecutive innovation steps.

The InnoMuNiCH project, "Innovation through Munich-Nippon Collaborations in Healthcare", managed by the Munich Biotech Cluster Organization BioM, now offers pharma companies, research groups and biotech SMEs from Japan the opportunity to connect with R&D cooperation partners from industry and science in Munich, Germany. The project wants to become a German-Japanese Innovation Platform to initiate and accelerate bi-national R&D cooperation projects on eye-level, benefitting both, the Japanese and the German partners.

## INNOMUNICH - 日本とドイツの特性を活かした共同研究開発によるバイオ医薬品開発のイノベーションを促進するための新構想

学術研究を製薬製品へと効率的に移行させることが世界的な課題となっています。大学や研究所で行われた研究成果を製薬会社で直接製品化させることは難しい場合が多いですが、中小企業が学術機関と製薬会社の中間に入ることによって小規模のイノベーションを継続的に引き起こし、触媒として作用することによって、イノベーションの流れを加速させることができると考えています。

ドイツ教育科学研究技術省の支援を受けて、BioMはInnoMuNiCHプロジェクト(名前はInnovation through Munich-Nippon Collaborations in Healthcareに由来します)を立ち上げました。このプロジェクトにおいて、日本の製薬会社や研究機関、バイオテクノロジー関連企業の皆様に、ミュンヘンの企業や研究機関と共同基礎研究を行うパートナー探しの機会を提供をさせていただきます。ドイツ-日本イノベーションプラットフォームを設立し、同じ目線の高さと、双方が利益を得ることが出来るような共同研究開発プロジェクトを開始し、促進していく予定です。

➡ <http://www.bio-m.org/en/services/international-affairs/international-networks/innomunich.html>

## 2017: STRENGTHEN THE TEXTILE COOPERATION BETWEEN FRANCE AND JAPAN



TECHTERA is the French innovation cluster for textiles and flexible materials in the AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES Region.

2016 has been a spectacular year for the textile cooperation between Techtera and Japan:

- 2 scientific missions for companies and universities with the FIBERTRONICS think tank on the fibres of the future.
- 1 commercial mission with 6 companies who developed business relations with Japanese companies, led by TECHTERA and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of France in Japan. 4 of these companies share a common business development service on location.
- 1 collective mission with 4 companies, for the closing of the French-Japan innovation year.

The main operation to be led this year is to strengthen the collaboration between the two countries in the textile industry.

For more information please contact: Robin Odon, International Projects Manager, [international@techtera.org](mailto:international@techtera.org)

➡ <https://www.techtera.org/ja/home/>

For TECHTERA and its partners, this means a collaborative work on the Memorandum of Cooperation signed in 2014, to set a clear course for the next years in order to increase even more the research and business partnership.

For TECHTERA and its 130 members, this means a continuation in the research collaboration within the FIBERTRONICS think tank, and the opening of the group of companies sharing the business development service in Japan. In a near future, we have strong hopes of bringing new member companies of the region in Japan in order to boost even more the textile cooperation between the two countries.

## TALLINN SCIENCE PARK TEHNOPOL AND FUKUOKA CITY SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING




On the 30th of November Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol and Japan entrepreneurship-minded Fukuoka City signed a memorandum of understanding. The purpose of this agreement between Tehnopol and Fukuoka is to promote collaboration aimed at the technological and economic developments in the two regions. This means that both will introduce startups local markets, its regulations, support structures and possibilities to enter certain markets.

The CEO of Science Park Tehnopol Jaak Raie said that the agreement is an important milestone: *"For the 13 years of operating today signed memorandum of agreement between Tehnopol and Fukuoka is unique, because we haven't signed such agreements with other Asian countries before. It's a huge benefit for our growing technology based companies to start expanding to Asian markets and conquer it"*.



The signing ceremony was held in Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol Startup Incubator and the agreement was signed by the Deputy Mayor of Fukuoka Masano Nakazono who said: *"The two cities have much in common, I admire Tallinn and its cultural and historical heritage. The importance of their history and at the same time being so innovative and one of the most remarkable growing startup ecosystems in Europe. I'm glad that after such a small period of time we found ways to cooperate. We as well have done some important steps in the past 2 years towards becoming Japan's most entrepreneurship-minded city and signing the memorandum of agreement with Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol gives us great opportunity to enter European markets."*



 Jaak Raie and Masanao Nakazono

Fukuoka is the fifth biggest city in Japan with the population of 1,5 million people. Fukuoka City Government has set an ambitious goal of becoming one of the biggest business centres in Eastern Asia. To realise it, Fukuoka contributes actively for the growth of technology centres and startups.

The Tallinn Science Park foundation is a science and business campus which aims to advance technology-based entrepreneurship in Estonia, bring scientists and entrepreneurs together and provide suitable conditions and a suitable environment for the realisation of breakthrough business ideas. It was founded in 2003 by the Government of Estonia, Tallinn University of Technology and the city of Tallinn.

➔ <https://www.tehnopol.ee/en/tehnopol-ja-jaapani-linn-fukuoka-edendavad-uheskoos-ettevotlust-vaata-ka-videot/>

## NEW UK-JAPAN COLLABORATION ON MEDICAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Japan celebrates the opening of its European office for medical research and development funding with a new agreement for collaboration with UK. On 1 February 2017, the UK's Medical Research Council (MRC) and Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) to advance UK-Japan Partnership in medical research and development. The aim is to promote research collaboration in areas of medical science that build on the strengths of both countries. The research fields identified as initial priorities for collaboration include regenerative medicine; dementia; antimicrobial resistance and infectious disease.

Source: UK Government

➔ <https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/new-uk-japan-collaboration-on-medical-research-and-development>

## GERMAN-JAPANESE ECONOMIC FORUM AT HANNOVER MESSE

26 APRIL 2017, HANNOVER, GERMANY

Industry 4.0 is a decisive factor for the production of tomorrow. But how exactly can it create value in the industry? The 11th German-Japanese Economic Forum will tackle this issue, focussing on new technologies and solutions, standardisation, Cyber Security, and best practices especially in small and medium-sized enterprises.

As the German-Japanese Economic Forum at Hannover Messe has developed into an established and well-known platform over the years, we are expecting around 300 participants from German and Japanese industries and organisations as well as presentations from Beckhoff, Ernst&Young, Hitachi, itelligence, Mitsubishi Electric, Murr Elektronik and Siemens.

Under the patronage of the German Ministry of Economy, the forum will take place on Wednesday, 26th April

2017 in the Global Business & Markets forum in hall 3. The forum is organised jointly by Deutsche Messe, the German Commercial and Industrial Chamber in Japan (AHK Japan) and ECOS Consult. After the forum, Tokushima Prefecture invites all participants to a reception on the occasion of the 10 year's anniversary of the partnership with Lower Saxony State.

Visitors can also apply for a guided tour organised by Deutsche Messe prior to the forum.



<http://www.ecos-consult.com/berichte/zeige/11--deutsch-japanisches-wirtschaftsforum--26--april-2017--hannover>

## NEXT-GENERATION MOBILITY SEMINAR BY NRW.INVEST GMBH

12 MAY 2017, TOKYO, JAPAN



On 12 May 2017, NRW.INVEST GmbH, the economic development agency of the German federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and its Japanese subsidiary NRW Japan K.K., will organise a seminar on "Next-G Mobility: Challenges for the Automobile and Automobile Parts Industry - Best Connectivity, Powertrain, Lightweight and Quality Solutions from

Germany/NRW & Japan" focusing on the cooperation of German and Japanese companies to find sustainable and scalable solutions addressing next generation mobility based on state-of-the art materials and technologies from Japan and Germany/NRW.

Participants will hear keynote speeches giving an overview of the issues surrounding mobility and presentations from companies out of the industry from both Japan and Germany. A wide array of topics related to "Next-Generation Mobility" will be covered.

For further information contact Ms. Naoko Yagihashi at [contact@nrw.co.jp](mailto:contact@nrw.co.jp) or Tel. +81-3-5210-2300.

## FLANDERS INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

EXHIBITING IN JAPAN

May will be a busy month for the Flanders



Investment and Trade (FIT) office in Japan. Exhibiting with companies and organisations from the Flemish region of Belgium at two main trade fairs in the ICT and Automotive sectors, FIT is inviting Japanese potential partners to visit the "Flanders Pavilion" during the fairs.

For more information about the 2 events, please contact FIT at [japan@fitagency.com](mailto:japan@fitagency.com)

## JSAE AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING EXPOSITION 2017

24-26 MAY 2017, YOKOHAMA, JAPAN

FIT will participate in the JSAE Automotive Engineering Exposition (<http://expo.jsae.or.jp/english>), the largest exposition in Japan for automotive engineers with more than 500 exhibitors of automotive related organisations/companies. The delegation will welcome visitors at the "Flanders Pavilion" in Pacifico Yokohama Exhibition Hall.

## JAPAN IT WEEK SPRING 2017/IOT M2M EXPO

10-12 MAY 2017, TOKYO, JAPAN

FIT will participate, together with leading organisations/companies from Flanders, in the Japan IT Week ([http://www.japan-it.jp/en/Concurrent-Shows\\_Spring/M2M](http://www.japan-it.jp/en/Concurrent-Shows_Spring/M2M)), the largest IT trade show where visitors can find any kinds of latest IT technologies & solutions. The delegation will welcome visitors at the "Flanders Pavilion" in the West 1 Hall of Tokyo Big Sight.

➡ <http://www.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com/en>

## NANO TECH IN TOKYO: IVAM JOINT PAVILION PRESENTED THE ENORMOUS RANGE OF NANOTECHNOLOGY



nano tech in Japan is the world's largest international nanotechnology exhibition and conference. More than 53,000 international experts visited the nano tech at the "Big Sight" exhibition ground in Tokyo in the middle of February and caught up on the latest developments and results in the fields of nanotechnology products, applications and processes.

The exhibition stands out due to its huge internationality. Apart from trade visitors from Japan, especially guests from the neighboring countries Korea and China come to visit the exhibition. At the joint pavilion of the IVAM Microtechnology Network, which was organised under the headline "Nano in Germany", 14 companies showcased their innovations.

The exhibitors on-site presented cost-effective manufacturing processes of specific nanoparticles, 3D production of printed nanoscales, commercial production of graphene, an important new nano material for a wide range of applications, or manufacturing of nanomaterials for applications in the fields of energy and environment. In addition, nanotech solutions in the field of surface processing for the automotive industry, nanostructured membranes, e.g. for fuel cell technology, and functionalised nano surfaces for medical devices have been presented.



*"The various applications that were presented at the IVAM area show the enormous range of nanotechnology applications," says Dr. Thomas R. Dietrich, Managing Director of IVAM. "The exhibitors on-site were very satisfied with the response from the visitors."*



The IVAM exhibitors were able to make and maintain contacts with Japanese companies even outside the exhibition. The supporting programme included, for example, a ceremonial opening with a traditional sake ceremony. IVAM Managing Director Dr. Thomas Dietrich was allowed to open the sake barrel ceremoniously with a wooden hammer as deputy for Germany together with other guests of honour. Furthermore, the companies of the IVAM pavilion attended a reception of the German Embassy with the Minister of Economic Affairs of Saxony.

Because of the positive outcome of the fair IVAM reserved space for another German pavilion at nano tech 2018. Detailed information will be available soon from IVAM Microtechnology Network.



### ABOUT IVAM

IVAM Microtechnology Network is an international association with members in the fields of microtechnology, nanotechnology, advanced materials, MEMS and photonics. IVAM supports mainly small and medium-sized companies in bringing innovative technologies and products to market and thus securing advantages in international competition. Since 1995 IVAM has been supporting companies and institutions from all around the world. The central mission of the association is to create synergies and to support its members in exchanging knowledge, initiating joint projects and networking with each other and potential customers.

➔ <http://ivam.de>

## JAPAN: SHOWCASE IN ASIA FOR SPANISH FOOTWEAR

From 1-3 February 2017, the Federation of Spanish Footwear Industries (FICE) organised the 27th edition of the trade show 'Shoes from Spain Exhibition' in Tokyo. Twenty-nine brands from Spain presented their new products for the next fall / winter collections, including women's, men's and kids' shoes.



Shoes from Spain Exhibition is the main platform for Spanish brands to present the new trends in the shoe sector to Japanese retailers. The show takes place twice a year and it is a trade-only event. In February's 2017 the latest edition gathered more than 600 visitors and in July's 2016 edition 800 retailers attended the exhibition.

*"Japan is a significant showcase in Asia for Spanish shoes" explained Mr. Imanol Martinez, Marketing Director at FICE. "The Japanese consumers are very fashion-driven and are always looking for new trends. They especially place value on good materials and quality, so Spanish footwear companies exporting to Japan are meeting excellent standards of design and production."*

Through this trade show, which has been uninterruptedly organised for 14 years, the Spanish footwear sector confirms its strong commitment to the Japanese market, Spain's first client in Asia. In 2015 Spain exported to Japan 2.1 million pairs of shoes amounting to €42.1 million.



The next edition of Shoes from Spain Exhibition will be held on 12-14 July in EBiS 303, in the Shibuya district, one of the fashion hubs in Tokyo. *"Traditionally Spain is stronger with spring / summer collections, so we are confident that our next exhibition in July will be very appealing and successful"* said Mr. Martinez.

This event is co-organised by the Spanish Institute for Foreign Trade (ICEX) and the Trade Commission of Spain in Tokyo.

➔ <http://www.shoesfromspain.jp>

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## EAST MEETS WEST FORUM ON ASIAN PATENT INFORMATION

On 6-7 April 2017, users will meet again in Vienna, Austria, to learn about recent developments in patent information from Asia and beyond. The European Patent Office's "East meets West" forum serves as a regular platform for patent information users around the world to discuss their Asian patent information needs. Experts from the Japan Patent Office, JETRO and the Japan Patent Information Organization will participate in the forum to inform users about recent developments, such as recent changes in the legislation and improved access to Japanese patent data. In addition, delegates from other major Asian organisations in the field, such as the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) will be present.

This year's hot topics will include an introduction to new technologies in the patent information field, quality evaluation of machine translations and dealing with the growing volume of Asian applications.

Plenty of direct interaction with experts and in-depth discussions will be possible throughout the forum. A poster session with selected providers of Asian patent information products and services will enable participants to get a first-hand update on their data offerings. And last but not least, an evening event will provide a networking opportunity with Asian experts and patent information users from all over the world.

The particular atmosphere of this forum is captured in a review article about "East meets West" 2016 in Patent Information News Issue 02/2016. [http://documents.epo.org/projects/babylon/eponet.nsf/0/BB3248FC776D2A93C1257FD300318EC8/\\$File/patent\\_information\\_news\\_0216\\_en.pdf](http://documents.epo.org/projects/babylon/eponet.nsf/0/BB3248FC776D2A93C1257FD300318EC8/$File/patent_information_news_0216_en.pdf) (For an archive of last year's presentations, visit: <http://www.epo.org/emw2016>). The full programme of the upcoming event can be found online at below link, and all presentations will be made available online shortly after the event.

➔ <http://www.epo.org/emw2017>

## LITHUANIAN CREATIVES BRINGING THEIR BEST CONCEPTS TO JAPAN

**Enterprise Lithuania continues collaborating with Japan, which is one of its priority export markets. The upcoming summer is going to be extremely intense for Lithuanian businesses which are looking for expansion to Japan.**

First of all, 6 Lithuanian companies will be participating in an international trade fair Interior Lifestyle Tokyo (<http://interiorlifestyle-tokyo.jp.messefrankfurt.com/tokyo/en/visitors/welcome.html>) on 14-16 June.

Later on, a creative industries delegation, consisting of fashion and object designers, companies and cross-media service providers will participate in Design Tokyo 2017 (<http://www.designtokyo.jp/en>), Japan's leading trade fair for marketable design products and creative solutions. On 5-7 July around 10 companies are going to represent themselves there under the concept of "百 Lithuania" or "Hyaku Lithuania" (百 / Hyaku from Japanese: one hundred, a great variety, full awareness). The title is a play of meanings: celebrating 100th anniversary of modern Lithuanian State, also meaning the diversity of products and ideas Lithuanian creative industries are providing.

This will be followed by a Lithuanian creative industry companies' business mission to Japan.

- Interior Lifestyle Mission (14-16 June 2017):
  - <http://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/events/lithuania-at-interior-lifestyle-tokyo/328>
- Creative industry Mission (1 July 2017):
  - <http://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/events/lithuanian-creative-industry-companies-business-mision-to-japan/325>
- Design Tokyo Mission (5-7 July 2017):
  - <http://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/events/lithuanian-companies-at-design-tokyo/331>

Lithuanian businesses highly appreciate Japanese recognition and trust therefore they are ready to develop existing valuable relationship and build new bridges, beneficial for both countries. Lithuanian businesses have already witnessed growing exports in value and volume of different products ranging from lasers and life sciences products to linen and innovative furniture. It is expected that collaboration between Japanese and Lithuanian businesses will keep growing in the upcoming years.

➤ <http://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/news/news/lithuanian-creatives-bringing-their-best-concepts-to-japan/677>

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## LITHUANIAN FOOD PRODUCERS INTRODUCED THEMSELVES AT THE EXHIBITION FOODEX JAPAN 2017

**In 2015, Lithuanian exports to Japan increased by 35%. Mainly Lithuanian furniture, textile products, and laser technologies are exported to Japan. As the interest in the Lithuanian industry is increasing, five Lithuanian food industry companies, including the Europe's largest organic farm AUGA group, are going to introduce themselves to the Japanese market.**

On 7-10 March, Lithuanian milk purchasers Pienas LT, bakery Gudubelė, representatives of the produced food Cererra Foods, and dairy processors Pieno žvaigždės participated in Tokyo's annual food fair Foodex Japan 2017. An organic producer AUGA group, that represents a clean and sustainably grown food brand AUGA, stands out among them.

Organic food market in Europe is expanding most rapidly compared to other food categories. Organic food trends are mainly dictated by the Northern European countries. In 2015, this market in Sweden expanded by 39%, in Germany – 12%, while in Denmark by 11%. In Japan, an interest in clean and sustainably grown food is increasing too.

The largest organic farm in Europe AUGA group is located in Lithuania which is one of the cleanest countries in the world. Lithuania has developed agriculture, innovative and competitive food processing, as well as final food production industry. AUGA group is developing its unique business model in Europe which is based on the recent scientific research, eco-friendly farming technology upgrading and use in all farming, animal husbandry and mushroom farming processes.

Most of the company production is exported to European and Scandinavian markets. In 2016, AUGA group presented a sustainably grown organic food brand AUGA which is available to mass users.

Source: Enterprise Lithuania

## DENMARK WILL CELEBRATE 150 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH JAPAN THROUGHOUT 2017

In the beginning of February, Denmark and Japan kicked off the Japanese programme of the 150 years anniversary for diplomatic relations. With the visit of the Danish Minister for Culture, Mette Bock.

*"Denmark and Japan are located very far from each other, but through the 150 years anniversary, we will celebrate our close diplomatic relations and hopefully evolve the ties even further,"* said Danish Ambassador to Japan, Freddy Svane. Among many highlights of the visit in February, some need special mention, these are the presentation of the replica

of the signed Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation from 1867, the opening of the exhibition of the Skagen Paintings at the National Museum of Western Art and the signing of the MoU between the Danish Football Association and Japanese Football Association. *"We are very grateful for the massive interest in our*

*celebrations. We have already more than 60 events with relations to the anniversary in our event calendar,"* said the Danish ambassador Freddy Svane.

Throughout 2017, there will be a series of events with connection to the 150 years anniversary around Japan.



### FRIENDSHIP TURNED INTO TANGIBLES OF THE FUTURE

Denmark will use the 150 years anniversary as a stepping stone to secure further ties with Japan in the future. As of right now, the Minister for Environment and Food visited Japan in the beginning of March, and the Minister for Business will be visiting in April.

*"The 150 years anniversary is a platform of the past that we will take into the future. Japan and Denmark are perfect partners for future strengthening of the ties commercially, economically and politically. Our focus will be on promoting people to people exchange and unleashing the relationship's huge potential in innovation, design and digitalisation,"* said Danish ambassador Freddy Svane. In autumn the Danish Embassy expects more high level visits from Denmark within different fields.

➔ <http://www.denmarkjapan150.jp>

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## ENEA, ITALIAN EXCELLENCE ON FUSION, LANDS IN JAPAN

THE EXPERIMENTAL REACTOR FOR NUCLEAR FUSION JT-60SA SPEAKS ITALIAN.

To be completed within the next two years in Japan, it is part of the research project Broader Approach. In Naka, 100 km from Tokyo, the assembly operations of the magnet system, the "heart" of the reactor, conceived to produce energy based on the same reaction occurring in stars, began.

At the forefront of high-tech components production, ENEA and leading Italian companies like ASG Superconductors (Malacalza Family), Walter Tosto, OCEM Energy Technology and Poseico, in addition to Consorzio ICAS coordinated by ENEA. *"It's a significant result for Italy and ENEA in terms of scientific, economic and competitiveness impact",* pointed out Federico Testa, President of ENEA, highlighting that *"in the International research programmes on BROADER Approach and ITER, the supply of advanced components from our leading industries has largely exceeded one billion euro".* "Our Country, Testa went on- has reached a level of excellence in this great technological challenge to obtain safe, inexhaustible and sustainable energy, able to substitute fossil fuels at competitive costs."

More specifically, nine out of the 18 coils that make up the superconductor magnet system of the JT-60SA, a huge doughnut-shaped chamber containing plasma at extremely high temperatures, will be made in Italy. The European-Japanese reactor JT-60SA was born within the Broader Approach, the Europe-Japan Agreement worth 660 million euro aiming at a faster implementation of the global research programme on nuclear fusion. In addition to the supply of nine coils and 18 containment boxes, the activities conducted by ENEA concern the design and development of other components of great technological and industrial interest.

Source: ENEA ➔ <http://www.enea.it/en/news/energy-enea-italian-excellence-on-fusion-lands-in-japan>

## DFG LEIBNIZ LECTURE “NEUROLOGY” AT OSAKA UNIVERSITY, KEIO UNIVERSITY, RIKEN BSI, THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO AND NAGOYA UNIVERSITY

Professor Dr. Frank Bradke, (German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases, DZNE) gave a “DFG Leibniz Lecture” about his award-winning research on “Mechanisms of Axonal Growth and Regeneration” at five different top-universities in Japan. The talk attracted over 200 interested persons.

During his one-week stay in Japan, Frank Bradke met world-leading researchers in the field, including Professor Hideyuki Okano (Keio University) and Professor Nobutaka Hirokawa (President Human Frontier Science Program, HFSP, at the University of Tokyo) and discussed possible future research collaborations.



Frank Bradke received the IRP-Schellenberg-Prize and became full professor at the University of Bonn and Senior Research Group leader for Axonal Growth and Regeneration at the DZNE in Bonn in 2011. In 2013, he was elected a member of the European science organisation EMBO which promotes excellence in the life sciences. In 2016, Frank Bradke received the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz-Prize, the most important research award in Germany.

Also part of the programme were visits at research laboratories at the iCeMs (Integrated Cell-Material Sciences, a World Premier International Research Center) and Twins (a joint research institute of Tokyo Women’s Medical University and Waseda University). Frank Bradke and the researchers exchanged views on their latest findings and latest technologies and how to advance their research. At RIKEN BSI he shared his experiences of being an advanced researcher with Post-Doc Fellows from overseas giving them valuable insight into the responsibilities of a principal investigator and career development.

➔ <http://www.dfg.de/jp/index.jsp>

## JSPS AND DFG WILL FUND **THREE JAPANESE-GERMAN JOINT SEMINARS**

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) are pleased to announce that they will fund three Japanese-German projects within the joint funding programme “JSPS-DFG Joint Seminars” in 2017.

Out of eight proposals submitted in the 2016/17 call, the respective review boards of the two funding agencies have deemed three “Joint Seminar” academically excellent, hence meriting funding.

The following Joint Seminars were selected:

- Shuichi Iwata (Nagoya Institute of Technology) and Michael Schlueter (Hamburg University of Technology), “Third International Symposium on Multiscale Multiphase Process Engineering”

- Kazuyuki Nakagome (National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry) and Marcus Ising (Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry), “The development and validation of biomarkers for improving diagnoses and therapy of neuropsychiatric disorders – 4th Joint Symposium, MPI of Psychiatry and NCNP”
- Kazayuki Nakakita (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) and Uwe Beifuss (University of Hohenheim), “High-speed Molecular Imaging for Interdisciplinary Research”

JSPS and DFG congratulate the successful applicants.

## INTRODUCING THE **GREEK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN JAPAN**

Upon issuance of authorization from the Japanese Ministry of Economics Trade and Industry (METI), the Greek Chamber of Commerce in Japan (GrCCJ) was formed on 30 June 2016.

The GrCCJ was established in an effort to further develop commerce between Greece and Japan, to promote the interests of Greek business in Japan, to assist Japanese financial and commercial institutions in their efforts at developing business in Greece, and to promote and encourage interest in Greek industry and culture throughout Japan.

The GrCCJ is keenly aware that the Greek diaspora, as found all over the world, continues to be a pertinent factor in linking Greece with the international community, and thus hopes to nurture connections with the Greek diaspora as a means of further globalising the outlook and reach of the organisation. The GrCCJ is a non-profit member organisation run by and for its members. Though the chamber expects its members to have an interest in Greek-Japanese affairs, membership is open to individuals and companies of all nationalities and interests. ➔ <http://grccj.jp>

President – Tony Andriotis  
Vice President – Dimitrios Vavougyios  
Recording Secretary – Athanasios Fragkis  
Corresponding Secretary – Antonios Y. Haroulis  
Treasurer – Spyridon Mentzas  
Counsel to the Chamber – Toshinori Uneki  
Executive Director – Konstantinos-Makoto Suwamoto

## UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA **INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL**

Now in its fourth year, Japan Orientation is a focused module offered as part of the University of East Anglia's International Summer School from 24 June – 21 July 2017.

This short course is again supported by the Toshiba International Foundation (TIFO), a nonprofit grant-making organisation dedicated to promoting an understanding of Japan through international exchanges whilst contributing to local and global development.

This programme will allow students to explore the latest approaches to Japanese Studies whilst taking part in an integrated summer course. The programme will be delivered by the University of East Anglia's specialised Centre for Japanese Studies (CJS) and the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures (SISJAC) and will concentrate on stimulating discussion with speakers who are leading researchers in the field of Japanese Studies: in culture, history, international relations, business, media and much more.

The course is suited to those currently at university who are interested in Japan, East Asia and the latest approaches to Japanese Studies.

Scholarships: there are 15 Scholarships on offer for the Japan Orientation module, including 12 fully funded places for applicants from the Visegrad Group (V4) countries (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia), and 3 fully funded places for applicants from the UK and Europe (outside of the V4 countries).

Scholarship Deadline: 31 March 2017

➔ <http://www.uea.ac.uk/summerstudyabroad/japan>

## **CONNECTING THE WORLD THROUGH IAESTE** - FROM JAPAN TO POLAND


IAESTE is an international student exchange programme with over 80 member countries worldwide. IAESTE provides paid, course related work experience to undergraduates in science and engineering.

IAESTE Japan have been a member of the association since 1964 and have been sending students around the world since, as well as hosting students in Japan. Krystian Gałeczki, Ph.D. and supervisor of IAESTE students at Lodz University of Technology, Poland had this to say about Mayu Nakabayashi from Japan. *"I have had the distinct pleasure of having Mayu Nakabayashi as a student in my laboratory programme in 2016. The main goal of Mayu's training was to get familiar with fluorescence and phosphorescence techniques in biomedical studies. Additionally, she had practice in computer molecular docking. I have to say that at work Mayu is fast, precise, and inventive. She also likes to work in unexplored areas and use new techniques. Mayu is a good co-worker and her virtue makes her a valuable asset for any research-oriented biochemical laboratory."*

If you're interested in hosting an IAESTE trainee in your company or institution, please visit the IAESTE website.

➔ <http://www.iaeste.org>



 Mayu Nakabayashi

## MNS 2017 MALTA

12-15 JUNE 2017, ST. JULIAN, MALTA

The 6th Mediterranean Neuroscience Society Meeting will take place in Malta on 12-15 June 2017 in St. Julian's Malta in collaboration with Malta Neuroscience Network and Enterprise Europe Network.



More than 500 delegates, including neurologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, basic and clinical researchers, are expected to attend the Meeting. The meeting will gather scientists from the broad Mediterranean area and not only and offer a rich programme, spanning from molecular and cell biology to behaviour under normal and pathological conditions. This includes 8 key note lectures, over 60 symposia, poster sessions and social events.

The meeting is expected to be highly beneficial, not only for the scientific exchanges, but also in terms of training opportunities for students and young researchers.

A matchmaking event (<http://www.b2fair.com/MNS2017>) will take place during the Conference to facilitate the networking between delegates and experts.

Organisers look forward to welcoming participants in Malta in June 2017 for an engaging scientific experience among the world's top neuroscientists. For further information please contact Professor Giuseppe Di Giovanni at [giuseppe.digiovanni@um.edu.mt](mailto:giuseppe.digiovanni@um.edu.mt), the Coordinator of Malta Neuroscience and the President of the Organising Committee of 6th MNS meeting.

➔ <http://www.mnsmeeting2017.com>

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## COMPOUND SEMICONDUCTOR WEEK 2017 (CSW 2017)

14 - 18 MAY 2017, BERLIN, GERMANY

Following a series of successful meetings in Montpellier, France (2014), Santa Barbara, USA (2015) and Toyama, Japan (2016), CSW 2017 is once more a joint event for the 44th International Symposium on Compound Semiconductors and the 29th International Conference on Indium Phosphide and Related Materials. The Compound Semiconductor Week is established as the leading forum for science, technology and applications of compound semiconductors attracting about 450 participants.

CSW 2017 will be held at a unique venue, the dbb-forum, in the center of Berlin, Germany under the organisation of the Paul-Drude-Institute for solid state electronics (<http://www.pdi-berlin.de/home>).

The Paul-Drude-Institute for solid state electronics (PDI) is a German research institute located in Berlin. It performs device inspiring research as a lively symbiosis between materials science and solid state physics. Its special emphasis lies on low-dimensional structures

in semiconductors. For many years now, PDI has partners in Japan such as research institutes and companies by which it has a lively exchange.

At CSW 2017 participants will meet the leading heads of the compound-semiconductors community from all over the world. See more in the preliminary program at CSW 2017 ([http://www.csw2017.org/CSW2017\\_program.pdf](http://www.csw2017.org/CSW2017_program.pdf)). Registrations are open at following link:

➔ <http://www.csw2017.org/registration.html>

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## OVERVIEW OF THE REVISED PERSONAL INFORMATION PROTECTION ACT OF JAPAN AND ITS MAIN IMPACT ON FOREIGN GROUPS

This article seeks to summarise the key changes that the revised Personal Information Protection Act of Japan will bring effective as of 30 May 2017 and to highlight the most important actions which foreign groups trading with, or in, Japan should take without delay in preparing to comply with it. This article is currently rather unique insofar as it also describes the implementing guidelines in English. Information is available to view/download via the below link.

Source: Iwata Godo

➔ [https://www.iwatagodo.com/201703\\_APPI\\_Amendment\\_in\\_Japan.pdf](https://www.iwatagodo.com/201703_APPI_Amendment_in_Japan.pdf)

## PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

JAPANESE COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN THE EU



<http://een-japan.eu/opportunities>



### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: industrial machinery

A seafood processing machine manufacturer from Japan is looking for a distributor in selected EU countries

Profile ID: **BOJP20161207001**



### REQUEST FOR SUPPLIER

#### Sector: Retail

A Japanese smartphone accessory distributor is looking for mobile phones' accessories and smart home devices

Profile ID: **BRJP20170324001**

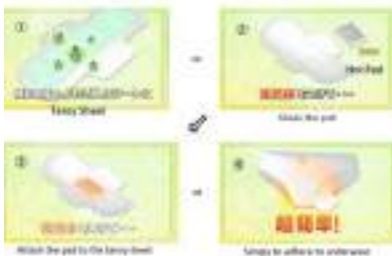


### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: Medical, healthcare

A Japanese manufacturer is looking for distributors for its panty liner with steaming functionality

Profile ID: **BOJP20161202001**



### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: Craft & design

A Japanese pulp-related products manufacturer is seeking distribution partners in the EU for its biodegradable eco-tableware

Profile ID: **BOJP20161216001**

### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR OR AGENT

#### Sector: Luxury goods

A Japanese aroma products manufacturer is seeking agents or distribution partners in selected EU countries

Profile ID: **BOJP20161220001**



### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: Healthcare

A Japanese manufacturer specialised in functional cushions and chairs is looking for distributors and agents in the EU

Profile ID: **BOJP20170118001**



### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: Food & drink

A Japanese company looking for EU distributors for its mills for coffee beans, tea leaves and spices

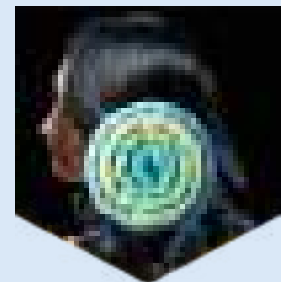
Profile ID: **BOJP20170127001**

### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: Luxury goods, healthcare

A Japanese trading company is looking for distributors or agents in the EU for a Japan-made premium towel

Profile ID: **BOJP20170202001**



### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: Craft & design, healthcare

A 100 years old Japanese manufacturer of traditional "tenugui" towels seeks distributors and sales agents in the EU

Profile ID: **BOJP20170213001**



### REQUEST FOR LICENSEE

#### Sector: Medical, healthcare

A Japanese software company is offering medical analysis software for the orthodontics sector

Profile ID: **BOJP20160303001**

### REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

#### Sector: Safety, security

Hello Kitty fire extinguisher offered to distributors in the EU by a Japanese fire extinguisher manufacturer

Profile ID: **BOJP20170222001**



## PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

**JAPANESE COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN THE EU**<http://een-japan.eu/opportunities>**REQUEST FOR SERVICES****Sector: Craft & Design**

A Japanese paint manufacturer seeks artists who can facilitate/conduct promotional events

Profile ID: **BRJP20160201001****REQUEST FOR SERVICES****Sector: Craft & Design**

A Japanese paint manufacturer seeks a marketing and public relations (PR) representative in the EU

Profile ID: **BRJP20160203001**

## PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

**EU COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN JAPAN**<http://www.een-japan.eu/opportunities>**TECHNOLOGY REQUESTED****Sector: ナノテクノロジー**

在イタリアの大学が特殊なナノキャリアを製造可能な会社を探しています

Profile ID: **TRIT20170207001****REQUEST FOR SUPPLIER****Sector: ICT**

オランダの中小企業が電光掲示の製造に関しての契約を希望しています

Profile ID: **BRNL20170113001****TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFERED****Sector: バイオテック&ライフサイエンス**

ベルギーの中小企業は、モルモット由来のモノクローナル抗体に関する技術協力パートナーを探しています

Profile ID: **TOBE20160616001****Sector: 光ネットワーク**

自動車内部情報へアクセスするための可視光通信システム (Visible Light Communications System)を開発するスペインの会社がライセンス契約先を探しています

Profile ID: **TOES20150710001****REQUEST FOR TRADE PARTNER****Sector: 光ネットワーク**

光通信分野で活躍のポーランドの会社が日本でのパートナーを探しています

Profile ID: **NoID-012****Sector: 建設**

冷暖房システムに関する解決策をもたらすイタリアの会社が建築市場における管理パートナーを探しています

Profile ID: **BOIT20150904001****LICENSING OFFER****Sector: 光ネットワーク**

光通信に特化したスペインの企業がサービス契約やライセンス契約を通じ、可視光通信による解決策をアクセスコントロールやモバイル端末使用支払にもたらしめます

Profile ID: **BOES20161227002****REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR****Sector: その他**

英国の赤外線クォーツ屋内外暖房システムメーカーが流通業者をさがしています

Profile ID: **BRRO20161006001**

## ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK EVENTS

**B2B OPPORTUNITIES FOR EU AND JAPANESE SMES**<http://een.ec.europa.eu/tools/services/EVE/Event/ListEvents>**B2FAIR MATCHING EVENT****24-27 April 2017, Hannover, Germany****Sectors: multi-sectoral**

The EEN partner the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce is organising a B2fair matching event during the Hannover Messe trade fair ([www.hannovermesse.de/home](http://www.hannovermesse.de/home)). The 12th edition of the international brokerage event will take place from 24th to 28th of April 2017. Almost 23,000 business meetings amongst 3,000 companies have been organised in the framework of this brokerage event since 2005.

<http://www.b2fair.com/hannovermesse2017>**B2FAIR @ ICT SPRING****9-10 May 2017, Luxembourg, Luxembourg****Sector: ICT**

The EEN partner, the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, is organising a matchmaking event in the frame of ICT Spring Europe 2017 ([www.ictspring.com](http://www.ictspring.com)) one of Europe's largest and most international information-communication-technology conferences. The 2-day matching event will provide opportunities to build strong relationships and partnerships in the ICT sector.

<http://www.een-matchmaking.com/ictspring2017>**TORINO FASHIONMATCH 2017****29-30 June 2017, Torino, Italy****Sectors: fashion, clothing, textile****Registration deadline: 23 June 2017**

Unioncamere Piemonte, a partner of the Enterprise Europe Network, is organising the second edition of the Torino FashionMatch 2017, a matchmaking event for the fashion and textile industry. The event is realised within the Torino Fashion Week 2017.

<https://www.b2match.eu/to2-fashionmatch2017>



DATE/LOCATION	DETAILS	CONTACTS
12-21 April 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EXHIBITION</b> Bonjour France - French gastronomy, art and culture exhibition	CCI France Japon <a href="http://www.bonjourfrance.jp/jp/">http://www.bonjourfrance.jp/jp/</a>
12-21 April 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> LEAN in Europe - Visit to Rational AG Application deadline: 10 April 2017	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/lean-europe-driving-competitiveness">http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/lean-europe-driving-competitiveness</a>
23 April 2017 Dublin, Ireland	<b>FESTIVAL</b> Experience Japan Festival Day 2017	Experience Japan Committee <a href="http://experiencejapan.ie">http://experiencejapan.ie</a>
26 May - 22 June 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>FESTIVAL</b> EU Film Days 2017	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="http://eufilmdays.jp/">http://eufilmdays.jp/</a>
27 May 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>WORKSHOP</b> Falling Walls Lab Tokyo 2017	EURAXESS Japan <a href="https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/worldwide/japan/falling-walls-lab-tokyo-2017">https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/worldwide/japan/falling-walls-lab-tokyo-2017</a>
1-14 June 2017 Hiroshima, Japan	<b>FAIR</b> Danish Fair 2017	Andersen Institute of Bread & Life Co.,Ltd. <a href="http://www.denmarkjapan150.jp/en/event/danish-fair-2017/">http://www.denmarkjapan150.jp/en/event/danish-fair-2017/</a>
3-25 June 2017 Kyoto, Japan	<b>FESTIVAL</b> EU Film Days 2017	Delegation of the European Union to Japan <a href="http://eufilmdays.jp/">http://eufilmdays.jp/</a>
26-30 June 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Training Mission: WCM - World Class Manufacturing - session I	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing">http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing</a>
12-16 September 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Training Mission: WCM - World Class Manufacturing - session II Application deadline: 27 April 2017	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing">http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing</a>
10-13 October 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Sectoral Mission: Biotech Cluster & SMEs Mission Application deadline: 25 May 2017	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-cluster-sme-mission">http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-cluster-sme-mission</a>
7-10 November 2017 Tokyo, Japan	<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME</b> Sectoral Mission: ICT Cluster & SMEs Mission Application deadline: 29 June 2017	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation <a href="http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/ict-cluster-sme-mission">http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/ict-cluster-sme-mission</a>



**EU-Japan Centre**  
for Industrial Cooperation  
日欧産業協力センター

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## ANY EU-JAPAN-RELATED NEWS?

Feel free to contact us if you would like your EU-Japan-related news/event to be announced in our forthcoming newsletter and/or on our website : [michelson@eu-japan.eu](mailto:michelson@eu-japan.eu)

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