# **IETRO** Switzerland Newsletter

Japan External Trade Organization



#### ACTIVITY

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### Visit of companies from Greater Nagoya in Switzerland



Six companies from Greater Nagoya

Following the pre-research activity last year, a business delegation from the Japanese region of the Greater Nagoya (including Nagoya prefecture, Mie prefecture and Gifu prefecture) visited Switzerland from September 18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. It took part in several business matching events in Geneva, Lausanne and Neuchâtel.

### Six companies

The delegation was composed of 12 participants, including representatives of Greater Nagoya Initiative Center (GNIC), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), the JETRO Nagoya and six companies:

- Iwata Tool Co., Ltd.
- Juken Kogyo Co., Ltd.
- Kitaoka Co., Ltd.
- Nagase Integrex Co. Ltd.
- Nakagawa Mfg., Co., Ltd.
- Tokai Azumi Techno Co., Ltd.

(see table)

Business matching events in Geneva, Lausanne and Neuchâtel

The six companies were presented on the occasions of three events in Geneva, Lausanne and Neuchâtel in collaboration with local governments, academia and industrial promotion organizations. At each venue, they introduced their company and products by presentation and miniexhibition.

A seminar took place on September 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Geneva Office for the Promotion of Industries and Technologies (OPI).

Another event was held at the EPFL, Lausanne, on September 20<sup>th</sup>, in collaboration with Vaud's Economic Development (DEV). A third event took place Château de Neuchâtel on September 21<sup>st</sup>,

Name of	Strength
company	
Iwata Tool Co.,Ltd.	TOGLON Hard Drill/ TOGLON Hard Long Drill
Juken Kogyo Co. Ltd.	Precision plastic parts for watch, automobile, meter, camera, etc. Ultra-precision parts for optical and medical applications.
Kitaoka Co., Ltd.	Ultra-precision Machining for single crystal diamond, water-jet machining, MC (5axis), NC etc
Nagase Integrex Co. Ltd.	Grinding Machines/ machine tools, peripheral equipment
0	chine tools, peripheral

with the support of Neuchâtel's Economic Development, Precision Cluster.

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### Visit of companies from Greater Nagoya in Switzerland



(Continued from page one)

Also visits to CERN and some Swiss companies of precision industry sector were arranged by JETRO.

### Led by the Greater Nagoya Initiative (GNI)

Located in the center of Japan, the Greater Nagoya is a region with a population of 11.4 million and (as of 2013) a GDP of CHF 550 billion (as of 2011).

The visit was led by the Greater Nagoya Initiative (GNI). Set up in February 2006, GNI is a joint organization of the central government and local governments, economic organizations, private enterprises, universities and research organizations. GNI provides a "one-stop" office to overseas corporations interested in starting or expanding business into Greater Nagoya.

### RIT program

The Regional Industry Tie-Up program (RIT) promotes two-way industrial exchange and collaboration between regions in Japan and other countries, with the aim of facilitating business tie-ups to develop market, exchange technology and boost the area's economy.

The program offers a perfect opportunity for foreign regions interested in partnering with Japan but lacking the resources or network to make such connections. JETRO utilizes its wide network in Japan and overseas to maximize the success of such partnerships.

JETRO Nagoya has received a request for assistance from Greater Nagoya Initiative. In liaison with JETRO Geneva, it has led a business mission in Switzerland

#### Results of mission—comments

During the program, 36 business meetings took place in total. In the wrap-up meeting, companies commented that it was a good opportunity to get in touch with key persons and it is important to take time to deepen trusting relationships.

### Japan's current economic situation



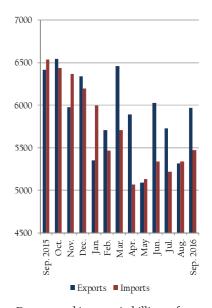
SITUATION

According to the Cabinet Office, "Concerning short-term prospects, the economy is expected toward recovery, supported by the effects of the policies, while employment and income situation is improving. However, there are downside risks of the Japanese economy including slowing down of emerging Asian economies including the Chinese economy amid the weakness of overseas economies. In addition, attention should be given to the increased uncertainty in overseas economies, including the issues of the UK leaving the EU and the effects of fluctuations in the financial and capital markets" (October is-

sue of the monthly economic report).

Japan's exports declined 6.9% to JPY 5,968 in September 2016, from the same month in the preceding year. Exports were down 10.6% in China, 8.7% in the United States, but up 0.7% in the European Union (+11.4% in Switzerland).

The private consumption remains firm. The average of monthly income per household stood at IPY 480,083, up 1.0% in nominal terms and up 1.5% in real terms from the previous year. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.1% in August 2016 against 3.4% in August 2015.



Exports and imports in billions of yen Japan's Ministry of Finance

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### JETRO morning seminars in Geneva and Basel

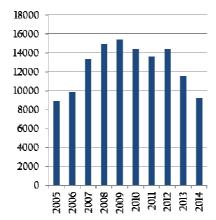
This autumn, JETRO is organizing two Invest in Japan promotion morning seminars.

The first seminar will take place in Geneva on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The experience of SIKA in Japan will be introduced.

Another seminar will be held in Basel on November 4<sup>th</sup>. A presentation will be made by the bioinformatics company Genedata.

For both seminars, Tokyo-based attorney at law Charles Ochsner, CHPM, will give practical tips on the establishment and running of business in Japan.

These events are aimed to give an overview of the current Japanese business environment and the growth opportunities it offers to Swiss companies. This is a unique occasion to meet with experts, to



Swiss direct investment in Japan, capital stock, end of year, in CHF millions Swiss National Bank

hear the voices of Swiss companies that succeeded in Japan, and to have information on all the tools, for most of them free of charge, available in Switzerland to support Swiss companies to expand their business in Japan.





#### Geneva seminar:

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 • 08:00-10:00 am

Venue: CCIG, Boulevard du Théâtre 4, Genève

#### Basel seminar:

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 • 08:00-10:00am

Venue: Handelskammer beider Basel, St. Jakobs-Strasse 25, Basel

For more information on the program and to register please visit our website: https://www.jetro.go.jp/switzerland.html

# 8<sup>th</sup> World Bonsai convention in Saitama City

The 8<sup>th</sup> World Bonsai Convention will take place in Saitama City (Kanto region) from April 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Since the first World Bonsai Convention took place in 1989, this event has been taking place in several countries, such as the United States, Germany and South Korea. For the first time in 28 years, it will take place in Japan again.

As in other foreign events, this exhi-

bition will not only show bonsai masterpieces, but also provides demonstration by Japanese masters, and exchange of information.

13 bonsai artists from Japan and 8 from abroad will be invited to hold demonstrations.

For further information and registration, please consult the following Website: http://world-bonsai-saitama.jp/





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## Japanese teams in ETH Zurich's competition Cybathlon



Three teams from Japan joined the Cybathlon: Meltin MMI, RT-Movers (Wakayama University) and Xiborg.

### Bionic assistive technologies

Cybathlon is an international competition organized by ETH Zurich open to disabled people allowed to use bionic assistive technologies. The first competition took place on Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016, in Zurich.

It is a unique competition in the sense that the goal is to tackle the challenges of everyday life by using latest technologies.

#### RT—Movers ranked n°4

The three Japanese teams took part



Team RT-Movers (with permission) ©AlessandroDellaBella

in four (out of six) of the disciplines: powered arm prosthesis, powered leg prosthesis, powered wheelchair and FES bike races.

RT Movers reached the finals in

the discipline of powered wheel-chair. Pilot Tomoyo Ito (former Paralympic Gold Medalist, see picture) finished fourth.

### Agenda



- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Nov.: Invest Japan Seminar
   8:00AM-10:00AM, Chambre de commerce, d'industrie et des services de Genève
- ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> Nov.: Invest Japan Seminar
   8:00AM-10:00AM, Basel Handelskammer

JETRO is a government-related organization that works to promote mutual trade and investment between Japan and the rest of the world. Originally established in 1958 to promote Japanese exports abroad, JETRO's core focus in the 21st century has shifted toward promoting foreign direct investment into Japan and helping small to medium size Japanese firms maximize their global export potential.

The JETRO Switzerland Newsletter can also be viewed and/or downloaded online: http://www.jetro.go.jp/switzerland/newsletter



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