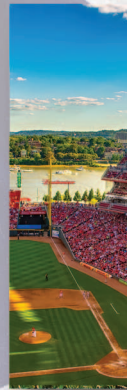


JETRO Newsletter



The Japan Ohio Investment Dynamic

- How Local Leaders Envision Japan -



JETRO CHICAGO
Chief Executive Director
Ralph Inforzato

The State of Ohio's relationship with Japan has never been stronger. There is sincere interest in and a recognition of the importance in Japan from Ohio's Governor, Mike DeWine, Mr. J.P. Nauseef, President and CEO of JobsOhio, and Ms. Lydia Mihalik, Director of the Ohio Development Services Agency. Importantly, the support for Japan by Ohio's senior leadership is deeply reflected by the state's local government officials. The Japan Ohio Dynamic: How Local Leaders Envision Japan conveys a deep bond of friendship for Japanese.

Ohio's local leaders, its mayors, county commissioners and economic development professionals are fully committed to supporting existing and inviting new Japanese companies to their local communities. They have traveled to Japan continuously over the years. They are committed to deepen their relationships with their Japanese sister cities, friendship cities and to personally meet the head offices of Japanese companies that have invested in their communities.

Ohio's mayors and county leaders each have a vision for the future of their cities and Japan plays an important role. They have all talked enthusiastically to me about how they feel about Japan. I encouraged these Ohio leaders to send their messages about Japan accompanied with their city profiles, and JETRO will organize a Japanese language newsletter so their voices are heard by Japanese. Their responses were overwhelming.

I have met each one of the local leaders featured in this Special JETRO Newsletter on the State of Ohio. These leaders are sincere and very humble, all of them want to sustain a good relationship with Japan and welcome Japanese companies to their cities. We are honored to convey their messages and economic profiles to you.



JobsOhio
President and CEO
J.P. Nauseef
employed by

Located in the eastern part of the U.S., just below the Great Lakes, is Ohio. Japan and Ohio have shared a deep connection and special economic relationship as far back as 1905. Ohio has the 21st largest economy in the world. It is where world-class institutions, collaboration, innovation, and talent transform your big ideas into reality.

Japan is Ohio's top international investor, with more than 72,860 Ohioans employed by 852 different Japan-owned establishments across the state. Second only to California, Ohio has the largest total number of American Japanese companies.

In September 2019, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine conducted his first international trip to Japan, honoring the significance of Japanese investment in Ohio. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Saitama-Ohio Sister State relationship, resulting in 41 Saitama students studying at the University of Findlay. We hope to welcome Governor Ono of Saitama to Columbus for an official visit next year.

In this special newsletter, you will hear from the mayors of 15 different Ohio cities on what makes the state great for business. Thank you to JETRO for their efforts to spotlight the State of Ohio. We hope you will do business with us, as we promise that Ohio will be a supportive, strategic long-term partner with you.

A Japanese version of this newsletter is also available.

www.jetro.go.jp/usa/newsletters/midwestnewsletter.html



Japanese



English

Contact: JETRO Chicago | www.jetro.go.jp/usa/ | 1 East Wacker Drive, Suite 3350, Chicago 60601 | Phone: 312-832-6000 Fax: 312-832-6066
The JETRO Chicago team offers a wide variety of business support services for companies in the Midwest planning to initiate a business presence or seeking to add to their existing investment in Japan, and/or work with Japanese companies. Please feel free to contact us: cgo@jetro.go.jp

This material is distributed by JETRO Chicago on behalf of Japan External Trade Organization, Tokyo, Japan. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.



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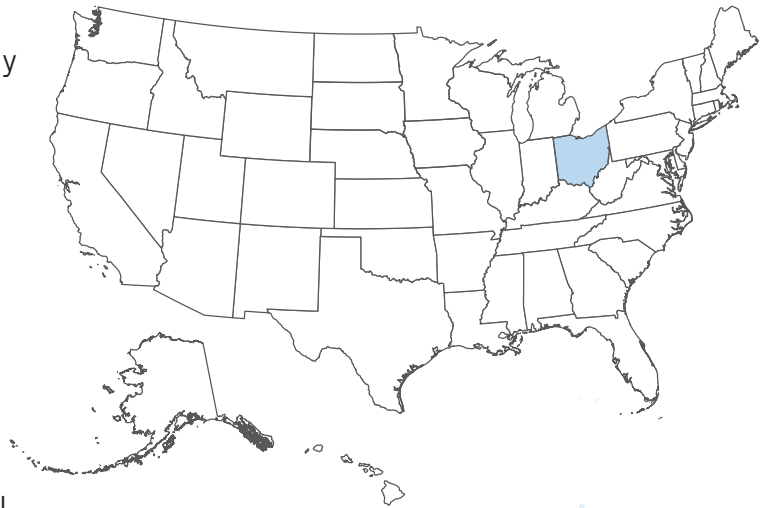




STATE OF OHIO



Capital: Columbus
Governor: The Hon. Mike DeWine
Population: 11,689,100 | 7th largest state
Area: 44,825 sq mi (116,096 km²) | 35th largest state
Time Zone: Eastern Time
Nickname of the State: The Buckeye State



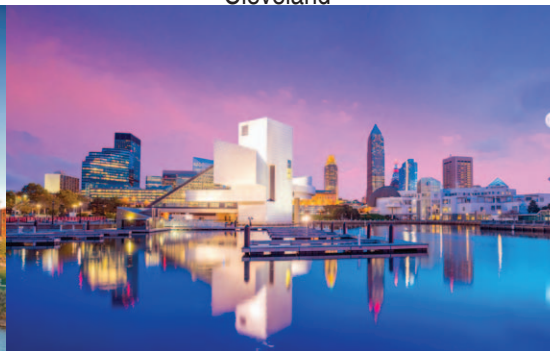
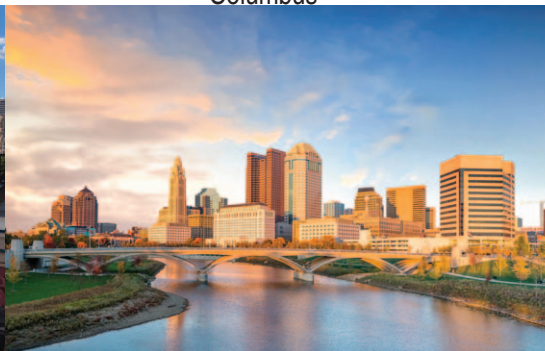
- ★ State Capital
- County
- City

Three Major Cities in Ohio

Columbus

Cleveland

Cincinnati



City of Bellefontaine



Mayor
Ben Stahler

Message from Mayor

Bellefontaine is the county seat of Logan County. We are centered between the Honda Marysville Plant, Honda East Liberty Plant to our east, Honda Anna Engine Plant and Honda Transmission Plant (Russells Point) to our west. I want to offer a warm greeting from our community. Logistically, 44% of the US population is within a 500 mile radius. Additionally, we are home to many Japanese Companies that support Honda's manufacturing, as well as many other US companies. We have a long standing sister-city relationship with Suzuka, Japan (since 1991) and continue our lasting friendship.



Population : 13,200
Sister City: Suzuka, Mie

CONTACT INFO

Mayor Ben Stahler
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Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311
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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Honda Logistics
Midwest Express
Great Lakes Assemblies
AGC Automotive
Belletech Corp
NEX Transport (Nippon Express)
Daido Metal
NK Parts
ISS America

City Profile

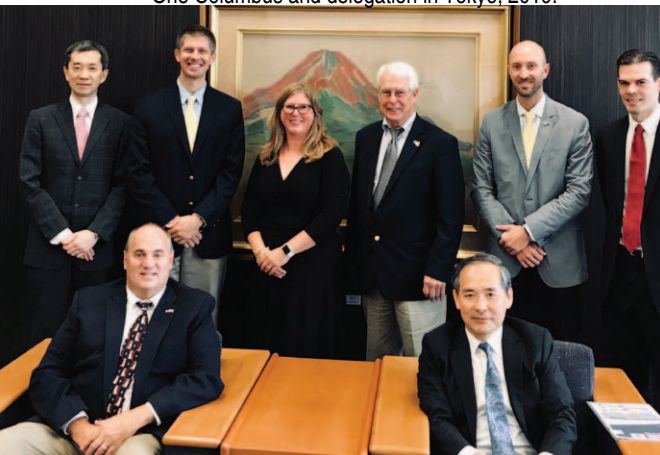
Bellefontaine is a 200 year old city. While we're very proud of our rich history, we continue to be a vibrant and thriving community. We have a downtown that has undergone a revitalization effort that has added numerous shops and restaurants in this area.

Our community has a very strong public school system; an award-winning healthcare system; an active cultural arts center offering a variety of entertainment venues; a large park system with many activities for young and old alike. The residents of Bellefontaine enjoy all four seasons of the year. We are ten minutes' drive from Ohio's largest ski resort (Mad River Mountain) and a 15 minutes' drive from Indian Lake, a 5,000 acre lake which hosts a variety of water-related recreational activities. Our community is a safe and inviting town that has always been welcoming to Japanese families who choose to live and work in the Bellefontaine area.

In addition to our sister-city relationship with Suzuka, our community's economic leaders greatly appreciate Japan's investment in Ohio's companies. We have a good working relationship with Consul-General Nakagawa (Detroit). Every two years, these leaders travel to Tokyo for the Midwest US – Japan Association Conference. Additionally, this team makes appointments to visit and pay honor to the Japanese parent companies that have taken root in our community. We are grateful for the investment that has been made in this area by Japanese companies, and continue to develop the workforce needed to support their business efforts.

Bellefontaine Mayor Ben Stahler, Deb Scherer of One Columbus and delegation in Tokyo, 2019.

The City of Bellefontaine delegation visits its Sister City, Suzuka, Japan in 2019.



City of Dayton



Mayor
Nan Whaley

Message from Mayor

As Mayor of Dayton I want to extend our warmest greetings to the Japanese business community and invite you to do business in our community. Dayton has long valued its friendship with the people of Japan and for more than fifty years we have had a wonderful sister city relationship with our friends in Oiso. I am confident you will find Dayton to be a very welcoming community, offering a high quality of life, with an economy energized by a spirit of entrepreneurship and a wealth of engineering and

design expertise. I wish you great success and look forward to working with you as you explore opportunities in Dayton.

City Profile

Dayton, Ohio and the surrounding metropolitan area has a dynamic and innovative economy that excels in engineering, product development, manufacturing, and distribution. The same City that gave birth to National Cash Register (NCR), the Wright Brothers' invention of flight, and Charles Kettering's invention of the electric starter today has the fourth highest concentration of engineers in the United States. Wright Patterson Air Force Base is home to the Air Force Research Laboratories (AFRL) and the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC). AFRL and NASIC help fuel a rapidly growing technology and innovation cluster in Dayton's rejuvenated downtown. With a skilled workforce fueled by outstanding universities and technical colleges, and located within a day's drive of 60% of the U.S. population and manufacturing capacity, Dayton is a perfect location in which to design, manufacture, and distribute products throughout North America. In addition, Dayton combines a high quality of life with a very moderate cost of doing business and has an abundant supply of fresh water.

Approximately 17 Japanese-owned companies have recognized Dayton's competitive advantages and now employ more than 3,000 workers in the immediate region. The largest employers include Neaton Automotive, F&P America Manufacturing, Greenville Technology (Moriruko Technology), Green Tokai, and Motoman (Yaskawa). These companies are capitalizing on Dayton's prime location to efficiently supply a wide spectrum of manufacturers, particularly in the automotive sector, and are tapping into the region's strong workforce and technical leadership.



Population : 140,407
(Metropolitan Area: 803,000)
Sister City: Oiso, Kanagawa

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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

F&P America Manufacturing

Neaton Auto Parts Manufacturing

**Greenville Technology
(Moriruko Technology)**

Green Tokai

Motoman (Yaskawa)

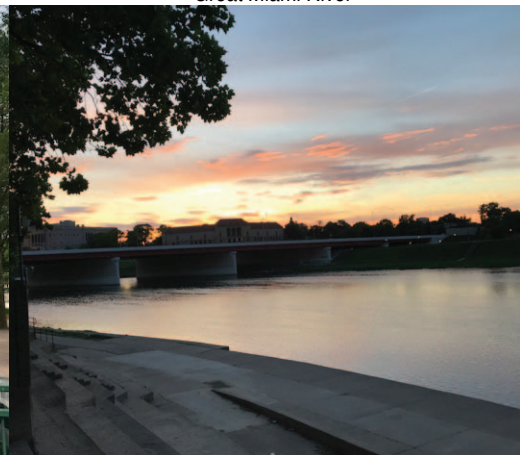
RiverScape Metro Park



Downtown



Great Miami River



City of Dublin



Mayor

Chris Amorose Groomes

We welcome opportunities to foster international relationships and friendships. Our first Friendship City relationship was signed with Mashiko, Japan, in 2015. Our business partnerships go back even further, with many Honda suppliers choosing to call Dublin home over the last four decades. These Japanese-owned businesses have contributed greatly to our local economy and to the vibrancy of our community. We are proud that Dublin is home to more Japanese Nationals than any other city in the State of Ohio. We invite you to join our dynamic and diverse community where you will discover a thriving and welcoming atmosphere.

City Profile

The City of Dublin takes great care in cultivating its valued relationship with our Japanese business community. In 2019, Ohio celebrated the 40th anniversary of Honda of America Manufacturing with Dublin welcoming nearly 40 Japanese-owned businesses to our community since 1979. Now, the second largest economy in Central Ohio, Dublin leads the state in job growth since 2009. Japanese companies represent the largest amount of foreign direct investment in Dublin. In 2019, DENSO, headquartered in Kariya, Japan, announced a \$1.42 million investment to launch a Smart Mobility Ecosystem in Dublin, which will test and implement infrastructure technologies, increasing road and pedestrian safety and reducing travel times.

Each year, the City of Dublin joins forces with the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio to co-host an economic development summit featuring the Consul-General of Japan in Detroit. In 2020, together with JASCO and the Columbus Council on World Affairs, we hosted a Japan national security lecture.

Members of the Dublin Economic Development team attend the annual U.S. Midwest-Japan Association Conference advancing economic relations between our two countries, most recently traveling to Tokyo with a delegation including Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. Annually, Mr. Yoshihiro Hidaka, president and CEO of Hidaka USA, hosts a hanami celebrating the sakura and the continuing friendship with the city. Dublin's Friendship City agreement with Mashiko has enabled other cultural, governmental and educational exchanges. These have included art shows, taiko performances, an annual Japan Festival and visits between the mayors of the two cities.

Mayor of Mashiko, Japan Tomoyuki Ohtsuka welcomes Dublin officials to the Town Hall.

Mayor Amorose Groomes & Consul-General Tsutomu Nakagawa meet at the Midwest U.S.-Japan Association Conference Tokyo, 2019.

Mayor Amorose Groomes visits Saginomiya HQ in Tokyo, which has a facility in Dublin, Ohio.

Message from Mayor

We welcome opportunities to foster international relationships and friendships. Our first Friendship City relationship was signed with Mashiko, Japan, in 2015. Our business partnerships go back even further, with many Honda suppliers choosing to call Dublin home over the last four decades.

These Japanese-owned businesses have contributed greatly to our local economy and to the vibrancy of our community. We are proud that Dublin is home to more Japanese Nationals

than any other city in the State of Ohio. We invite you to join our dynamic and diverse community where you will discover a thriving and welcoming atmosphere.



Population : 50,000

Friendship City: Mashiko, Tochigi

CONTACT INFO

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Dublin, Ohio 43017

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1-614-410-4618

JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Alps Automotive, Inc | Blue Water Growth | Clarion Corporation of America | Daishin Industrial Co. | DENSO International AM, Inc. | Elesys North America, Inc | G-Tekt North | America Corporation | Hidaka USA | Honda Kaihatsu Americas, Inc. | Kasai North America | Keihin North America, Inc. | Konica Minolta Business Solutions | KSM International, Ltd. | Micware North America | Mitsuba Corp. | Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America | Mitsubishi International Food Ingredients | Nachi-Takiwa Corp. | NC Network, Inc. Ohio Technical Center | Nippon Wico | Nishimoto Trading Co. | Nissin Travel Service, Inc. | Omron Automotive Electronics | Panasonic Automotive Systems Company of America | Rikenkaki America Corp. | Saginomiya America, Inc. | Sakurai U.S.A. Co. | Tanaka and Company | Tokio Marine America | Tokiwa Sangyo Co., Ltd. | Transtron America, Inc. | Weastec.



City of Fairlawn



Mayor
William J. Roth

Message from Mayor

Greetings from the City of Fairlawn, Ohio. Our strategic location and pro-business climate brings together a full range of benefits from low-cost access to customers and a comprehensive supply chain to streamlined regulatory processes that align with a growing company's financial needs. Fairlawn has two world class corporate parks. Fairlawn Corporate Park is a research and technical park, and Embassy Corporate Park is a privately developed 120 acre corporate park within the City.

The City of Fairlawn has a tax rate of 2% for net profits and withholds 2% of employee wages. Additionally, the City does not assess landowners for utility or street improvements. We have had great relationships with the Japanese companies invested in our area, and we look forward to welcoming more companies from Japan.

City Profile

Fairlawn Ohio is the ideal North American location for businesses looking to appeal to an intelligent workforce and create a culture to foster innovation. Fairlawn provides organizations access to an educated workforce (78.6% college experience), amenities to attract and retain its workforce, enhanced quality of life for employees and residents, and a world-class Internet network that supports the most advanced technologies.

FairlawnGig is a broadband utility established in 2016, partnering with Fujitsu Network Communications in a \$10.1 million project, to ensure businesses and homes are provided with the most robust Internet service available anywhere in the world. Organizations in Fairlawn are able to leverage unparalleled speeds provided by FairlawnGig to compete successfully and globally with leaders in their respective industries. Business speeds can reach 100 gigabit and residential up to 2.5 gigabit speeds are possible. PC Magazine rated FairlawnGig the 10th fastest Internet provider in the United States. The broadband network is connected to numerous data centers and cloud networks at diverse locations. The fiber optic network's connectivity is redundant and dedicated with symmetric upload and download speeds in front of every address in the city.

Fairlawn offers both ready-to-occupy "Class A" office space as well as commercially zoned green field open space. Fairlawn's Corporate Park was designed for Smart Office/Research and Development in mind by offering affordable, shovel-ready commercial land, infrastructure in place, and employee friendly amenities.



Population : 7,522

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<http://fairlawn.us>

JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Fujitsu Network Communications

**Koroseal Interior Products LLC /
Sangetsu USA Inc.**



Evening Scene



Corporate Park

City of Findlay



Mayor
Christina M. Muryn

Message from Mayor

Konnichiwa, Findlay, Ohio is fortunate to have such a strong relationship with Japan. Findlay's pro business approach has created a primarily union free environment, central to the US automotive market. Our team is focused on preparing for future investment opportunities with Japan related to Connected, Shared, Autonomous and Electrified automobiles. Each year our team travels to Japan and partners with JETRO, the Consulate-General,

JASCO, Prefectural Governments and many others to ensure our Japanese businesses have the tools needed to be successful. We look forward to welcoming you to Findlay in the near future.



Population : 41,225
Friendship City: Kawaguchi, Saitama

City Profile

The City of Findlay began its relationship with Japan in the mid '80s. Over the past 35 years the relationship has blossomed into an exchange based on business, education, government and culture.

Six Japanese Tier 1 auto suppliers call Findlay their North American Headquarters. Findlay's central location to Honda North America and Detroit makes it an ideal location to supply the automotive market.

Blanchard Valley Health System has worked to make our Japanese residents feel at home by translating documents into Japanese. Findlay City Schools recently established a Japanese language program for kids in 9-12 grades. Findlay also provides busing to Saturday Japanese school. The University of Findlay Japanese program has hosted scholarship students from Saitama Prefecture for over 20 years. The City of Findlay has a close relationship with Saitama and Fukui Prefectures. In 2018 the City of Findlay signed a Friendship City agreement with Kawaguchi in Saitama. The Friendship City also includes student exchanges between the high schools in both cities.

Finally, when you visit City Hall, city parks or the university campus you see many reminders of the Findlay-Japan relationship memorialized by cherry trees and plaques. Findlay prides itself on the Findlay Formula," our ability to work across government, business and education. Each year the Mayor, Economic Development Director and the University travel to Japan to grow our relationship with our friends in Japan. Findlay is proud to have one of the largest concentrations of Japanese businesses and residents in Ohio. Tomodachi!

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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

- 1986 **Sanoh (Hisan)** | Tokyo
- 1987 **BAPM (Clevite Bridgestone)** | Tokyo
- 1988 **Nissin Brake Ohio (Findlex)** | Ueda
- 1989 **GSW** | Nagoya
- 1989 **Roki (Filtech)** | Hamamatsu
- 1990 **Molten** | Hiroshima

Findlay welcomes its Japanese friends to the community.



City of Lima



Mayor
David J. Berger

Message from Mayor

Lima, Ohio is located in the northwest corner of the state, midway between Toledo and Dayton, at the intersection of I-75 and State Route 30. Several Class I railroads also intersect here, along with many pipelines. Further, we are within a day's drive of 60% of the US population and thus enjoy unique access to many markets and industries.

We would welcome the opportunity to explain in detail our many community advantages that benefit the broad range of industries and businesses that call Lima home.

City Profile

Lima has enjoyed a strong relationship with its Sister City Harima-cho for over 20 years. This Sister City bond has provided numerous opportunities for cultural and educational exchanges, and Lima hopes to expand its connection to Japan through new business affiliations.

Lima has a significant manufacturing base, including automotive, petrochemical and food-related industries. The Ford Motor Company has its largest engine plant in our community since 1957, along with automotive suppliers such as Dana, International Brake Industries, American Trim and Superior Coaches. The Joint Systems Manufacturing Center, operated by General Dynamics, is the nation's only manufacturer of the M1 Abrams main battle tank used by our military services. Husky Energy, Nutrien, Ineos, Ashland, Guardian Energy, and Procter & Gamble also call Lima home.

The food industry thrives in Lima with companies such as BEF Foods, Nickle's Bakery, Rudolph Foods, and Spartan Nash supplying packaged and wholesale foods to restaurants and retail establishments. DeSter recently opened a manufacturing facility in Lima to produce food packaging. An abundant supply of water resources makes Lima an excellent location for the food industry.

Lima's educational base continues to expand with the new establishment of the Rhodes State College's Center For Health Science Education and Innovation in the heart of our downtown. The new facility will add to the revitalization taking place in downtown Lima, with new restaurants and services attracting more visitors and residents looking to call Lima home. We hope you will visit us soon to see all that Lima has to offer.



Population : 36,659 (2019)

Sister City: Harima, Hyogo

CONTACT INFO

50 Town Square

Lima, OH 45801

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Email: david.berger@cityhall.lima.oh.us

Mayor David Berger and Consul-General Tsutomu Nakagawa,
Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit



Lima and Harima-cho, Sister Cities
for more than 20 years



Mayor David Berger visits with
Harima-cho Mayor Hiroko Shimizu.



City of London



Mayor
Patrick J. Closser

Message from Mayor

Since becoming Mayor of London, Ohio in 2016, I and my administration have worked hard to create a productive, goal-oriented work climate, fueled by appreciation and mutual respect.

These work principles have helped build trust with our citizens, business managers and neighboring government officials, in Ohio and around the world. Working together efficiently is the key to success.

I have had the privilege to travel to Japan twice as Mayor and have met many strong Japanese

leaders. I will continue to build these important partnerships to help our businesses and our communities prosper.

City Profile

London, Ohio is a wonderful community located 25 miles west of the state capital of Ohio, Columbus. We are a growing community that has had a lot of success as of late. With millions of dollars invested into our infrastructure, we are prepared for and welcome growth. We have created a Community Reinvestment Area which encompasses the entire City. As a smaller community with capacity to grow, we pride ourselves on our focus and attention to detail that we put on all projects.

Stanley Electric is the largest employer within London's corporation limits. Stanley Electric consist of 1,500 to 1,800 employees. Many of their employees reside in London and are an economic stimulus to our community. Being our largest employer, they are also a great partner to our city of 10,000 residents. Stanley's management and staff are active in our community and give back in many ways, by their generous donations, serving on community boards and becoming members of a variety of service organizations.

I have been able to visit their headquarters in Nakameguro, Meguro-ku, Tokyo, Japan on two separate occasions. Once in 2016, for a business development trip and again in 2019 in conjunction with the Midwest US-Japan Association Conference. I was impressed with their facilities, hospitality and open discussions. The strength of our friendship and the partnership we have created is immeasurable and continues to grow. I keep in contact with all levels of their staff to ensure the City of London can assist in any way feasible.

Mayor Patrick Closser and Deb Scherer of One Columbus visit the Stanley Electric HQ in Tokyo, Sept 2019.

Mayor Patrick Closser visits Nissen Chemitec Corporation HQ in Ehime, Japan, which established its London facility in 1988.

London delegation visits with Ohio Governor DeWine and Nebraska Governor Ricketts in Tokyo at the Midwest U.S.-Japan Association Conference, Sept. 2019.



Population : 9,904

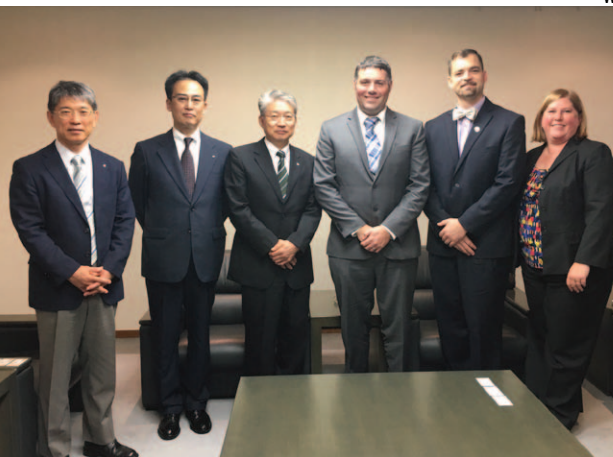
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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Stanly Electric US

Nissen Chemitech America



City of Marysville



Mayor

Henk Berbee

Welcome to Marysville, Ohio, an international community in the heart of America's Midwest! For decades, the relationship between Japan and the City of Marysville has only grown stronger. Our community is now home to 24 Japanese companies, led by Honda's manufacturing and research and development centers in North America. Many Japanese companies have found success here, thanks to our shared core values of economic stability, excellent work ethic, mutually beneficial partnerships, and technological innovation. I am grateful for our strong relationship with the people and businesses of Japan and look forward to further strengthening our ties.

Message from Mayor

Welcome to Marysville, Ohio, an international community in the heart of America's Midwest! For decades, the relationship between Japan and the City of Marysville has only grown stronger. Our community is now home to 24 Japanese companies, led by Honda's manufacturing and research and development centers in North America. Many Japanese companies have found success here, thanks to our shared core values of economic stability, excellent work ethic, mutually beneficial partnerships, and technological innovation. I am grateful for our strong relationship with the people and businesses of Japan and look forward to further strengthening our ties.

City Profile

Marysville is like many small towns in America's Midwest. 30 miles from downtown Columbus, our community features a pleasant downtown with small shops, safe, tree-lined streets, and residents quick to share a friendly greeting. But what sets us apart from other communities is our openness to new ideas, new people, and new technologies – traits that have allowed Marysville to flourish in the global marketplace.

Our engagement with the rest of the world has caught the attention of international companies seeking opportunities in the United States.

Marysville has attracted companies from around the world, and while these companies have shaped the fabric of our community, no other nation has influenced Marysville more than Japan.

Our relationship with Japan began in 1979 when Honda opened the Marysville Motorcycle Plant. Three years later, Honda constructed the Marysville Auto Plant, becoming the first Japanese automaker to build automobiles in the United States. In the years since, our community has become the home of 24 Japanese-owned companies.

We believe that Marysville offers unique benefits to Japanese companies. But above all, we believe it is most important to form personal relationships with our Japanese business partners. Ultimately, what is important to remember is that one should never judge a city by its size. Marysville may be small, but it is an international community that proudly welcomes companies from around the world. In an era of global interdependence, Marysville is proof that communities and international businesses can successfully create long-lasting relationships – and be better because of it.



Population : 24,267

Friendship City: Yorii, Saitama

CONTACT INFO

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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Advanced Technology Products

Denyo North America | HL-A Company

Honda Engineering North America

Honda Marysville

Honda Marysville Motor Sports

Honda of America Mfg.

Honda North America | Honda R&D Americas

Honda Trading of America

KAPI-O USA | KNB Tools of America

KTH Parts Industries | Midwest Express

Moriroku Technology | Neaton Auto Products

Nissin International Transport

NKC of America | Oyabe Americas

Precision Tools (Toyo)

Sanko Gosei Technologies USA

Sumitomo Electric Wiring Systems

Tomita USA | Yaskawa Electric America

Mayor Henk Berbee and delegation visit
Sumitomo Electric Wiring Systems Tokyo HQ, 2019.

The Ohio delegation visits the Tokyo HQ of
(HLI) Honda Logistics, Inc., Sept. 2019

A group of students from Yori, Japan
visit Marysville.



City of Mason



Mayor
Kathy Grossman

Message from Mayor

As Mayor of the City of Mason, I am honored to welcome you and sincerely thank the leadership of JETRO for this opportunity to develop more meaningful relationships between Mason and Japan. Mason is a city of businesses and families, focused on service, customers, quality of life, health, smart investment and reinvestment, sustainable planned development, and most importantly, partnership. We are proud of our portfolio of Japanese companies, the majority of which are North American headquarter locations.

Our community has enjoyed long-term friendship since our first two Japanese investments of Mitsubishi Electric Automotive American and Makino, more than 30 years ago. One of the things we value most are the partnerships that we have forged between the City and Japanese corporate leadership. We understand acutely and appreciate that our partners are the key contributors to Mason's economic standing. The ties between the City of Mason and Japan extend to the people choosing to live here. Mason is home to the 4th largest number of Japanese Nationals in the State of Ohio. We are grateful for this strong foundation and look forward to creating a bright future.

City Profile

Japan is the City's largest source of foreign direct investment and notable companies such as Fujitec*, Makino*, Mitutoyo, FANUC, and Noritake* have committed to building long term relationships that foster sustained value with us. This is very important to our community for economic purposes but also for collaboration on community initiatives. While we have many wonderful experiences to be grateful for, we will share the following examples to illustrate the strong bonds between Mason and Japanese companies that are special to our community:

Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America (MEAA) has expanded eight times creating over 500 jobs and half a million square feet at this NA headquarter location.

Makino in 2019 announced a \$500,000 legacy gift towards the completion of Mason's Common Ground Playground, a vision of the City for nearly a decade. Mason City Council is honored by Makino's spirit of generosity and the 34 acres of inclusive recreational space has been designated Makino Park, as a token of Mason's appreciation.

Mason, Ohio is an established hub of international investment and innovation, which includes a business portfolio of 150 advanced manufacturing, bio health and technology companies. Nationally recognized for its low cost of living, award-winning schools with over 64 languages present and its intentional culture of wellness. In the past 36 months the City has added \$500M in new investment and 800 new jobs to the region. Mason's mission is to foster a community with unparalleled advantages where businesses locate and thrive. We would like to extend a personal invitation for you to visit and learn more.

*North American headquarter location



Population : 34,000

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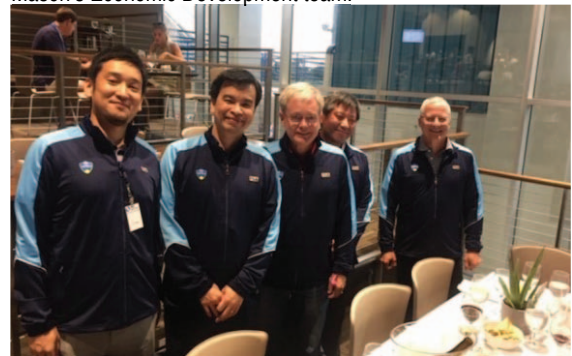
JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Makino, Fujitec America
Mitutoyo America
Fanuc Robotic
Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America
Noritake Abrasives

"Himeji Castle" presented by Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America in 2003.



Makino Global Leadership team meeting with Mason's Economic Development team.



City of Miamisburg



Mayor
Michelle Collins

Message from Mayor

Please accept my personal invitation to visit Miamisburg! While here you will discover Miamisburg's rich 202-year history! Our downtown is still quaint but bustling with shoppers, boutiques, fine restaurants and many art and cultural opportunities. Miamisburg is home to the largest conical Indian Mound in the State and our Riverfront Park overlooks the Great Miami River. Companies like Yaskawa Motoman, Excelitas, United Grinding, Wauseon Machine, and ThinkPatented call us home. I am most proud of our economic development department's ability to adapt a company's needs to opportunities the City can provide. You can be assured if you consider Miamisburg as home for your company, you will be joining a community that embraces the importance of well-being and personal enjoyment. I look forward to your visit to explore the opportunities that Miamisburg has to offer.

City Profile

The City of Miamisburg is a progressive and innovative community committed to developing and maintaining strong relationships with the Japanese business community. As a business friendly and dynamic suburban community in southwest Ohio, Miamisburg is pro-business with strategic and forward-thinking initiatives. Miamisburg's experienced economic development team can assist with fostering and guiding business development and growth in site selection, expansion plans, zoning, permits, grant opportunities and incentive programs. Miamisburg is home to Japan-based Yaskawa Motoman headquarters, located in a 300,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility, situated on a 25-acre site that allows for a 200,000 square foot expansion. As a leading robotics company in the Americas, Yaskawa Motoman has greatly increased employment in the southwest Ohio region by over 35% in the past 9 years. The community has a well-educated workforce with high numbers of the populace holding advanced STEM degrees, ranking fourth in the nation in its concentration of engineers. Community partnerships for talent recruitment and workforce development work collectively to create and maintain strong training programs to keep skills relevant and sharpened. The City of Miamisburg is a prime location with an abundance of resources that include performance-based business loans tied to job creation and retention goals. The BusinessFirst! Program connects new businesses to resource partners that support growth, retention and provide effective solutions to issues/concerns. Regional assistance through economic growth agencies such as the Dayton Development Coalition support economic growth and business/workforce development.

Yaskawa America Inc., Motoman Robotics Division

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Yaskawa Motoman



Population : 20,069

CONTACT INFO

Chris Fine, Director
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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Yaskawa Motoman
Canon Solutions of America

A Yaskawa Motoman representative gives a demonstration to local students.



Village of Russia



Mayor
Terence Daugherty

Message from Mayor

“The Village of Russia, OH and Japan have a mutual interest in growing our economies. We are a small community that can offer a strong, hard-working workforce, shovel-ready building sights, and ideal locations close to major highways and rail. One visit to our community will show you not to underestimate us based on our size. I had the opportunity to meet with JETRO Chief Executive Director Ralph Inforzato and Kikuko Ono Hanashiro at an opening celebration of the bicentennial of Sidney OH. I look forward to building on those relationships that were started that day.”

- Terence Daugherty, Mayor

Village Profile

Although The Honda Engine Plant located in Anna, OH is not in our community, the short 30 minute drive has provided many residents a wonderful career opportunity working for a top tier international company. Both of our communities are within the boundaries of Shelby County, OH in west central Ohio. The Interstate 70 and Interstate 75 interchange, which is known as the “Crossroads of America,” is also a 30 minute drive. Our main employers are Francis Manufacturing, which makes aluminum castings for hundreds of companies, Superior Aluminum, sales of aluminum railings and columns, and Clopay Corporation, manufacturer of garage doors. Clopay has moved a majority of its operations, but at one time employed 800 at its Russia plant. Francis Manufacturing makes many castings for large manufacturers throughout the tri-state area. One of their main customers is Crown Equipment Corporation, which manufactures lift trucks that are distributed around the world.

The Village has an approximately 50 acre industrial park that is shovel ready. It has natural gas, electric, water and sewer on site. There is a potential for rail access as the CSX railroad has an east/west double track running along the rear of the property. The Village can subdivide as needed, or the entire site could be used by one industry.

Our Russia Local School houses Kindergarten through 12th grade under one roof. Russia School’s average ACT score is over 24. They also offer over 50 hours of college credit classes. Russia Local School was 1 of 32 schools in the state to earn an “A” on their report card and 1 of 5 to earn an “A” on the Prepared for Success indicator.



Population : 640

CONTACT INFO

Village of Russia
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russiaoh.com
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Village Office



Corporate Park



Village Park



City of Sidney



Mayor
Mike Barhorst

Message from Mayor

I want to extend to you my warm, personal greetings. I also want to invite you to visit Sidney and to learn more about our community, and how investing here can help you grow your business. Manufacturing is an important part of our DNA. Washing machines, refrigerators, machine tools, fire trucks, automobiles, busses, farm implements, school furniture, cookware and so much more have all been manufactured in Sidney.

Today, Sidney has more manufacturing jobs per capita than any other municipality in Ohio. I invite you to visit and see how working together, we can help you grow your company.

City Profile

The partnership between Japan and the United States is one that is based on mutual respect. That close trade relationship between the United States and Japan can be felt here in Sidney, Ohio.

When I was first elected in 1977, Sidney had the highest unemployment per capita in the state of Ohio. When Honda made their announcement in 1984 to locate in Shelby County, a number of other companies made the decision to locate in Sidney. Sidney went from having the highest unemployment rate in Ohio to having the lowest unemployment rate per capita in the State of Ohio by 1987 – an unbelievable turnaround! That change was fueled by Japanese investment.

The entire Shelby County community believes strongly that Japanese investment is mutually beneficial. So important in fact that one of our County Commissioners went to Japan with an Ohio delegation to meet with representatives of the five industries that have a presence in Shelby County.

Sidney has a diversified manufacturing community that includes advanced manufacturing, aerospace, automotive, and food products. In addition, we have an exceptional workforce that includes the skilled trades and a vibrant business community ready to support local manufacturing needs.

Located along the Great Miami River, the City of Sidney is within a day's drive of 62% of the populations of the US and Canada. Sidney has invested heavily in infrastructure to meet your manufacturing needs. We invite you to join NK Parts, Advanced Composites, Hexa-Americas, and Sankyo America in making Sidney your North American home.



Population : 20,519

CONTACT INFO

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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

- Hexa-Americas
- NK Parts Industries
- Advanced Composites
- Sankyo America
- Stolle Machinery Company

Mayor Mike Barhorst visits Advanced Composites, which was established in Sidney in 2003.

Mayor Mike Barhorst is committed to visiting the Japanese companies invested in Sidney, on a regular basis. One of his stops included Hexa Americas, Inc.

NKP Industries, Inc. established their North America HQ in Sidney, Ohio.



Summit County



County Executive
Ilene Shapiro

Message from County Executive

Greetings from Summit County, Ohio. Summit County is host to over 20 Japanese companies. We highly value these Japanese companies, as they are an important part of Summit County's economy and for many years we have worked together to bring prosperity to companies, communities and workers. I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you about how your company can also find success here and become an important part of the fabric of our economy. Please feel free to contact me to talk about your company and how we can work together.

City Profile

Summit County, Ohio is a prime location for successful business and trade opportunities. We would very much welcome the opportunity to introduce you to all of the benefits we offer to companies and our excellent business climate.

Summit County is an urban county in the U.S. State of Ohio. As of the 2010 census, the population was 541,781 making it the fourth most populous county in Ohio. Its county seat is the City of Akron. The Summit County region is the 15th largest metropolitan labor market in the United States, and Ohio is the 7th largest economy nationwide. Summit County is situated within 800 km/500 miles of major markets such as New York City, Washington D.C., Chicago, and Detroit, making it a prime location for business and trade. Summit County is also within a 800km/500 mile radius of nearly half of ALL U.S. manufacturing facilities. Once known as the "Rubber Capital of the World," Summit County and Akron have transformed into "America's Polymer Valley." While manufacturing remains a large part of the local economy, Summit County has become a center of polymer, biomedical, and high-tech research, development and innovation.

The University of Akron is located in the heart of Summit County, providing an incredible, world-renowned resource for undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees in engineering and polymer science, and law programs. Kent State University and 13 colleges and universities are also within commuting distance.



SUMMIT COUNTY
OHIO | U.S.A.
Ilene Shapiro, Executive



Population : 541,013

CONTACT INFO

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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

Audio-Technica U.S., Inc. | Bridgestone Americas, Inc. | Country Pure Foods, Inc. | Fanuc America Corporation Glassdoor, Inc. | Hitachi Healthcare Americas Corporation | IER Fujikura, Inc. | Kobelco Stewart Bolling, Inc. | Kyocera SGS Precision Tools, Inc. | Mactac Americas, LLC | Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. | Nidec Imperial Electric Co. | Promerus, LLC Shinagawa Advanced Materials Americas, Inc. | Shin-Etsu Silicones of America, Inc. | SMC Corporation of America | Takara Belmont USA, Inc. | Lintech USA Holding, Inc. | Fujitsu Network Communications | Koroseal Interior Products LLC./Sangetsu USA Inc. |

Enjoying Summer at
Portage Lakes in Summit County



JETRO Chicago Chief Executive Director Ralph Inforzato and Consul-General Tsutomu Nakagawa, Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit, are welcomed to Summit County by County Executive Shapiro.



Beautiful Autumn at Everett Rd.
Covered Bridge in Summit County



City of Troy



Mayor
Robin I. Oda

Message from Mayor

I am pleased to welcome you to Troy, twice named as a “Best Hometown in Ohio.” Troy is a wonderful place to live, work, play, and visit. We have much to offer to Japanese businesses, including a low cost of living, many wonderful amenities, and a friendly and welcoming population ready to welcome you to our community, the county seat of picturesque Miami County.

We are very humbled and blessed to continue our long-standing relationship with the many Japanese companies that call Troy their home and we hope that you consider us for your future expansion plans.

City Profile

The city of Troy is a 206-year-old community in the southwestern area of Ohio. Home to over 26,000 residents, Troy hosts many diverse manufacturing, distribution, and industrial companies from Japan, Germany, France, Sweden, Canada, and the United States. Since our first Japanese company, Matsushita (Panasonic) built a facility in 1988, Troy has been home to many Asian companies in the past 30 years.

30 years ago, Troy became a Sister City to Takahashi City (Okayama Prefecture), a relationship that has blossomed into bi-annual trade missions by Troy governmental, school and business leaders, as well as student and cultural exchanges. From this relationship, a Japanese Language School, Western Ohio Japanese Language School, was formed and a Troy City Park (McKaig-Race Park) was rededicated with nearly 100 Japanese Lilac and Cherry trees.

Troy’s economy and quality of life is significantly enhanced by our Japanese companies and families. With a rich tradition of international business support, Troy welcomes Japanese businesses to expand and relocate into our community.

TROY

OHIO



Population : 26,281
Sister City: Takahashi, Okayama

CONTACT INFO

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mayor.robin.oda@troyohio.gov

JAPANESE OWNED COMPANIES

American Honda Motor Co.
F & P America Mfg., Inc.
F.tech R&D North America Inc.
Gokoh Corporation
Segna Inc.
US Koshin, Inc.
Komyo Logistics Co., Inc.
Nissin International Transport U.S.A., Inc.

The Troy delegation visits the Tokyo HQ of Honda Logistics, Inc. (HLI).



The City of Troy welcomes a delegation from Takahashi City, a Sister City relationship which began 30 years ago.



City of Zanesville



Mayor
Donald L. Mason

Message from Mayor

“As Zanesville was founded early in the State’s history, it has played a major role related to the cultural development of Ohio and once served as the State Capitol. It is blessed with access to ground and surface water, bestride the Muskingum River which is the largest federally navigable waterway in Ohio. Costs of energy are near the lowest in the Nation (natural gas under \$2/MCF) as it is home to many energy companies and electricity generation. Zanesville is also blessed with great access to land

and air transportation by straddling Interstate highway I-70 and has an airport with two 1524 meter runways which handles over 33,000 aircraft operations annually.”

–Donald Mason, Mayor



Population : 25,487

CONTACT INFO

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JAPANESE OWNED COMPANY

Kawasaki Steel Corporation (AK Steel)

City Profile

City of Zanesville Investment Relationship with Japanese Companies AK Steel, formally Armco Steel was incorporated in Middletown, Ohio in 1899. In 1915, the Armco Zanesville Works facility was founded as the leading producer of electrical and stainless flat rolled steel. In 1989, Armco began its limited partnership with the Kawasaki Steel Corporation and the name changed to AK Steel shortly thereafter. The Zanesville, Ohio facility is one of the last standing electric steel producers in the United States. The facility is supported, in most part, by the automotive industry, specifically Toyota. Since the inception of the Armco/AK Steel footprint, the facility in Zanesville has not experienced a work stoppage. This has spanned for 105 years and counting.

Overlook of Historic Downtown Zanesville



The Famous “Y-Bridge”



Beautiful Autumn in Zanesville



JETRO's message to Japanese Companies



Tsubasa Hashimoto
Director, Public Affairs, JETRO Chicago

Hearing the voice of each mayor expressing their appreciation for the Japanese companies invested in Ohio, this truly gave me a perspective of how much Japanese companies have been contributing to the local economies and communities over a long period of time. My message to the Japanese companies in Ohio, please keep building relationships with the local leaders and communities where you are invested, as this is very important in terms of thriving locally in the U.S. (Tsubasa_hashimoto@jetro.go.jp)



Kelly Jo Highland
Assistant Director, Business Development JETRO, Chicago

I am grateful to be part of the team that created JETRO's first Ohio Mayors' Special Newsletter. In the past year, I was able to gain great insight from meeting with and interviewing some of the mayors included in this newsletter. There is a true commitment to Japan from these local leaders and their communities, and they are appreciative to the Japanese companies that have invested in their areas, which has positively impacted their local economies. The State of Ohio and local leaders will warmly welcome you, they are always envisioning new relationships with Japanese companies. (Kelly_Highland@jetro.go.jp)



Kikuko Ono Hanashiro
Grassroots Outreach Coordinator (OH), JETRO

This is the first time for JETRO Chicago to publish a Special Mayors' Edition Newsletter. I gained an immense amount of knowledge from each mayor, learning what each city is doing for the growth of their economic development; I was very impressed. I believe the great State of Ohio is the best place for you to invest. Please visit and I will gladly show you what Ohio has to offer! (ono.jetro.ohio@gmail.com)

JETRO Chicago

Contact JETRO Chicago • www.jetro.go.jp/usa/

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