



Press Release

報道資料

For Immediate Release

ACCJ Elects Allan D. Smith President for 2008

December 3, 2007 – Allan D. Smith has been elected President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ). Chosen to lead the ACCJ in its coming 60th anniversary year, Smith brings Fortune 500 experience to representing the increasingly diverse interests of ACCJ member companies. His term of office begins January 1, 2008.

“I am honored to have been chosen as the President of the ACCJ for 2008, when the ACCJ will celebrate its 60th birthday. This will be an important year for the Chamber, and our new leadership team will be working hard to continue the Chamber’s past successes and effectively represent the interests of American companies in Japan. By doing so, the ACCJ continuously contributes to further development of the Japanese economy,” said Smith.

Smith is currently the General Counsel, AIG Companies, Japan and Korea, in charge of legal and government affairs for all AIG Companies in Japan and Korea and has oversight of their legal and government relations departments. Prior to joining AIG, he was general counsel for Japan for a major US financial services company and previously was an attorney with a major US law firm.

Smith graduated from the University of Utah with a B.A. in political science and a J.D. in law and Sophia University in Japan with a M.A. in political science. He also was graduate research assistant in Japanese law at Columbia University Law School and a research fellow on a Fulbright scholarship at the University of Tokyo Graduate Faculty of Law.

An ACCJ member for 13 years, Smith is currently a Vice President, completing his 2nd two-year term on the ACCJ Board of Governors and also is the Chair of the External Affairs Advisory Council. He has previously served as the Chair of various ACCJ committees, including Privatization Task Force, Financial Services Committee and Insurance Subcommittee.

Elected to join Smith on the Executive Committee as Treasurer is Nasir Majid, Partner, International Assignment Services, PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Elected as Tokyo Vice Presidents are:

- Laurence W. Bates, General Counsel, GE Japan
- Kumi Sato, President, Cosmo Public Relations Corporation
- Mark F. Schwab, Vice President, Pacific, United Airlines

They join incumbent Tokyo Vice Presidents

- Michael J. Alfant, President, Fusion Systems Japan Co., Ltd.
- William R. Bishop, Jr., Director, Corporate Affairs, Wyeth K.K.

Elected to serve as Governors in Tokyo are:

- Christopher K. Ellis, President and Representative Director, Chrysler Japan Company, Ltd.
- James Foster, Director, Corporate Affairs, Microsoft Japan
- Tad Johnson, General Manager, Pratt & Whitney Aftermarket Japan KK
- John Kakinuki, General Counsel, GE Consumer Finance Co., Ltd. (GE Money Japan)
- Sharon Baker Morin, Chairman and Representative Director, State Street Trust and Banking Co., Ltd.
- Nicole Piasecki, President, Boeing Japan/Vice President, Boeing International, The Boeing Company
- Jim Weisser, President, Weisser Consulting
- Ira Wolf, Japan Representative, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)

The above ACCJ officers will join incumbent Tokyo Governors:

- Vicki Beyer, Vice President, Legal and Compliance Division, Morgan Stanley Japan Securities Co., Ltd.
- Charles M. Duncan, Managing Director, Japan, Continental Airlines
- Douglas L. Peterson, Chairman & CEO, Citibank Japan
- Jay Ponazecki, Partner, Morrison & Forester LLP

In the Kansai chapter, Ravi Chaturvedi, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Northeast Asia, Proctor & Gamble Far East, Inc., is re-elected as Governor, and Michael Bobrove, President, Nihon Medrad K.K. as Vice President.

The Chubu chapter re-elected for Vice President Michel D. Weenick, President, NGO Architecture, and for Governor Harry Hill, President, Oak Lawn Marketing, Inc.

###

0711E

About the ACCJ

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 by representatives of 40 American companies and has grown into one of the most influential business organizations in Japan. Consisting mainly of executives from American companies, currently the ACCJ has members representing 1,400 companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the governments of the United States and Japan, business organizations, and others, the ACCJ promotes activities that help achieve its mission of further developing commerce between the United States and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the international business environment in Japan. Over 60 committees representing various industries play the ACCJ's central role in making policy recommendations through advocacy tools such as the Business White Paper and holding over 500 events and seminars annually on public policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable events and other CSR activities.

ACCJ PRESS CONTACT: Media Relations Officer Mina Takahashi (phone: 3433 6542; email: mtakahashi@accj.or.jp).