



Press Release

報道資料

For Immediate Release

ACCJ President Michael Alfant Sets Key Goals for 2011

January 27, 2011 – Michael Alfant, President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ), announced his goals for 2011 at the Chamber’s annual Shinnenkai.

“The ACCJ will engage entrepreneurs and promote an environment that celebrates and publicly recognizes entrepreneurs as prime drivers of economic and social prosperity,” Alfant said in his welcome speech.

Alfant continued, “Japan faces demographic challenges that will become more pressing in the years to come. In 2011, the ACCJ will promote and seek to create opportunities for women to maximize their potential in terms of employment opportunities and career development. Enabling these talented individuals to fully contribute will help Japan nurture an economy for the 21st Century while boosting the country’s overall economic growth potential.”

Furthermore, Alfant promised to engage in promoting practical English-language ability in Japan and called for more support from the business community.

“I encourage the international and Japanese business communities to afford their best and brightest young leaders with experience abroad through overseas assignments early in their careers.”

In addition to the above, Alfant stated that the ACCJ strongly supports Japan’s engagement in Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and will continue to work closely with the governments of both countries on this and a wide range of important bilateral issues.

“ACCJ members have been committed to Japan for over 63 years,” said Alfant in closing.

“Our commitment remains as strong as ever in 2011 - we can and will continue to make a difference.”

-- Additional Announcements --

■The ACCJ Board of Governors appointed Kumi Sato, President and CEO, Cosmo Public Relations Corporation, as ACCJ Chairman. She will serve through December 31, 2011.

Since assuming leadership of Cosmo PR in 1987, Sato has been a pioneer of strategic communications in Japan and a leading voice for women entrepreneurs. Sato has been a member of ACCJ Board of Governors since 1997.

■The ACCJ membership also elected Mr. Michael Denton, President, Boeing Japan, as a Governor to serve on the 2011 ACCJ Board of Governors.

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About 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 1,000 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.

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