



For Immediate Release

**ACCJ Urges the U.S. Administration and
U.S. Congress to Prioritize Efforts to Strengthen
the U.S.-Japan Economic Partnership**

April 28, 2017 [Washington, D.C.] – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) concluded its annual Washington, D.C. Doorknock yesterday. The ACCJ member delegation, led by ACCJ President Christopher J. LaFleur, included Japan-based chief executives of U.S. companies that account for a significant portion of U.S. exports to Japan and create tens of thousands of U.S. jobs. During the four-day visit, the ACCJ convened over 70 meetings, including with the White House and key agencies. The ACCJ also met with over 30 Members of the U.S. Congress from both political parties.

The ACCJ delegation came to Washington to emphasize that the Japanese market is crucial to the success of thousands of American companies and underpins investment and employment in the United States. They urged the U.S. government to prioritize efforts to further strengthen this partnership by developing a forward-looking, positive agenda that allows for private sector input on both sector-specific and cross-sectoral issues. The delegation's visit to Washington, D.C. follows the launch of the U.S.-Japan Economic Dialogue in Tokyo by Vice President Michael Pence and Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso last week.

"The ACCJ applauds the launch of the U.S.-Japan Economic Dialogue and welcomes the focus on promoting growth in both countries. We brought to D.C. the message that the Dialogue is an opportunity to build upon the strong U.S.-Japan economic partnership, which is critical to U.S. jobs, exports, and investment across the country. Through a Dialogue informed by the experience of U.S. businesses on the ground in Japan, the United States and Japan can shape an environment for business growth that is good for both countries. The ACCJ stands ready to serve as a constructive participant in the critical policy discussions ahead," said ACCJ President Christopher LaFleur.

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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 over 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. The ACCJ's more than 60 committees represent a variety of industries and make policy recommendations through advocacy tools such as viewpoints, public comments and white papers. The ACCJ holds approximately 500 events and seminars a year, many of which focus on government policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable events and CSR activities.

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