



***For Immediate Release***

**ACCJ Releases Healthcare Policy White Paper:  
“Improving Health and Productivity in Japan”**

**December 16, 2010** – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) is pleased to announce the release of its latest policy white paper on healthcare, *“Improving Health and Productivity in Japan - An Increased Focus on Wellness, Prevention and Early Detection,”* compiled by the ACCJ Healthcare Committee.

“The ACCJ believes that it is now more important than ever for the Government of Japan, healthcare practitioners and private corporations in Japan to focus on promoting wellness and the prevention and early detection of chronic disease,” said Bruce Ellsworth, Chair of the ACCJ Healthcare Committee.

“We compiled these policy recommendations with the belief that improving the health of Japanese people will not only result in a higher quality of life, but also increase labor productivity and boost economic competitiveness.”

The paper consists of recommendations in 16 policy areas:

1. Provide Incentives for Wellness and Prevention
2. Prevent Chronic Disease through Tobacco Control
3. Prevent and Manage the Risk of Diabetes
4. Increase Prevention by Promoting Use of Vaccines
5. Increase Breast Cancer Screening Levels
6. Increase Cervical Cancer Screening Levels
7. Increase Hepatitis C Virus Screening Levels
8. Increase Early Detection through Comprehensive Eye Exams
9. Expand Intraocular Lens Use to Correct Vision
10. Increase Prevention of Tooth Decay and Gum Disease
11. Increase Wellness through Treatment of Chronic Pain
12. Increase Sleep Apnea Syndrome Screening
13. Prevent Needle Stick and Sharp Object Injuries
14. Avoid Inappropriate Reuse of Single-Use Devices
15. Enhance Prevention of Healthcare-Associated Infections
16. Increase Infection Detection through In Vitro Diagnostics

"*Improving Health and Productivity in Japan*" is available for download at:  
<[http://www.accj.or.jp/doclib/advocacy/HC\\_WP\\_E.pdf](http://www.accj.or.jp/doclib/advocacy/HC_WP_E.pdf)>

For more information, please contact the office at [ynoda@accj.or.jp](mailto:ynoda@accj.or.jp) or 03-3433-6542.

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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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