



**Press Release**

**報道資料**

***For Immediate Release***

**Responding to the Greater Tohoku Disaster: The Role of the Internet and Cloud Computing in Economic Recovery and Renewal**

ACCJ Internet Economy Task Force Position Paper

**June 21, 2011** – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) announced today a series of recommendations for the reconstruction of the Tohoku region and for stimulating broader economic renewal in Japan. The recommendations centered on greater utilization of the Internet and Cloud Computing in the recovery effort.

Key recommendations include:

- Rapid reconstruction and deployment of the Internet and mobile network infrastructures in the devastated area
- Promotion of broadband wireless and converged services, including quick assignment of new spectrum to qualified bidders
- New incentives for utilization of the cloud by small businesses and agriculture
- Expanded reliance on data centers outside Japan to lower costs and save energy

“We believe that Japan has before it a chance not only for recovery of the Greater Tohoku region, but also for the economic renewal of the nation as a whole after two decades of slow growth. We are convinced that the Internet and Cloud Computing play an important role in that process. There is an urgent need for Japanese government and industry to come together on a common agenda for utilizing ICT and infrastructure, and we hope that the recommendations we set forth in the position paper will facilitate that process,” said Jim Foster, Vice President of the ACCJ.

Yoshitaka Sugihara, Chair of the ACCJ Internet Economy Task Force said, "With the U.S.-Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy actively taking place, now is the time for the ACCJ to use the broad experience and expertise of its member companies to provide critical insights on how ICT can be employed to drive recovery and growth. Collaboration between Japanese industry and the many members of the international community, including U.S. businesses, is key to realizing the full economic promise of ICT for Japan."

The ACCJ is deeply saddened by the immeasurable damage the Greater Tohoku region has sustained since the tragic events this past March and hopes that the recommendations set forth in the paper can serve to enhance the recovery process in Tohoku and to guard against future crises. The ACCJ looks forward to working closely with our partners in Japanese government and industry to vigorously implement these proposals.

The full text of this position paper is available at:

[http://www.accj.or.jp/doclib/vp/PP\\_GTD.pdf](http://www.accj.or.jp/doclib/vp/PP_GTD.pdf)

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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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