



For Immediate Release

**ACCJ Congratulates Japan's New Prime Minister,
LDP President Shinzo Abe**

December 26, 2012 – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) congratulates Mr. Shinzo Abe, President of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan (LDP), on his appointment to become Japan's 96th Prime Minister.

"The ACCJ remains committed to working with our partners and friends here in Japan as we have over the past six decades to help improve the business climate for entities both foreign and domestic. We look forward to working closely with the new administration as we continue to strengthen the ties between Japan and the United States on all levels – commercial, strategic and personal." said ACCJ President Michael Alfant.

ACCJ 2013 President-Elect Laurence Bates, added, "In cooperation with the country's new leader we will seek out ways in which the ACCJ can concretely contribute to economic growth in Japan. One of the themes I intend to focus on during my presidency coincides precisely with one of the key elements of Prime Minister Abe's platform – the idea that economic growth is of paramount importance for the present and future of Japan. The ACCJ also thrives in a thriving Japan. We will employ our resources as the American Chamber of Commerce to offer evidence- and research-based policy prescriptions that we believe will help to revitalize the Japanese economy."

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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, 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 and other business organizations, the ACCJ promotes trade and investment flows between the United States and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the environment for international business in Japan. Over 60 committees representing various industries play a central role in making ACCJ policy recommendations by issuing Viewpoints, Public Comments and White Papers and holding over 500 events and seminars annually on public policy and economic trends. The ACCJ also undertakes charitable efforts and supports its members' CSR activities.

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