

Greetings for 2014

Takashi Amano, President

It is a great pleasure to extend to one and all our most cordial greetings of the New Year, 2014. In keeping with custom, kindly allow me to make a few remarks as the New Year begins.

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Every year end, one written character to typify the social situation is selected, which in 2013 was that for “Ring”. Very fortunately in the year end, the attempt to bring the 2020 Olympic Games to Tokyo has made a great coup.

The symbolic character “Ring” and “Olympic Rings” joined really marvelously and mysteriously. The people expect heartily our economic activity will be robust toward the 2020 Olympic Games.

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The recent survey by the Ministry of Education and Science reports the eyesight of boys and girls is getting poorer. The 65.8% of high school students have not twenty-twenty vision, which is the worst record.

It is thought that the poorer eyesight arises from the recent smartphone’s enormous popularity among young people. And furthermore I am afraid that such smartphone maniacs are buried in a virtual society with SNS, and they can’t conduct themselves in real society, having poor ability of conversation among lacked real human relations.

I think it the worst “Ring” today, and I expect that the young people exploit effectively this social big “Ring” within our real society and without being in virtual society easily.

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The yen devaluation has brought a better export condition, but at the same time, we confront the higher costs of energy and various imported raw materials.

Very fortunately, we have favorably established a new production system with the latest facilities at our new plant, and besides, the site of old plant is under construction for a new shopping mall.

We want our business will be loved more and more by all citizens. We would like to make efforts fully ourselves for it with a big support of all business contacts.

May you and yours be happy and prosperous in the New Year, 2014.

Mikawa Comic celebrates the New Year

Mikawa Comic is one of the New Year events in Nishio area, and it has been performing every January since 750 years ago. It has declared an intangible cultural asset by Japanese government in December 1995.

There are some stories of origin, and the most predominant history is the tradition of Buddhism priest Otsu at Jissoji Temple in Nishio, who went to China and studied Buddhism in 13 century, and he brought a Chinese music to his home town.

The wood block print on page three is Mikawa Comic performance, which was worked by a pupil at Nishio Primary School.

Asahan Aluminum withdraws from Indonesia

Asahan aluminum project in Indonesia started to build a big power station with the rich water of Asahan river and a newest aluminum refining plant by the joint investment of Japanese government, Japanese aluminum refiners, Japanese trading companies and Indonesian government.

At first, this great project was agreed between Japan government and Indonesia government in 1975 to aim at both the development of Indonesian economy and the stable primary aluminum supply to Japan.

Japan side, Indonesia Asahan Aluminum Company, was established with 5 aluminum refining companies and 6 trading companies, and then the company and Japanese government invested 400 billion yen and more.

The biggest capacity of power station has 51,000Kw, and the output capacity of primary aluminum is 250,000 ton yearly, in which 150,000 ton was exported to Japan yearly. It corresponds to 60 per cent of the products, and 6 per cent of total demand in Japan.

The basic agreement between both countries had an acquisition right of Indonesia, and this year is the limited term. On December 9, Indonesia Asahan Aluminum Company revealed that all Japan side stocks transfer at 57 billion yen to Indonesian government, and withdraws completely from Indonesian project.

Since the start of production in 1983, the yen evaluation and the lackluster international aluminum market have been giving a very hard running. The ending of this international project taught us how difficult the prospects were.

The products will be shipped to Indonesian domestic market only. The photo on page three is the plant of Indonesia Asahan Aluminum refining plant.

The 30th New Year praying meeting is near

The 30th business prosperity and traffic safety praying meeting is going to be held on January 17 at the Kira Kanko Hotel , Kira Waikiki Beach in Mikawa Bay National Park, and the Kannon Temple, top of Mt. Sangane.

At first, Chairman Hisashi Amano will have a talk entitled "New Year random talk" at the hotel, and then all attendants will visit the Kannon Temple by bus. After business prosperity and traffic safety praying meeting, a grand New Year party will be held at the hotel in traditional Japanese fashion.

All arrangements completed, and all we have to do is welcome guests. The photo on page four is the Kira Kanko Hotel.

Company news

On December 25, a staff convivial meeting was held, at which 14 full attendances below were awarded.

Mr. Hirota Sukigara, Mr. Yasuhiko Nagata, Mr. bunji Yamauchi, Mr. Tetsuaki Adachi, Mr. Jelson Iida, Mr. Mоторо Suzuki, Ms. Manami Kameyama, Ms. Ayumi Tani, Ms. Yaeko Inagaki, Mr. Norio Nagata, Mr. Hiroshi Suzuki, Mr. Tomohiro Tomatsu, Mr. Taisuke Suzuki, Ms. Yuri Kodama.

Congratulations everyone! Let us keep good health this year, too.