

Asuka Seminar opens successfully

The 53rd. Asuka Seminar was grandly held on October 7 and 8 at the Kira Kanko Hotel in Mikawa Bay National Park as one of the biggest annual events. Eighty customers of Asuka's products were invited and attended.

At first, President Takashi Amano addressed welcome speech, and then the all attendants devoted themselves to the informative seminar, which was summarized as follows. The photo on page two is Mr. Nakaba Ichikawa lecturing on stage and enthusiastic attendants.

Is your molten metal clean really?

Mr. Nakaba Ichikawa
Chief Manager, Eco System, LLC.

(1) The fittest molten metal for casting

Strangely enough, a clean molten metal doesn't mean the best molten metal for casting. This is too hard to understand, but the clean molten metal has some important weak points.

We know a clean molten metal invites,

- reef defects
- poor liquidity
- bigger crystallization
- bigger blowhole

As you know well, a dirty molten metal has same faults as follows,

- big blowhole
- oxidized substances
- hard spots

From these conditions, we would like to recommend the intermediate molten metal for the best product.

(2) New checking system of molten metal, ALTEC

At aluminum alloy casting plants in Japan, K-mold system or press-filter system has been used for checking molten metal. However both systems take time until showing results, a half hour or two hours, and this is the greatest weak point.

Under these circumstances, we developed a new checking system, ALTEC, with Asuka's study team, and both companies had a license. ALTEC can check out automatically the situation of crystallization, volume of impurities and casting condition through molten metal cooling curve line after six minutes.

We believe ALTEC can support to check and advice the best casting time at job sites in very short time.

(3) Conclusion

Traditionally, the management of molten metal has been controlled mainly under Japan Industrial Standard and the composition. Most cast men have had the common sense that to clean up their molten metal means to decrease casted defects. But today we know clean isn't best. We would like to seek the best casting condition with ALTEC to exterminate any casted defects.

Grand party is held generously

After Mr. Ichikawa's informative seminar, a grand party was held in traditional Japanese fashion as the photo on page three shows, where every attendant enjoyed himself the autumn taste in Mikawa Bay.

Then they moved to Night Salon , where all attendants had a very good time , singing *Karaoke* and tasting mellow drinks thoroughly until midnight. The open-air bath has favorable views, stars, small isles and peaceful bay water, and everyone had a quite good time there.

Customary golf competition opens

Following regular custom, a golf competition was held at the Kira Country Club on the morning of October 8 for golf devotees. After a hard fight, winners are,

First prize Mr. Toshinori Ogasawara(Wako Aluminum Co. Ltd.)

2nd. prize Mr. Toshi hisa Kusumoto(Hanwa Co. Ltd.)

3rd. prize Mr. Akihiko Takeda(Tokai Trading Co. Ltd.)

B B proze Mr. Yasuichiro Ota(Itochu Metals Corp.)

Congratulations everyone! Let's fight here next year again.

Kudos for Shigeo Tsuge

As one event of the autumn all Japan safety driving campaign, the Japan Traffic Safety Association (Mr. Satoshi Imai, Chairman) awarded persons who had done distinguished service for safety driving.

Mr. Shigeo Tsuge, Chief of Purchase Dept. Asuka Industries, Inc.) was elected one of persons who has done distinguished service to safety driving campaign, He has made efforts as the leader for safety driving at Asuka for many years.

On October 26 at Nishio Hall of Japan Agriculture Cooperatives, the ceremony of notify a recipient of Traffic Kudos "Green Cross Copper Medal" was held for Mr. Shigeo Tsuge, who was congratulated with a round of applause. The photo on page four is Mr. Shigeo Tsuge holding the award certificate.

The Japan of today Shichi-go-san festival

In the calendar of Japanese events, the cutest festival is the one celebrated on November 15 each year, called *Shichi-go-san*. Each year, parents with children who are seven, five, and three years old visit a shrine to offer their thanks to the tutelary deity for enabling the children to reach these critical ages, and to pray future blessing.

Traditionally, the children are dressed in their finest cloths – oftentimes fancy in theme. In recent years, most female children are seen on this gala festival day in pretty *Kimono*, traditional Japanese costume.

At the shrine, the tots receive talismans and sweetmeats from the priests, as well as presents from relatives and friends.

For camera devotees , the *Shichi-go-san* Festival is a big occasion, and they always turn out en masse to snap pictures of the happy children visiting shrines n their beautiful costumes. Someday, when readers have the opportunity to come to Japan, you must see this colorful festival for yourself.