

Greetings for 2017

Takashi Amano, President

Allow me to wish you a very Happy New Year for 2017. Following my usual custom, I am taking the opportunity to send some of my recent thoughts together this New Year's greeting.

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Last year, we experienced various severe disasters, every which gave us unhappy effects on our citizen life. The first one was the fire at a steel mill in February, which brought a big curtailment of auto production. In April, a big earthquake hit Kumamoto area. I was shocked to watch TV of the collapse of stone wall at famous Kumamoto castle. I have never forgotten that scene

Again in October, a big earthquake attacked Tottori Prefecture, where the noted cultural asset, Kurayoshi white wall warehouses, suffered. I am afraid that there are so many underground spots having excessive energy of volcano or earthquake. The other side, the typhoons get larger year by year brought by serious global warming.

Fortunately in these circumstances, our new plant has the newest safe and efficient installation, and we hadn't any disaster and accident last year. In the New Year, I heartily wish we have a safety year again.

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Last June in U.K. , the nation made a choice of withdrawal from the E.U. by a national referendum. U.K. has the 5th GDP in the world and the second GDP in Europe after Germany. The presence of U.K. in the E.U. has been so huge that the impact of English working out will be a great, which is not only economy but diplomacy and military affairs.

As a social problem, so many immigrants in U.K. work and send a lot of money to their mother states. Not only in U.K., the problem of immigrants is very confused and difficult in the world, I think. A big stream of this national referendum in U.K. would be made up by SNS.

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“Is your life better or worse comparing with 20 years ago or 30 years ago?”, “Do you have any dissatisfaction on employment and immigrants?”

These are Trump's election campaign. If such popularity votes should be accumulated at elections by SNS, I wonder what political system world would be build up in the future. In past some years, strong-arm governors have increased with populism, Putin in Russia, Xi Jinping in China, Erdogan in Turkey, Duterte in Philippines and Trump in the U.S.

However fortunately, at Austrian presidential election the ultra right candidate defeated last year end. I wonder every country gets conservative policy gradually from immigration problem, refugee problem or economy problem. Even in Japan, Abe government repeats forced passage of bills today, I'm anxious for it seriously.

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Last year a Japanese scientist received the Nobel Prize. Japanese basic study on physics, chemistry and medical science is highly appreciated. I expect that these

basic studies will bring our better human life in the future.

Strangely enough, Bob Dylan received the Nobel Literature Prize. I expected his nonacceptance of the prize, and I wanted to listen to his new album, “A song of nonacceptance”.

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Thankfully, our production has been running favorably at our new plant, and at the same time the quality level up and the energy saving are studied earnestly by all staff all the time.

I believe that our company will be more reliable year by year with a great support from all our business contacts. May you and yours be happy and prosperous in the New Year, 2017.

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 brought a Chinese music to his home town.

The photo on page two is the stage show of Mikawa Comic, and everyone realizes “The New Year has come” enjoying this classic and interesting performance.

New plant completion of Kaneko Alloy, Ltd.

Kaneko Alloy Ltd. is one of the most hopeful aluminum alloy casters in Nishio area, and has been building a new plant in Okayama Nishio City. On November 27, the completion ceremony and the opening party were held splendidly at the new plant.

The photos on page three above are the completion address by President Hiroshi Kaneko, and the joyful party. It is expected that the new Okayama Plant will show a great power of higher quality and bigger production capacity.

Special lesson of Nakabata Elementary School at Asuka

The 43 students and 4 teachers of Nakabata Elementary School visited Asuka and received a special lesson on December 5. At first they watched video on the outline of aluminum can recycling, and President Takashi Amano explained resources and environment problem intelligibly as the photo on page three shows. Then they enjoyed plant tour themselves, and all students sent us thank you messages, one of them is on page three below.

Company news

On December 1, the wedding ceremony and reception of Daisuke Suzuki, Sales Dpt. and Miss Masayo were held gorgeously at Alila Garden Resort in Tokoname City. New couple celebrated by many colleagues as the photo on page four shows.

On December 27, a staff convivial meeting was held, where 8 full attendances were awarded. Congratulations! Let us keep good health in the New Year.