

Covid Recovery 86,569 certification of trade-related documents (mainly certificates of Japanese origin) were issued, up 7.3 points year-on-year. This points toward a possible recovery from the Covid slump suffered in the previous year.

The largest increase was in documents bound for Africa (up 26.7 points), followed by Central and South America (20.8), North America (10.8), and the Middle East (10.1). The increase in documents bound for Europe was very slight (up 0.4 points). Meanwhile, although those bound for Asia were the largest in number, they in fact decreased by 1.4 points, and there was a sharp decrease in documents bound for Oceania (down 35.0 points).

By product category, general machinery had the highest number of certificates issued, and saw a year-on-year increase of 6.5 points. Certificates for textiles were up 7.6 points and metals 1.2 points, while those for chemicals and food decreased by 2.8 points and 5.2 points, respectively.

At the OCCI, we have a handy framework in place to help members harness the potential of trade agreements, for example through our advisory service and assistance with drawing up the Statements on Origin.

=====

2. OCCI AND O-BIC LAUNCH THE KANSAI INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM TO FORGE STRONGER CROSS-BORDER TIES

The Kansai International Exchange Program is a new initiative by the OCCI and the Osaka Business and Investment Center (O-BIC) to strengthen relations with foreign diplomatic missions and trade organizations. The program's upcoming inaugural event is a tour of the Entrepreneurial Museum of Challenge and Innovation and informal get-together for consuls general stationed in the Kansai region. OCCI Chairperson Shingo Torii will kick off the proceedings with a few words of welcome, after which participants will get an overview of Osaka and the Kansai region before embarking on the tour, and exchange of opinions on the activities of each country represented.

With the 2025 World Expo on the horizon, the OCCI is committed to working in close cooperation with foreign

diplomatic missions and trade organizations to promote mutual inbound and outbound exchanges.

=====

3. HELPING SMES COMPLY WITH GOVERNMENT SECURITY EXPORT CONTROL AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

The OCCI will hold a Security Export Control seminar on August 30, 2022, for SME employees involved in export procedures. The seminar will highlight the importance and explain the main points of the government’s Security Export Control system.

At a time of increased risk of unwanted transfer of advanced products and sensitive technologies, SMEs face the real possibility of legal sanctions and a loss of trust among business partners if they are found to have leaked even the most innocuous technologies or products that are subsequently used for the development of weapons of mass destruction or similar.

This seminar is just one example of how the OCCI helps SMEs expand globally with as few hiccups as possible. Other similar examples include Technology Transfer Control seminars, one-on-one consulting, and on-site guidance by experts.

=====

4. OCCI AND OSAKA METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY LAUNCH PARTNERSHIP

On August 9, 2022, the OCCI and Osaka Metropolitan University will formalize their new comprehensive partnership agreement. The occasion will also be marked with a commemorative symposium, titled Achieving Human-Centered Social Design through Industry-Academia Partnerships.

The OCCI has a long history of forging such partnerships, bringing together participants from the medical, engineering, industry, and academic communities; and is a powerful driver of urban development and area management. The chamber brings these strengths to bear as part of the broader effort to spark growth in the Osaka and Kansai regional economies and invigorate local

communities. For its part, Osaka Metropolitan University, which was launched in April 2022 through the merger of Osaka Prefecture University and Osaka City University, has two functions in addition to its educational, research, and social contribution mission: One is to serve as a think-tank to generate solutions to urban issues; the other is technological incubation aimed at boosting industrial competitiveness. Moreover, the university seeks to be a “living lab” and proving ground for research. The partnership between OCCI and OMU is designed to spark growth economic growth in Osaka and the Kansai region through joint research projects involving the university and business community, as well as field testing via the university’s “living lab,” and deeper collaboration in the field of urban development.

This is OMU’s first comprehensive partnership with an economic organization.

=====|=====

5. ONLINE OVERSEAS INSPECTION “TOURS” BEGIN

Amid the lingering effects of Covid-19 and inconsistency in border restrictions worldwide, the OCCI is taking the initiative and holding virtual overseas inspection tours online. The first destination, scheduled for September 2022, is a series of industrial parks in southern Vietnam. The tour will highlight the benefits of Vietnam, which is gaining a reputation as a favorable “China+1” location.

The OCCI foresees these tours will develop into a broader platform for attracting investment, incorporating seminars and online inspection “tours,” eventually leading to fact-finding missions. For more information, contact the OCCI.

<Contact Information>

OCCI International Division

Tel : +81-(0)6-6944-6400

E-mail : intl@osaka.cci.or.jp

=====|=====

6. GIF OSAKA 2022: NORTH & SOUTH AMERICAN EVENTS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL; MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHWEST ASIA EVENTS COMING SOON

Numerous high-substance one-on-one business meetings resulted from the opening events of Global Innovation Forum (GIF) Osaka 2022, Japan's premier event for matching international startups with Japanese companies. Now, following that first round of events, which focused on the North and South American regions, the next round will focus on the Middle East and Southwest Asia.

Exciting startups from Israel, Turkey (participating for the first time), and India will participate, with online exhibition booths scheduled to open at the end of July. A keynote address will be held in late August, outlining the high-potential startups of India, where there is increasing interest in partnering with Japanese companies and investing in Japan. There will also be live pitches, in which each company will present its technology and outline its hopes for working together with Japanese partners. Interpreters will be on hand for the keynote address and live pitches.

For an overview of GIF Osaka 2022 and online booths, and to sign up, visit the GIF Osaka website at <https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/en/>

=====

<COURTESY VISIT (1ST-29TH JULY)>

(China) 15th July

-Mr. Xue Jian, Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Osaka

=====

INFORMATION FOR COVID-19

Japanese Government

<https://japan.kantei.go.jp/>

Osaka Prefecture Government

<https://covid19-osaka.info/en/>

=====

[O-BIC as one-stop service center for creating a foothold in Osaka]

<http://o-bic.net/>

[Information about scheduled events (in Japanese only)]

<https://intl.osaka.cci.or.jp/>



Chief Editor :Takayoshi NEGORO (Mr.), Director of International

Division, OCCI

Mailed by : Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, International

Division

Address : 2-8 Hommachi-bashi, Chuo-ku, Osaka, Japan 540-0029

Tel : +81-(0)6-6944-6400

Fax : +81-(0)6-6944-6293

Contact Persons : Ryosuke SHIMIZU (Mr.), Risa TAKESHIMA (Ms.)

Back Numbers of OCCI e-Magazine:

<http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/e/emagazine/>



* Please contact us by email (intl@osaka.cci.or.jp)

to inform us of your change of e-mail address, or of

your wishes not to receive OCCI e-Magazine.

=====