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1. OSAKA & KANSAI ECONOMIC UPDATE

1-1. OCCI Helps Cut the Ribbon at Grand Green Osaka Opening

OCCI Chairperson Shingo Torii joined Osaka Governor Hirofumi

Yoshimura, Osaka Mayor Hideyuki Yokoyama, and other dignitaries to

cut the ribbon at the sneak-peek opening of Grand Green Osaka, the new urban development to the north of JR

Osaka Stn., on September 6, 2024. With commercial facilities, offices, hotels, and housing set around the

45,000 m2 Umekita Park, Grand Green Osaka is a combination of innovation and a lush green environment.

One of Grand Green Osaka core facilities is Jam Base, a hub for innovation through industry-academia

collaboration. Jam Base has already attracted a major tenant: MedTech Actuator, the Australia-based startup

accelerator with which the OCCI has had a long-standing partnership, will set up its first Japanese presence in

Jam Base.

Find out more about Grand Green Osaka at: <https://x.gd/tyMKS>

1-2. OCCI Survey Reveals Concerns about Labor Shortages, Inflation, Weak Yen On September 17, 2024, the OCCI published the results of its survey on government policy and the impact of the policy interest rate hike and recent exchange rate fluctuations. Respondents indicated that they wanted the government to prioritize growth strategies, measures to alleviate labor shortages, and measures to deal with inflation, while some 65% of respondents said they would like to see the yen strengthen to a maximum of 130 yen to the US dollar.

The survey and its findings are available (in Japanese only) at:

https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/Chousa_Kenkyuu_Iken/press/20240911rate.pdf

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2. OCCI AND MEDTECH ACTUATOR PARTNER FOR PITCH CONTEST AHEAD OF 2025 OSAKA EXPO: OCCI SPREADS THE WORD IN SINGAPORE

The final round of the 2025 pitch contest for medical and healthcare startups organized by MedTech Actuator will be held right here in Osaka during the 2025 World Expo: That is the message delivered by Hiroaki Ueno, chairperson of the OCCI Life Science Promotion Committee and representative director of Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma, in his opening remarks at the final round of the contest's 2024 edition in Singapore on September 6, 2024.

The announcement comes as part of a collaboration between the OCCI and MedTech Actuator, an Australia-

based startup accelerator specializing in the medical and healthcare sectors, and means startups from around the world will have the opportunity to showcase their groundbreaking technologies on the global stage in Osaka.

The OCCI and MedTech Actuator entered into a partnership agreement in March 2024, another development in the OCCI’s long-standing initiative to develop and promote the medical and healthcare industry. The chamber hopes that this partnership will help uncover high-potential startups in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, and lead to stronger support to help startups nurture their businesses with a view to global expansion.

In addition to cementing the OCCI’s ties with MedTech Actuator, Ueno also used his time in Singapore to talk up the support program for startups that the partners will hold in Osaka during the 2025 World Expo.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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3. OSAKA KANGYOTEN AND KAIMASSE: ~TWO OF OCCI’ S BIGGEST EVENTS TO HELP BUSINESSES FORGE SALES CHANNELS~

Two major events for growth-minded businesses are coming up soon: Osaka Kangyoten, our massive annual trade show, in October; and Kaimasse, the trade show where buyers discover the next hit products and vendors forge new sales channels, in November. These events are not necessarily international by nature and so foreign language support is not provided, but these are two of the OCCI’s biggest events so all are welcome and there

will definitely be some gems waiting for you to discover them.

3-1. Osaka Kangyoten 2024

Osaka's foremost multi-industry trade fair and a means for SMEs from throughout Osaka Prefecture to showcase their products and services and forge new sales channels.

When: 10:00-17:00 on October 16, 2024, and 09:30-16:00 on October 17, 2024

Where: Mydome Osaka

2-5 Honmachibashi, Chuo-ku, Osaka

Various industries will be represented: Metals, machinery, equipment, componentry, chemicals and energy, textiles, construction, building materials, lifestyle-related goods, environment and hygiene, food, paper and printing, information and communications, services.

Admission: Free

See the list of exhibitors (in Japanese) at: <https://kangyo.osaka.cci.or.jp/exhibitor/list>

Sign up to attend (form in Japanese only) at: <https://kangyo.osaka.cci.or.jp/visitor/regist>

3-2. Kaimasse 2024

At Kaimasse, department stores, supermarkets, direct marketers, specialty stores, and other major retailers set up "buyer booths" where small-scale manufacturers and wholesalers can pitch their products.

When: 10:00-13:00 and 14:00-17:00 on November 14, 2024

Where: Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium

3-4-36 Nambanaka, Naniwa-ku, Osaka

Buyers: Department stores, supermarkets, direct marketers, hardware stores, co-ops, etc.

See the list of buyers (in Japanese) at:

<https://www2.osaka.cci.or.jp/uresuji/products/>

Check out the Kaimasse website (in Japanese) at:

<https://www2.osaka.cci.or.jp/uresuji/>

Sign up for meetings with participating businesses (form in Japanese) at:

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

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4. OCCI INNOVATION SUPPORT PROJECT UPDATES

4-1. U-Start Up Kansai 2024 Prizewinner to Exhibit at CES2025

We at the OCCI are excited to be a part of U-Start Up Kansai, a support program aimed at nurturing university startup ventures through partnerships with industry. As part of this, an open pitch contest was held on September 12, 2024, which featured presentations from 11 universities aiming to develop their businesses nationwide and overseas through matching with compatible companies.

The winner of the Global Innovators Award, Space Walker, Inc., a developer of small, reusable, winged rockets,

was chosen to exhibit at the Consumer Electronics Show in 2025.

4-2. “Team Osaka” Field Testing Support Org Offers Broad Assistance “Team Osaka,” a field testing group organized by the OCCI and the Osaka city and prefectural governments, offers an extensive menu of support for businesses seeking demonstration testing services in Osaka.

Services include:

1. Referral of demonstration testing fields, and coordination
2. PR
3. Field testing support services
4. Deregulation
5. Funding support via grants, funds, etc.

Recent projects include joint testing of autonomously mobile robots in Nakanoshima Park, and field testing self-sailing boats in the eastern outer moat of Osaka Castle Park to gauge feasibility as a new mode of mobility.

Team Osaka is open to?and already attracting?overseas-based enterprises, and we encourage all who are interested in demonstration testing services in Osaka to get in touch.

Find out more about Team Osaka at:

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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5. 2025 WORLD EXPO UPDATES

5-1. Expo Pamphlet to be Published in Foreign Languages

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exhibition has unveiled its new brochure for next year's World Expo in Osaka. The pamphlet will be printed in multiple languages so as to spread the word far and wide about Osaka and the expo and build momentum, and to ensure that everyone is able to get maximum enjoyment out of the big event.

In addition to Japanese, the pamphlet will be made available in English, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Korean, French, and Thai, and each version will be uploaded to the website when ready.

Find out more at the official expo site:

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240809-02/>

5-2. “All Osaka’s a Stage” 2nd Networking Event

Following the success of last month's inaugural “All Osaka’s a Stage” networking event, the OCCI is holding a second edition on October 4, 2024. “All Osaka’s a Stage” is an initiative that seeks to make the 2025 World Expo in Osaka a great success by showcasing areas outside the expo venue as a stage in themselves. As we see

it, all Osaka is an expo?its towns,
its people, its projects and events.

Come and find out what's going on in places like Nakanoshima, Higashi Yokoborigawa, and Tennoji/Abeno,
and registered cultural properties, see how listed cultural assets are being put to good use, and network with
other attendees.

When: 15:00 to 17:00, October 4, 2024

Where: Beta Hommachibashi (<https://hommachibashi.jp/access/>)

What: Learn all about the Osaka Co-creation Platform for the 2025 World Expo; also
networking, etc.

Admission: Free

Check out the official event webpage (in Japanese) at:

<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/event/seminar/202408/D24240826015.html>

Sign up form (in Japanese):

<https://x.gd/Psce2>

5-3 “KUUZO~Expo? More like Eatspo!”

In the run-up to the 2025 World Expo, the OCCI is showcasing Osaka many, many, oh-so-many dining options on Instagram.

Whet your appetite at the OCCI Instagram account, and give us a follow while you're there!

https://www.instagram.com/osaka_cci/

5-4 Tickets for Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai

- Firstly, you need to register yourself to Expo2025 website and get your Expo ID.

You can buy the ticket, reserve your entry date, and enjoy various services with EXPO ID

- Admission tickets will be e-tickets. You can purchase them with a smartphone or PC.
- In addition to the ticket, you need to reserve the entry date in advance. The detail

information of entry reserve will be announced later.

[Click here to purchase admission tickets]

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/tickets-index/>

[Check out the OCCI's 2025 World Expo website at]

<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/expo2025/pavilion>

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6.<COURTESY VISIT (1ST SEPTEMBER-30 TH SEPTEMBER)>

(consulate general of the Republic of Korea in Osaka)20 th September

-H. E. Mr. Chen Changsoo

(Consul-General of the Republic of Korea in Osaka)

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And finally, some Osaka trivia. Did you know that October is festival time in southern Osaka? Most people think it's September, because that's when Kishiwada's famous danjiri festival is held, but for most of the region, October is when the festivities happen. From Sakai down to Hannan in the prefecture's southernmost reaches, many communities have their autumn harvest festivals this month, replete with portable shrine parades, religious ceremonies, entertainment, and all manner of food stalls lining the streets. These events are a great way to spend a weekend!

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[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://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/event/index.php>

[linkedin]

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/osaka-o-bic-2025/recent-activity/all/>



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