4 THE JAPAN TIMES WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016

Special Economic Reports



Hong Kong: The super-connector solidifies its role in Asia-Pacific

espite fierce competition from the likes of Singapore, Hong Kong has maintained its status as the preferred destination for foreign multinationals looking to establish their regional headquarters and trading offices in the Asia-Pacific region. Its advantage is not only economic, as the ideal conduit into the giant that is greater China, but also a diverse cultural heritage that has been cultivated over centuries.

"Hong Kong has evolved into such an international city, filled with people from all around the world living and doing business." said Allan Zeman, chairman of Lan Kwai Fong Holdings, who relinquished his Canadian passport in 2008 when he acquired Chinese citizenship. "Just like me, people from all around the world are now gathering in Hong Kong to experience this melting pot of culture."

"Japan is currently Hong Kong's third-largest trading partner and it has been for a very long time." said Margaret Fong, executive director of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. "For example, Hong Kong currently accounts for 24 percent of Japan's food and agriculture exports, which makes it the number one export market for Japan in this category.'

For more than a century, Hong

Kong has also been a super-connector into greater China's vast market. Due to its bilingual proficiency and geographical location, this Special Autonomous Region of China since 1997 has also played a vital role as a facilita-

Japan is currently

Hong Kong's third-

partner and it has

Hong Kong Trade Development Council

tor in recent Chinese government

initiatives such as the "Silk Road

Economic Belt" and the "21st

Century Maritime Silk Road,"

bound together as the "Belt and

Road Initiative," which is set to

determine China's economic di-

rection and influence in Asia and

beyond

largest trading

been for a very

long time.'

- MARGARET FONG

Executive Director

Japan is capitalizing on these concepts as it maintains a strong interest in China's market, relying on Hong Kong's services to facilitate market penetration. "Over the years, I have seen a lot of Japanese small and medium

enterprises (SMEs) going through

Hong Kong to enter the China

market," said professor Daniel M.

Cheng, chairman of the Federation

of Hong Kong Industries. "Hong

Kong, given its common law and

trading practices that serve inter-

national firms better, provides a

strong platform for the Japanese.

"Hong Kong is at the center of Asia. Our air and sea links are very well-developed, which is another reason why over 1,350 Japanese companies are established here. When foreign companies are incorporated in Hong

Hong Kong has

evolved into such

filled with people

world living and

doing business."

Kong as service providers with

sufficient business volume, the

entry threshold and restrictions

are much lower when they enter

mainland China under the special

trade agreement the city has with

politan city, with not only local

"Hong Kong is a very cosmo-

the mainland."

— ALLAN ZEMAN

Lan Kwai Fong Holdings

Chairman

from all around the

an international city,

talent having the skills that businesses need, but also the international expertise and language," said Rocky Tung, senior economist of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. "Of course this includes mainland China, which

makes Hong Kong the perfect

headquarters for companies doing

business in the region, as well as

Chinese businesses looking to go

"Japanese companies have al-

ways been very enthusiastic about

entering the Hong Kong market,

and are very grateful for the strong

abroad.'

welcome and effective communication facilitated by the local government in easing their transition," said Masakazu Yagyu, secretary general of the Hong Kong Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry

try in software development for its terminals and operations, and this has allowed Hong Kong to remain competitive globally despite its limited operational volume.

The technological evolution is not only being applied to the lo-

Japanese companies have always been very enthusiastic about entering the Hong Kong market ... — MASAKAZU YAGYU Secretary General Hong Kong Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry

"Hong Kong's shipping and logistics sector has faced many challenges in recent years, but we are working hard to keep SMEs competitive," said Eric Wong, chairman of the Hong Kong Sea Transport and Logistics Association. There has been significant in-

gistics industry, but also in Hong

Kong's educational curriculum. "Hong Kong has begun to be actively engaged in social services with a view to bridging the digital divide and promoting IT in education and e-Learning," commented Erwin Huang, president of the Hong Kong Information Technolvestment from the shipping indus-

city, as well as for businesspeople seeking Asian opportunities," Fong said. "That's why you'll see many Japanese exhibitors and buyers at the 35 international trade fairs we host each year." Helping maintain the high profile and strength of Hong Kong-Japanese links, the Consulate-General of Japan in Hong Kong launches the annual Japan Autumn Festival in Hong Kong - Redis-

ogy Federation.

he said.

Yagyu remains positive on the

number of inbound Japanese busi-

nesses and investment in Hong

Kong. "We fully welcome and

represent the specific interests of

Japanese traders in Hong Kong

in order to promote understanding and friendship between its

members and other locally based

chambers to find the perfect fit,"

Kong is a two-way street for Japa-

nese companies with offices in the

"When it comes to trade, Hong

covering Nippon in October and November. It consists of more than 100 events held throughout Hong Kong in this period — aimed at cementing the already close relations between the two.

For more information on this year's festival, visit: www.hk.emb-japan.go.jp/ autumnfes/en-us ♦

Passenger growth is paralleled by enhancements in traveler experience: The main link between Hong Kong and Japan

ong Kong International Airport (HKIA) moved to Hairport (HKIA) moved to its current location on the island of Chek Lap Kok in 1998. Since then it has seen tremendous growth in both passengers and flights. It is now the world's thirdlargest international airport and the world's busiest cargo airport. It is a mini-city in itself, employing over 73,000 people, and a vital part of Hong Kong's economy.

Fred Lam was appointed the CEO of Airport Authority Hong Kong (AA) in 2014, and he has already overseen a number of ambitious projects. With its passenger growth, HKIA has had to work hard to accommodate their requirements. At the end of last year, it added a midfield concourse. It has also commenced one of the largest infrastructural projects in Hong Kong's history: the planned "Three-runway System" (3RS) to meet future air traffic demand. The project is expected to be completed in eight years. The 3RS project is more than just building a new runway. The entire undertaking involves reclaiming 650 hectares of land, a new passenger concourse and parking structures, a new 3.800-meter-long runway, a new automated people mover system, a new baggage handling system



Traffic between Hong Kong and Japan has also grown significantly in recent years. Three years ago there were only around 500 flights between Hong Kong and Japan every week. Today, there are 760 a week on average – over 100 flights every day.

During that same period, the destinations in Japan accessible from Hong Kong have increased from seven to 14, with six new destinations having been added just this year.

Lam attributes this increase demand in part to cheaper flights,

but "also to a strong traditional

bond between Hong Kong and

Japan." This growth in passenger

and flight numbers has also been

He is quick to point out

that this growth has not been

achieved to the detriment of the

airport's traveler and visitor ex-

perience. To this end, the AA has

been employing new technolo-

gies to transform HKIA into a

smart airport for enhanced ser-

vice standards; higher operation-

al efficiency and a better passen-

mirrored in bilateral trade.

Solid OEM partner for Japan, looking to technologies of the future

🖰 enta Wong, chairman of WKK, celebrated the 40th anniversary last year of the company he founded back in 1975. In four decades, he has seen the Hong Kong electronics sector's booms and busts, as WKK has grown to become one of the most important electronics groups involved in industrial capital equipment distribution and electronics manufacturing services in the world — with offices today in Japan, the U.S., China, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam "I've been in this business for 53 years," he said. "I started working in the family business founded by my father in 1963 and established WKK 12 years later. WKK was in the same group until 1989, when it finally became independent." Wong says that one of the secrets of success for his company has been: "... watching the market closely, especially for new technologies about to enter the field. Fifty-three years ago, there suppliers. We know how to make were no high-tech electronics, only transistor radios and calculaeverything work, despite all the upheavals and comings and gotors. Time moves on and products change and you have to be on and technology." top of everything and able to see ahead to what will come." Staying 100 percent an original equipment manufacturer has been a management strategy that has paid off, according to Wong: "R&D is very, very costly. Having your own products is dangerous, clared. because one wrong product could finish you off. We have more than 40 years of knowledge about the global electronics industry, the once you've established a solid



met some people, who are now friends, more than 40 years ago in Japan who are still in the same companies today," Wong said. "Through the years, I've seen them grow in their positions, and even rise to become part of the top management of the company. Only in Japan. In other countries, there's fewer relationships. You meet someone, and three years later they are not in the company any more. Then, you have to start a new relationship with someone else.' WKK prizes its Japan links, even as faster-moving competitors from Korea, Taiwan and China have seriously challenged Japanese companies themselves in recent decades. "We can still offer the same quality at a competitive price," he pointed out. "We will continue and even have a better position in this new and ever-changing dynamic."



We are very happy to have been recognized by peers and customers with over 60 best airport awards over the years for our efforts." — FRED LAM

CEO of Airport Authority Hong Kong

soon, therefore there is a press-

ing need for HKIA expanding

and expanding Terminal 2. The scale is comparable to building a whole new airport. Lam said, "The existing two-

into a 3RS to strengthen Hong Kong's status as an aviation hub runway system will likely reach and enhance the city's overall its maximum practical capacity competitiveness.'

ger experience. "We are very happy to have been recognized by peers and customers with over 60 best airport awards over the years for our efforts," he concluded. www.hongkongairport.com/eng



We're looking for new partners in the medical electronics field in Japan. We're also going more into the industrial and automotive areas."

ings of new and outdated products

One thing hasn't changed, and

relationship with a Japanese com-

1,108 sq km

Hong Kong

7,167,403 (July 2016 est.)

2.9 percent (2015 est.)

\$499.4 billion (2015 est.)

\$524.3 billion (2015 est.)

- SENTA WONG Chairman of WKK

pany, it's there to stay. For example, we've been working with one such client in Japan for 40 vears, and with our other big clients there we have been partners for over 30.

that is WKK's enduring partner-"I always tell my staff that when they do business in another ships with its clients in Japan. "We do business worldwide, but country they need to understand some of our best relationships are its business culture. In business with Japanese companies," he dedeals, the Japanese consider — in order of importance — relation-"It's taken a long time and a ship, quality and price. In a counlot of hard work to reach this try such as the U.S., on the other point," Wong continued. "But hand, it is first price, then quality,

then relationship.

with WKK, and more than half a century of experience, Wong is still looking ahead to the next big thing . . . and the ones after that.

"In our business, I have also

Electrical machinery and appliances, textiles, apparel, footwear, watches

www.wkk.com.hk

HONG KONG

FAST FACTS

people, the companies and the

1	Area:
I	Population:
(Capital:
(Currency:
1	Avg. exchange rate:
I	Real GDP:
(GDP growth:
(GDP per capita:
I	Inflation:
I	Unemployment:

Main industries

Total exports: Total imports:

and clocks, toys, plastics, precious stones, printed material Hong Kong dollars (HKD) \$1 = HKD 7.764 (2015 est.) **Major imports** \$309.9 billion (2015 est.) Raw materials and manufactures, consumer goods, capital goods, 2.4 percent (2015 est.) foodstuffs, fuel (most is re-exported) \$56,700 (2015 est.) 3 percent (2015 est.) Main export markets

Major exports

China 53.7 percent, U.S. 9.5 percent (2015)

Main import markets

China 49 percent, Japan 6.4 percent, Singapore 6.1 percent, U.S. 5.2 percent, South Korea 4.3 percent (2014)

Recently, WKK has shifted its business from a reliance on consumer electronics to more emphasis on medical devices, especially for MRI, CT scan and ultrasound machines, as well as renal diagnosis and treatments. It has only just introduced some of its medical products in Japan, with a good reception so far.

"We're looking for new partners in the medical electronics field in Japan," Wong said. "We're also going more into the industrial and automotive areas." After more than four decades

Hong Kong

www.worldeyereports.com

At 50-year milestone, Mitsubishi Electric celebrates links with Hong Kong

In fact, hidden below the sur-

This year's 50th anniversary celebration is a landmark for Mitsubishi Electric (Hong Kong) or "ME-HK."

"We began in a small way here," said Masanori Akamoto, chairman and managing director of ME-HK, a wholly owned subsidiary of Japan's Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, as he recalled its beginnings. "But, since then, we have grown in importance as Hong Kong itself has grown in financial might."

Starting out in the niche business of supplying, installing and maintaining Mitsubishi elevators and escalators for the former British colony in 1966, ME-HK remains strongly connected to Hong Kong today as it has grown and diversified its range of businesses and products, which now include air conditioning and ventilation, home appliances, semiconductors and devices, energy systems, public systems, transportation systems, elevators and escalators, factory automation and visual information systems. It has achieved this growth in tandem with the economic expansion of Hong Kong, Macau and greater China.

Mitsubishi Electric's strong connection with people and industries of Hong Kong is showcased in its head office showroom

Any visitor who enters ME-HK's headquarters and showroom in the Cityplaza One building in Taikoo Shing, one of the largest shopping malls on Hong Kong Island, cannot fail to notice a colorful mural occupying an entire wall on the right. It shows in detail the full extent of the company's range of sectors and cutting-edge technologies that have contributed to enriching Hong Kong society — improving their lives by five decades

The simple act of plugging in an appliance in a home or office in Hong Kong today entails using part of the energy generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure that ME-HK has installed — essential systems for



Mitsubishi Electric's showroom located at Cityplaza One in Taikoo Shing, Hong Kong showcases the company's diverse and advanced products.

and visitors between floors.

automatic train operations run

For air traffic above, Mitsubi-

shi Electric's reliable Doppler

weather radars and LiDAR sys-

tem make journeys safer by alert-

ing pilots to possible invisible

more precisely.

power stations that provide stable electricity for Hong Kong's population

Similarly, nearly five million people use the city's mass transit railway system daily, most of them probably unaware that the trains they ride on utilize Mitsubishi Electric railway equipment to ensure safe and comfortable journeys.

MITSUBISH ELECTRIC

the showroom

iconic places as the Hong Kong

Jockey Club Shatin racecourse.

There, the public can view a

70-meter-long "Diamond Vision"

LED screen — wider than the

wingspan of a Boeing 747-400 jet

— with seamless high resolution

Across Hong Kong, Mitsubible logic-controlled instruments and customizable software make shi Electric products grace such

flights and landings. And at renowned residential and commercial complexes across Hong Kong — such as OPUS, Valais and Global Trade Square — Mitsubishi Electric's energy-efficient and versatile "City-Multi" — multiple splittype air conditioners provide comfort whenever needed.

face in electrical and electronic equipment everywhere, tiny chips and semiconductors from Mitsubishi Electric make possible wide applications in Hong Kong's daily life through the use of almost everything from home images. In Times Square mall in appliances, industrial equipment and railways to optical fiber com-Causeway Bay, unique spiral escalators developed exclusively

munications for broadband and by the company convey shoppers telecommunications networks. Akamoto is proud of Mitsubishi In Hong Kong International Electric's product lineup reaching Airport, over 150 Mitsubishi into every corner of Hong Kong, Electric elevators allow one of and he readily gives visitors to the world's busiest transport hubs the showroom a personal tour to provide efficient vertical transof its product innovations: from portation, while its programmaair conditioners with patented "Move Eye" intelligent sensors that accurately detect both the temperature of the human body and that of the floor surface and change their air streams accordingly, to smart refrigerators with user-friendly design and steamless rice cookers that use break-

> Concern for the environment and maintaining close community links is part of Mitsubishi Electric's management philosophy

> through technology to transform

traditional devices.

Facing the great threat of climate change to our living environment, Mitsubishi Electric is committed to contributing to a greener environment — as stated in its environmental statement: "Eco Changes for a greener environment.

"To realize a low-carbon society, the most effective way is to reduce electricity consumption," Akamoto explained. "We are developing and introducing products and solutions that can offer

dangers caused by sudden weathhigh energy-saving performance Party for the Elderly. er changes — ensuring smooth in homes, offices, buildings, factories and even social infrastructure.'

He holds ME-HK's involvement in corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities in Hong Kong as a vitally important factor in linking the company to the local community. In fact, CSR at ME-HK is viewed as an essential business philosophy that creates

year alone, ME-HK was awarded the 'Caring Company' logo by the Hong Kong Council of Social Services and the 'Eco-brand Award 2016' by East Week Magazine. It's encouraging in that it recognizes our efforts. We will surely do more to keep on being a good corporate citizen and contributing to Hong Kong society."

brand, and that this leads to a re- aware of our wide product lineup Akamoto proudly noted: "This alization of the extent of the total Mitsubishi Electric image in Hong Kong," he said.

At the beginning of this year, ME-HK began an advertising campaign on local television with the theme "Caring for the family," using an emotional storytelling approach to reinforce

Mitsubishi Electric's connection with Hong Kong people. It



Masanori Akamoto, Chairman and Managing Director of ME-HK: "Mitsubishi Electric's diverse range of businesses and cutting-edge technologies provide people with a better life."

value for its stakeholders. Through the years, ME-HK has initiated and supported a wide

range of CSR activities related to charity, community service, environmental and educational programs to meet the needs of local communities, such as sponsoring a "Youth Energy Saving Award" that encouraged young people to plan and implement energy saving measures and also a "Green x Engineering x Energy Crisis" summer camp for students that educated them about green engineering and the importance of

energy saving. Other company initiatives have been to sponsor and deliver Mitsubishi Electric fans to lowincome households and co-organizing the Mid-Autumn Festival

Looking ahead, ME-HK will strengthen branding and cross-sales

After integrating the company's core businesses under the Mitsubishi Electric brand. Akamoto now aims to strengthen cross sales activities and enhance the company's branding in Hong Kong. He would like Hong Kong people to get to know its products and contributions better, reflecting the Mitsubishi Electric corporate motto — "Changes for the Better.'

To increase brand cognizance, ME-HK has taken to taxi advertising, with 600 taxis plying the streets of Hong Kong and Kowloon now bearing the Mitsubishi Electric logo. "I hope people here will see and remember our

further used its Facebook page to connect with its consumers through social media.

With respect to cross sales activities, "We produce so many products — from satellites to rice cookers," remarked Akamoto. "We are requesting each business group to use the 'One Mitsubishi Electric' synergy platform to provide products and tailor-made solutions to meet the needs of customers through collaboration across business groups

"It is important to exploit our business diversity to every corner of the territory," he continued. "We aim to introduce our full range of products to our customers across all business units. Having customers become more

will open up new cross-selling business opportunities."

Building on talented staff and a strong relationship with business allies, ME-HK strives to maintain its role as conduit between Japan, China and the rest of Asia

Akamoto emphasized the fact that the success of ME-HK has been built on its talented staff. who have worked here for many years — accumulating the rich experience and professional knowledge that allow them to serve their customers best and to meet their needs.

"We dispatch our Hong Kong staff to attend on-the-job training programs in Japan," Akamoto pointed out. "Meanwhile, Japanese trainees also come here to ME-HK to learn. Through this exchange training program, our staff learn the working culture and background of people in different places in order to facilitate mutual understanding and communication in their daily work.

"On the other hand, we also treasure long-term relationships and partnerships with our business allies that have been built up over many years," he added. In the end, Hong Kong's role as a conduit between Japan, China and the rest of Asia continues to be important for Mitsubishi Electric as a whole.

Of the many Mitsubishi Electric group companies outside Japan, ME-HK was one that started earlier than others. The advantages of Hong Kong as a global business hub enabled ME-HK to enter the China market early and capture opportunities and develop its business over the succeeding five decades.

Today's Hong Kong would look unrecognizable to its inhabitants in 1966. After 50 years of evolving with Hong Kong, ME-HK aims to keep in step with the growth of this global city as it tackles the challenges

and coming changes of the years ahead. 🔶

hk.mitsubishielectric.com



Masanori Akamoto with students joining ME-HK's sponsored program:

"Green x Engineering x Energy Crisis" Summer Camp and their visit to

The five core business areas of



Mitsubishi Electric





Mitsubishi Electric in Hong Kong



As stated in its corporate statement

Changes for the Better and environmental statement

Eco Changes – for a greener tomorrow, Mitsubishi Electric is striving to

Provide People with a Better Life with its **Diverse Range of Cutting-edge Products.**



www.worldeyereports.com

Hong Kong



TCC Group extends its support to the continuous development of Hong Kong as an International Maritime Center.

TAI CHONG CHEANG STEAMSHIP CO. (H.K.) LTD.

ROOM 4411, 44/F., COSCO TOWER, 183 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG TEL: (852) 2522 5171 FAX: (852) 2845 9307 WEBSITE: WWW.TCCFLEET.COM

100 years of remarkable partnership: A story of mainland China, Hong Kong and Japan

ne day in 1964, C.S. Koo started recording his oral memoir of how he had come to start the Tai Chong Hsiang Customs Brokerage Company back in 1917, at the age of 30. Rising from a childhood mired in rural poverty in Ningbo in mainland China, he had moved to Shanghai and then founded the company's first incarnation as a customs broker.

It was a natural progression from that to shipowning. Eventually, the company was renamed the Tai Chong Cheang Steamship Company. In 1949, C.S. Koo relocated his shipping enterprise to Hong Kong, establishing the Valles Steamship Company (Valles Group) and — later the Tai Chong Cheang Steamship Company (TCC Group).

C.S. Koo's memoir, taped over many hours and days on an open-reel recorder, has served as inspiration to the founding family's second and third generation of managers. "My grandfather recorded his struggles on those reels," said Kenneth C.K. Koo, TCC's current group chairman and CEO. "To me, they impart the pride the family feels in maintaining his legacy. I will always be thankful to the elder generations of Koos for having instilled in us this respect for the founding principles which guided the company's birth."

The Chinese characters which formed the original Tai Chong Cheang name were carefully chosen by C.S. Koo to reflect the way in which he thought the company could best grow over the years. "My grandfather was determined to set a course for a better future," explained Koo. "'Tai' means harmony, 'Chong' means prosperity and 'Cheang' means luck.'

"Under this name, he also stressed four basic tenets of our family shipping enterprise management philosophy: accountability, credibility, reliability and trust," he continued. "If we have successfully survived up to now, it's because we have never abandoned these ideals."

Next year, TCC Group and Valles Group will join the select company of successful corporations worldwide that have been around for more than a century, as



Group is inextricably linked with

its Japanese shipping partners.

Next year's centennial will also

mark a half century of trust with

"Just like the Japanese, we

K-Line and 46 years with NYK.

have a firm belief in maintain-

ing long-term relationships," Koo

said. "We are also never afraid to

invest in quality, and are, together

with the Valles Group, among the

last of Hong Kong's hands-on

evolved from being a traditional

"build-and-charter" owner to its

For TCC, the company has

owners in the shipping sector."

C.S. Koo, Founder of TCC Group

they jointly celebrate the centenary of C.S. Koo's founding of the family shipping enterprise. It is a historic 100th anniversary that will coincide with the publication of a biography of the company patriarch.

Koo, himself, having literally grown up in the midst of the family business, was fascinated with ships from an early age. He first boarded a TCC-owned ship at the age of seven, going onboard a carrier that had just completed its maiden voyage — and that started



Kenneth C.K. Koo, Group Chairman and CEO of TCC Group

off the group's enduring relationship with Japan's K-Line.

current form as a boutique shipowner that builds according to Koo joined the TCC Group in 1983. "Basically, I worked onneed. Thus, it has been better able board and in shipyards for my first to withstand the rough seas of the "perfect storm" buffeting today's 17 years in TCC," he recalled. shipping sector around the globe. "I learned about ship repair, sea voyages and new shipbuilding "At this point, we have around supervision firsthand. I literally 14 ships operating, with seven learned about our business from more ships being built in Japan," the inside out." said Koo. "By 2019, we should be back to about 16 to 17 vessels.

In fact, the history of TCC

Having this relatively small number of ships allows us to maintain the quality of our service. We are also able to incorporate 'bespoke' specifications and higher standards for our clients. This, together with our focus on long-term time charters, has helped cushion the blow of the current adverse conditions in the sector."

TCC Group does not only keep up with technological advances in shipping: It often leads the industry with cutting-edge innovation that reduces its ships' carbon footprint. Since 2010, it has financed research into improving combustion efficiency in marine diesel engines, which currently only use about 50 percent of the fuel they burn. Through a partnership with the University of Southern California in the U.S., TCC has been working on technology using transient plasma technology generated from nanosecond pulse power to achieve total combustion — potentially generating enormous savings in fuel.

It is also working on reducing harmful emissions through the same technology, which it hopes to retrofit in its entire fleet. "We have been working progressively to introduce this new technology to Japanese companies," Koo remarked.

He considers himself a bornand-bred citizen of Hong Kong, with all the unique characteristics that the Special Autonomous Region has acquired as a bridge between Japanese investment and the Chinese mainland. "Both TCC and Valles have designed and built ships in China and Japan," Koo said. "We have also built deep friendships and lasting legacies within the shipbuilding sectors of both countries. The next step is to define what role we will play as China transitions from a developing country to developed status.'

Such is the Koo family's close connection with Japan: it will celebrate its centenary next year with events in Hong Kong and TCC planning another event in Tokvo. The years that have passed since its humble beginnings in Shanghai have made the company a true example of Hong Kong-Japanese partnership. ♦ www.tccfleet.com

Fukuoka Prefecture is a great partner for Hong Kong. It can provide fresh food to the city thanks to its close proximity and a destination for visitors who are looking for a new experience in Japan."

> — SHIGETAKA FUJIKI Director Fukuoka Prefectural Government Hong Kong Office

Hong Kong Kenko Kanri Center works hard to service the needs specific to Japanese companies here in Hong Kong."

> - SUMIKO MITA Director and General Manager Hong Kong Kenko Kanri Center

H.I.S. has a long history of servicing Japanese clients and Hong Kong was its first overseas office. We are now looking forward to catering more to customers from Hong Kong looking to travel to Japan."

- CHRISTINA CHIANG

General Manager H.I.S. (Hong Kong)

We value our success of bringing innovations to the FinTech world. Meaningful customer experience not only provides a means of differentiating your brand, but also leads to greater customer and employee engagement, loyalty and retention."

- CARRINE WONG

CEO ISI-Dentsu of Hong Kong

We are looking to expand our client base in Hong Kong, a very strong market in the tunnels and mining industries."

> - SHUNSUKE KITA Director General Nishio T&M (HK)

We are working to expand our oncology business to improve human health in Hong Kong and contribute to a society enriched by smiles."

> - YOSHIMASA NISHIMURA Managing Director Taiho Pharmaceutical

Hong Kong is still an ideal location for Chiba Bank to work with overseas clients across the region."

> – MASAYASU ONO General Manager Chiba Bank

We would like to contribute to the business success of advertisers in Hong Kong by leveraging our unique business approach."

> — KICHIRO KISA President Dentsu Media Hong Kong

Every leader will want coaching to crystallize visions and effectively engage their team in order to reach their goals faster."

> — KUMIKO BABA Managing Director Coach A

We have produced natural healthy products and pure extracts of the highest quality from nature, specializing in product enhancement with master extraction processes and blending facilities."

> - NOBUTSUNA SASAKI CEO

> > FINE Group Limited

With the vast experience in Hong Kong, we keep trying to expand our business from Hong Kong as our hub to the neighboring countries."

> — MIEKO YAMADA Founder and President E' Mile (HK)

Hong Kong continues to be a great location to work from, particularly as an entry point for China and South East Asia."

> — HAZUMU KAKINOKI Managing Director Sumitomo Corporation Equity Asia

Hong Kong has a collective of multicultural art scenes and collectors making it a very attractive market for us."

> — KOEI SHIRAISHI CEO

Whitestone HK

The increasing demand for Japanese products here in Hong Kong will be important for the logistics sector."

> — DAISHIRO KUGA Managing Director Yamato Logistics (HK)

Hong Kong is the largest destination for Japanese foods shipped overseas and Kamigumi continues to make this an important part of its business."

> — TAKASHI GOZATANI General Manager Kamigumi (Hong Kong)

We consider Hong Kong as the best window for us to enter into China with the efficiency and convenience of its logistics."

> — AKIRA KASAGI General Manager Taivo Ink International (HK)

Toppan Forms has seen many changes in business over the past 50 years, but since opening an office in Hong Kong in 1972 the location has remained one of the company's most important offices."

> — HIDEHIKO SUGAYA Manager Toppan Forms (HK)

Hong Kong has been a great location for Japanese business. Thanks to the cooperation of the government here we predict a strong Japanese presence for years to come."

> — MASAKAZU YAGYU Secretary General Hong Kong Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Hong Kong ranks first in international cargo volume, and it continues to be a pivotal market for NCA."

> - TETSUO MIZUNO Director and General Manager Nippon Cargo Airlines

We are very happy that a lot of Hong Kong's residents are fans of our Kumamon mascot. We hope that these fans will someday visit Kumamoto Prefecture."

> — HIDEKI NISHIYAMA Chief Director Kumamoto Prefectural Government Hong Kong Office

We believe that Hong Kongers have always had a strong interest in Japanese cuisine, which makes it a good market for our business to thrive in."

> - REINA TAMARU President ABC Cooking Studio HK

We are strategically established in Hong Kong, an economy with investors who are well-informed and have a very long-term mindset toward real estate."

> — AKIHIRO YASUOKA General Manager Daikyo Hong Kong

Hong Kong serves as a melting pot of different cultures, making it a promising market to introduce authentic Japanese sake."

> - AYUCHI MOMOSE Owner Sake Bar GINN