



As Finland and Japan deepen ties across innovation, energy, defense and tourism, companies like Patria, Iceye, F-Secure, Tallink Silja and Sumitomo SHI FW are leading new avenues of collaboration. From cybersecurity and clean energy to cultural exchange and local defense production, the two nations are strengthening their industrial and technological partnership.

Ambassador Takashi Okada calls it a strategic partnership rooted in trust and shared values. With Expo 2025 underway, Finland and Japan are showcasing their growing synergy on a global stage.



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Finland and Japan deepen strategic partnership across innovation and security

F-Secure: Pairing human expertise and AI to combat evolving cyberthreats in Japan

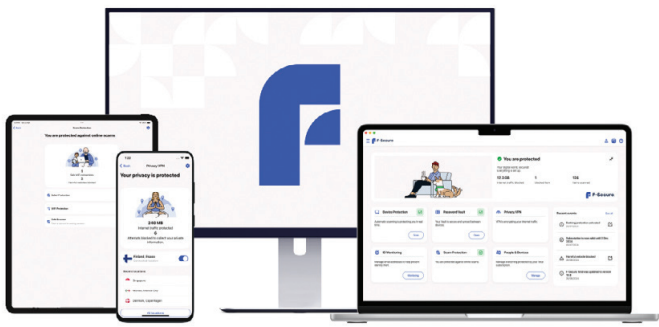
In an era where cyberattacks are becoming increasingly sophisticated, automated and assisted by artificial intelligence, cybersecurity leader F-Secure is redefining digital protection by blending cutting-edge technology with decades of human expertise.

"F-Secure stands apart through a combination of human expertise and AI-driven threat detection that adapts as quickly as the threat landscape evolves," said Yoshimoto Takayama, F-Secure's Japan country manager. "Our hybrid approach ensures that every digital moment is protected not just reactively, but also proactively."

With more than 35 years of research and frontline visibility through incident response and managed detection services, F-Secure leverages deep threat intelligence to stay ahead of attackers. The company's solutions detect and block 500,000 malware attacks and 700,000 suspicious activities daily and protect over 1 million banking transactions every day. They have also identified 8 million breached personal records.

What further sets F-Secure apart is its partner-first approach. The company works with over 200 service providers worldwide, enabling it to protect millions of users from digital threats.

"Our industry-leading features, along with a dedicated Scam Protection Engineering Team, are propelling F-Secure to be the No. 1 provider of



With cyberattacks growing more complex, F-Secure remains a trusted partner for businesses and consumers alike. F-SECURE

scam protection in the world," Takayama explained.

Japan is a particularly significant market for F-Secure. The company has long collaborated with major telecom operators, working with more than half of the country's leading players. These partnerships include providing F-Secure's security engine for operator-owned applications or delivering white-label security solutions that partners can brand as their own.

"With the rapid increase in online fraud in Japan, we will work together with our partners to provide a safe and secure environment for end users," Takayama said.

Furthermore, partnerships with several telecom players in Japan underscore this commitment, particularly in monitoring the safety of online communication and personal information.

F-Secure is also responding

to the rise of AI-driven threats by embedding AI at the core of its solutions. Its newest features, including AI-powered short message service scam protection, focus on real-world risks such as phishing, impersonation and financial fraud.

"Protection alone isn't enough," Takayama emphasized. "Trust is built through transparency, privacy-by-design and seamless user experience. We give users full control over what they share — no backdoors, just full transparency."

With cyberattacks growing more complex, F-Secure remains a trusted partner for businesses and consumers alike, ensuring that security evolves as fast as the threats themselves. ■

www.f-secure.com/en



From dorm to orbit: Iceye's satellite revolution reaches Japan

Founded in 2014 by two students at Aalto University in Finland, Iceye set out to rethink how satellites could be built and operated. The company launched its first satellite in 2018 and has since deployed 54 satellites into orbit, thereby positioning itself as a leader in synthetic aperture radar technology.

"These young engineers said: 'How long do you keep your phone for? You keep it for a few years and get a new one. Let's do that in space,'" said Dylan Monaghan, head of missions in Japan, describing the company's origin story. Instead of building large, costly satellites designed to last decades, Iceye pioneered compact, cost-effective satellites that can be launched in greater numbers, improving coverage and responsiveness.

This approach enabled Iceye to provide frequent, high-quality data regardless of weather or daylight conditions.

"We can see millimeter differences where the Earth is rising and falling," Monaghan explained. "For the first time ever, we predicted a volcanic eruption from space, allowing Iceland to evacuate a town before it was covered in lava and ultimately avoiding injuries."

Today, Iceye's satellites are used worldwide for border monitoring, flood monitoring, disaster response and environmental protection. "Everything from search and rescue to flooding and fire damage — basically anything you can think of from space," he said.

Iceye has built a global organization with more than 70 nationalities. "We're always pulling in the best people," Monaghan noted, emphasizing the company's strategy of recruiting international talent to understand



Dylan Monaghan, Head of Missions in Japan ICEYE

diverse markets and customer needs.

Japan has become a key partner in this strategy. In 2020, insurer Tokio Marine approached Iceye seeking faster ways to compensate customers for disaster-related losses.

"They thought, 'What if we could do this from space?'" Monaghan said. "They came to us with this idea, and that's what started our solutions business in Japan." Japanese firms including Kajima Ventures and NEC have since invested in Iceye, and the company recently partnered with IHI Corp. to expand its Japanese presence.

Monaghan, who has spent over 30 years in Japan, focuses on building long-term relationships.

"My job here is to reach out to partners and let them know that we are sincere about working together," he said. "Nothing in Japan happens without a relationship. Over time, if



"We already share our technology with Japan without International Traffic in Arms Regulations restrictions. We're building locally — starting with our office here and soon expanding to a local factory and supply chain."

you consistently deliver what people need, they will come. But first, they have to know you're here."

Looking ahead, Iceye is strengthening its Japanese footprint. "We already share our technology with Japan without International Traffic in Arms Regulations restrictions," Monaghan said. "We're building locally — starting with our office here and soon expanding to a local factory and supply chain."

With its proven innovation track record and collaborative approach, Iceye is positioned to play a greater role in Japan's space and disaster-response sectors, bringing world-class technology closer to the communities that need it most. ■

www.iceye.com



Japan's selection of the AMV XP — the latest generation of Patria's 8x8 modular armored vehicle — has significantly enhanced the company's international standing. PATRIA

Patria strengthens strategic cooperation with Japan through local production

As Finland's leading defense and technology company, Patria has earned global recognition for its expertise in armored mobility, aerospace solutions and cutting-edge defense systems. With decades of experience and a proven track record in international partnerships, Patria has become a trusted name among allied nations seeking reliable, modular and future-ready defense solutions.

That reputation has now brought Finland and Japan closer than ever before. In early September, preparation for delivery of the first Patria-designed AMV XP armored vehicle was completed by Japan Steel Works, with delivery to Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force expected to take place thereafter. This milestone marks a historic step in bilateral defense cooperation.

The locally manufactured vehicle represents a significant step beyond procurement. Through its partnership with JSW, Patria has introduced licensed production, technology transfer and localized training to Japan — elements that align with Japan's priorities of defense modernization and resilient supply chains.

"This is our firstborn baby that actually shows what this is all about," said Patria Group President and CEO Esa Rautalinko. "This is not just a project, it is a process. Every schedule, every decision-making point, everything was executed exactly as communicated previously."

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"You can't have much higher praise and recommendations than being selected by the Japan Self-Defense Forces," Rautalinko said.



Patria has earned global recognition for its expertise in armored mobility, aerospace solutions and cutting-edge defense systems. PATRIA



Esa Rautalinko, Patria Group President and CEO PATRIA

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Patria has expanded its operations in step with shifting global security dynamics, channeling significant investment into production capacity and delivery capabilities worldwide. The endorsement of the GSDF has further accelerated interest from other nations, with "Japan mentioned by most potential customers as one universal deciding factor," according to Rautalinko.

The partnership also reflects the cultural alignment between Finland and Japan.



Patria's collaborative ethos extends across Europe as well, where its Common Armoured Vehicle System program has grown from a Finland-Latvia initiative into a multilateral framework involving Sweden, Denmark and Germany. PATRIA

"Talk less, do more. Listen more than you talk and try to understand," Rautalinko explained, noting that shared values have helped deepen cooperation. Finland's recent presidential visit to Japan, which Rautalinko also attended, further underscored these affinities and highlighted the importance of strategic collaboration.

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"It's not just about money. It's about sustainability and resilience," Rautalinko observed. The same principles underpin Patria's work with Japan, where long-term planning, efficiency and interoperability are essential to the defense partnership.

Looking ahead, the upcoming delivery marks both a defense milestone and a gateway to broader economic and technological cooperation.

"There are so many things that Japan has to offer to Finnish companies and vice versa, not just in defense," Rautalinko said. "We can strengthen our economies and importantly,

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our national securities, where we do share similar types of cultures."

With production lines now operational and the first vehicles prepared for delivery, Patria and JSW are setting a new standard for strategic cooperation, demonstrating how shared values and complementary capabilities can shape the future of Finland-Japan relations. ■

www.patriagroup.com



Sumitomo SHI FW: Building the backbone of a net-zero energy future

With over a century of experience in energy technology, Sumitomo SHI FW (SFW) has emerged as an unheralded force in the global energy transition.

Under the leadership of CEO Tomas Harju-Jeanty, who has been with the company for over two decades, the Finnish-headquartered firm has pivoted from its fossil-fuel history toward enabling sustainable, system-wide solutions for a net-zero future. Deeply passionate about sustainability and the global energy transition, Harju-Jeanty has helped guide SFW through one of the most significant transformations in its history.

"We all have a fossil history, but very few of us see a fossil future," he said.

In 2017, with the support of parent Sumitomo Heavy Industries, SFW committed to phasing out fossil-fuel tech and refocusing on three key areas: sustainable energy generation, carbon capture and gasification



Tomas Harju-Jeanty, CEO of Sumitomo SHI FW SUMITOMO

for electrofuels, and long-duration energy storage.

Rather than compete in saturated markets like solar or wind, SFW set out to develop the "missing links" that interconnect the broader energy ecosystem.

"We're not here to duplicate existing solutions," Harju-Jeanty explained. "We're focused on

building the bridges between them."

This shift also required a cultural transformation. Formerly part of a U.S.-based company, SFW joined the SHI group in 2017, a transition he said was profound.

"It wasn't a 100-day transition, it took years. But we've reached a point where Japanese corporate values and Nordic innovation are working in true alignment."

Japan's role has been central in this transformation. Through SHI, the company gained access to a wider pool of technological capabilities and a culture of long-term partnership. The result is a hybrid approach that merges Japanese precision and sustainability goals with European agility in innovation.

One notable outcome is the company's Net Zero Energy Ecosystem, a five-year research and development initiative launched in Finland with support from Business

Finland. It brings together partners across sectors to develop solutions in sustainable fuels, carbon capture and integrated life cycle technologies. "We wanted to bring structure to how these technologies connect," Harju-Jeanty said.

Today, SFW is active across Europe, the U.S., Southeast Asia and Australia, converting coal assets to sustainable biomass and waste-fueled energy.

Looking ahead, Harju-Jeanty sees promise in sustainable maritime and aviation fuels, as well as in energy storage systems that enable 24/7 renewables.

In an era defined by energy urgency, Sumitomo SHI FW is not just adapting, it is building the very architecture of tomorrow's energy systems. ■

www.shi-fw.com



Tallink Silja: A Nordic gateway for Japanese travelers

As one of Northern Europe's leading ferry operators, the Tallink Silja Line has built a reputation for turning Baltic Sea crossings into cultural journeys.

For Japanese travelers, its vessels embody Finland's welcoming spirit, presenting a curated introduction to Nordic life through iconic design, beloved Moomin characters, fine dining and world-class service. This distinctive blend has made Tallink Silja a favorite among Japanese guests, whose numbers continue to rise.

That momentum is clear: Japanese bookings have doubled year on year.

The Nordic and Baltic region is gaining significant attention in Japan, thanks to collaborative tourism efforts and increasing airline connectivity," said Mikael Hasegawa, Japan Market Sales Manager for

Tallink Silja. "Building trusted, lasting relationships with the travel trade has been crucial to our success."

Direct flights from Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya to Helsinki with Finnair and JAL, and ANA's service to Stockholm connecting with Silja Line, further strengthen demand.

Tallink Silja has invested in making the journey seamless for Japanese guests with a localized website and tailored services. Demand is rising not only for summer, but also for the coming winter season, underscoring the region's year-round appeal.

On the Silja Serenade and Silja Symphony, floating Marimekko and Moomin shops have become signature attractions. All onboard shopping is tax-free, guaranteed to be at least 20% cheaper than on land, and there are regular



Silja Symphony RAUL VAIINE

campaigns offering savings of up to 60%. This benefit makes shopping in the Moomin and Marimekko stores especially appealing.

Renovated Commodore cabins and new Marimekko-themed rooms on the Stockholm-Helsinki route also resonate strongly.

"These iconic brands align perfectly with Japanese aesthetic preferences," Hasegawa said. "The combination of Nordic timeless design and beloved Moomin characters creates unique shopping opportunities and Instagram-worthy moments that passengers treasure long after their journey."

The Helsinki-Tallinn day excursion aboard MyStar and Megastar is another highlight. Business class, with panoramic views, quiet lounges, Wi-Fi and inclusive meals and

drinks, has proven especially popular with discerning Japanese travelers.

Sustainability is central to Tallink Silja's mission. As the first ferry company to earn the Sustainable Travel Finland label, it showcases progress in emissions reduction, waste management and ethical sourcing. "This allows Japanese travelers to explore Northern Europe in a way that aligns with their values while maintaining the comfort and quality they expect," Hasegawa said.

With its mix of cultural storytelling, premium service and responsibility, Tallink Silja has become a distinctly Finnish gateway for Japanese travelers discovering Northern Europe. ■

www.tallink.com/ja



Marimekko-Themed Commodore Cabins TALLINK SILJA LINE