“Focus on the Future”
Automotive Research Conferences

Inside Japan: Understanding the Current and Future Japanese Domestic and Global Automotive Industry

Friday, April 19, 2013
9am to 4:00pm

University of Michigan, The Michigan Union, Anderson Room (1st Floor)
530 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1265

Conference Agenda

8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Welcome
Bruce Belzowski, Assistant Research Scientist, University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, will introduce the key issues and moderate the conference.

Daniel Heller, Associate Professor, Department of Business Administration and Graduate School of International Social Science, Yokohama University will talk about his recent research that looks at the role of manufacturing engineering in the production value chain, comparing Japan to the EU and the US.

Q&A

Break

Tsuneki Matsuo, Director for User Information Affairs at the Road Transport Bureau at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism (MLIT), will talk about Japanese regulations dealing with air pollution and fuel economy, as well as the Japanese tax incentives for fuel efficient vehicles.

Q&A

Michael Smitka, Professor of Economics, Washington and Lee University, will discuss the economic changes taking place in Japan and their effects on the auto industry. This will include demographic changes, auto market structure, the yen-dollar relationship, and role of auto dealers.  

Q&A
Noon-1:30 p.m.  Lunch Break

1:30 p.m.  Introduction: Philippe Byosiere, Professor, Doshisha Business School will introduce Japanese management and innovation strategies and moderate the afternoon session.

Terry Helgesen, Senior Vice President of Industry and Government Affairs, Denso Corporation will discuss his company’s growth over the past forty years in Japan and globally and some of the challenges the company faces as it globalizes.

Tetsushi Fujimoto, Professor, Institute for Technology, Enterprise, and Competitiveness (ITEC), Doshisha University Graduate School of Management and Policy, will discuss his work on emerging challenges in human resource management of R&D workers in the Japanese automotive industry.

Hideki S. Tanaka, Post Doctoral Fellow at ITEC at Doshisha University will join professor Fujimoto in discussing the human resource challenges facing Japanese auto companies.

Break

P.M. Session Q&A (40 minutes)

4:00 p.m.  Conference Adjourns

Inside Japan Sponsor

Doshisha University Institute for Technology, Enterprise, and Competitiveness (ITEC), Kyoto, Japan