Snow Monkeys Popular with Foreign Tourists

Buried in snow for several months of the year, the Jigokudani Yaen-koen (Hell Valley Monkey Park) is located in Yamanouchi in the Joshinetsu-Kogen National Park in Nagano prefecture, Japan. It is famous for its wild Japanese Macaques or Snow Monkeys which like to bathe and warm themselves in the open-air hot springs found in the district as snow falls softly around them. The park is home to some 160 Japanese Macaques and this is how they survive the bitter cold that settles in Jigokudani during winter. In recent years, they have been covered by foreign media and introduced on YouTube and by foreign bloggers as the Snow Monkeys – one of Japan’s winter attractions – making the area very popular with foreign tourists. In Europe and America, the monkey is normally associated with a tropical climate and so seeing them bathing in hot springs surrounded by snow provides a very rare spectacle.

For more information about the Mitsubishi Companies, see “Mitsubishi Profile” at http://www.mitsubishi.com/mpac/e/activity/profile.html
Cover Story
Rollout Ceremony for MRJ

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) and Mitsubishi Aircraft held a rollout ceremony for the MRJ (Mitsubishi Regional Jet) next-generation regional jet at MHI’s Nagoya Aerospace Systems Works in Aichi Prefecture on October 18, 2014. MHI and Mitsubishi Aircraft are now ready to proceed toward looking for the MRJ to make its first flight in 2015 and for profitability. In addition, with a four-seats-per-row configuration and environmental performance, MRJ will make a significant contribution to boosting air connectivity and profitability. In addition, with a four-seats-per-row configuration and large overhead bins the cabin offers an unprecedented level of passenger comfort for a regional jet.

The rollout ceremony was attended by numerous distinguished guests, including Akhiro Nishimura, State Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Hideki Niwa, State Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; Atsuo Kuroda, Director-General, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; and Shinichiro Ito, President and CEO of ANA Holdings Inc. From MHI and Mitsubishi Aircraft, respectively, Kawai, as well as executives of the two companies, were present.

Going forward MHI and Mitsubishi Aircraft will continue to make every effort to ensure the success of the MRJ project while at the same time playing a core role in the development of the aviation industry. The two companies are presently looking for the MRJ to make its first flight in 2015 and for delivery of the first aircraft in 2017.

http://www.mhi-global.com/story/141020.html

Successful Launch of Himawari-8 Meteorological Satellite

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries launched Himawari-8 geostationary meteorological satellite with H-IIA No. 25 rocket from Tanegashima Space Center on schedule at 14:16 JST on October 7, 2014. H-IIA flew as planned trajectory and separated Himawari-8 into the required orbit, 27 minutes 57 seconds after liftoff. Himawari-8 has been developed as the successor to the Himawari-7 currently in orbit. It was built over a five-year period at the Kamakura Works of Mitsubishi Electric awarded a contract from the Japan Meteorological Agency in July 2009.

http://www.mhi-global.com/notice/notice_20141007.html

Ceremony Marks Arrival of First Shipment from Caserones Copper Mine

On September 22, Pan Pacific Copper Co., Ltd. – a 66% owned subsidiary of JX Nippon Mining & Metals Corporation of the JX Holdings group – held a ceremony at the Sagancani Smelter & Refinery (Oita City, Oita Prefecture, Japan) marking the arrival of the first shipment of copper concentrate produced at the Caserones Copper Mine in Chile. The Caserones Project took approximately eight years to develop following the acquisition of mining rights in 2006. Production of electrolytic copper started in March 2013, followed by the production of copper concentrate in May 2014. During fiscal 2015, the first year of full operation, the Caserones Copper Mine will produce approximately 150,000 tons (copper content) of copper concentrate, equivalent to about 10 percent of Japanese copper imports.

http://www.hl.jv-group.co.jp/english/newsrelease/ fy2014/20140924_02_1050061.html

Japan’s First Order for High-Speed Train Equipment from Germany

Mitsubishi Electric has been awarded a project to modernize electrical parts on InterCity Express 2 (ICE-2) High-Speed trains by Deutsche Bahn AG (DB). The contract is worth approximately EUR 22 million, or about USD 28 million. The order is for the traction units which provide motive power for 46 ICE-2 High-Speed trains (92 cars). The new equipment uses insulated gate bipolar transistor (IGBT) power modules, which will result in lower energy consumption and longer train life due to their smaller size and lighter weight. Mitsubishi Electric will supply and install the new equipment, test the trains and assist in obtaining certification. Performance verification will be conducted on two ICE-2 high-speed trains before the new traction units are fitted to the remaining 44 trains.


High Accolades for Contribution to Whisky Industry

Kirin group company Four Roses Distillery has won three awards in the Icons of Whisky America 2014 sponsored by widely-read Whisky Magazine: Whisky Distiller of the Year – America; American Whisky Ambassador of the Year; and Whisky Visor Attraction Manager of the Year. Whisky Distiller Year – America is given to the company that has made the most outstanding contribution to the industry, and Four Roses Distillery has won this four times in the last five years: three years in a row between 2011 and 2013 and now 2015. Individual Four Roses staff who won awards were Al Young as American Whisky Ambassador and Julie Gorham as Whisky Visor Attraction Manager. Award winners Four Roses Distillery and Julie Gorham have been nominated to represent America at the Icons of Whisky World Conference 2015.

Front Line
Simulators Help Improve Railroad Safety and Operational Stability

Mitsubishi Precision, working with Japan’s Railway Technical Research Institute, has developed a railway simulator equipped with an operational training review support system. Specifically, it records operational situations while displaying up to 20 items of operational, heart rate and other data in time series graphs. The simulator allows the training session to be quantitatively evaluated, while the review support system brings points requiring reflection or further consideration to the attention of the trainee.

The company has also developed simulators for conductors and also those that allow driver, conductor, signaler and station staff to train while communicating with each other.

Putting together a series of scenarios of how to deal with abnormalities and emergencies by systematizing the almost infinite number of possible breakdowns and problems that can occur is an extremely difficult task. To enable different railroad companies to provide training that accommodates changes in regulations and the addition of the latest equipment, Mitsubishi Precision updates the program software every few years to provide the optimum learning and learning environment.

http://www.mpcnet.co.jp

Front left: Mr. Jim Fudgal Head, Market Director. Ms. Julie Gorham Marketing, Senior Manager. Mr. A Young Brand Ambassador

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Mitsubishi Precision is one of the leading simulation manufacturers of flight, ground, maritime and civil solutions in Japan and greatly supports operational training and education for safe driving. We also supply a variety of electronic equipment for aircraft and space applications as well as sophisticated parking lot management systems.

http://www.mpcnet.co.jp

Note: 1. Icons of Whisky America 2014 comprised nine categories, bestowing awards to the company, distillery and individuals which have made the most outstanding contribution to the industry over the year.
Global Spotlight

Global Spotlight focuses on employees from the Mitsubishi Companies who are excelling in their respective fields around the world. In each issue we will get to know different employees, who will tell us about their hometowns, businesses, culture, and pastimes.

Milan: A Leading Global City

When you visit Milan for the first time, you will be surprised by the mixture of old and modern architecture and charmed by its atmosphere and the mixture of cultures. In the last century, Milan has quickly become the main industrial, commercial and financial center of Italy and one of the leading global cities in fashion and industrial design.

Thanks to its important museums, theaters, and landmarks — including the Milan Cathedral (Duomo di Milano), the fourth largest cathedral in Europe, and the Chiesa di Santa Maria delle Grazie, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which contains Leonardo da Vinci’s “The Last Supper” — Milan attracts more than 2 million visitors yearly. In addition, the city hosts several cultural institutions and universities with a total enrollment of 185,000 students, 11 percent of the national total in 2011.

The business district hosts the Italian Stock Exchange and headquarters of the largest national banks and multinational companies. The city is also well known for its international events and fairs, including the Milan Fashion Week and the Milan Furniture Fair, the largest of its kind in the world.

Expo Milano 2015 — Opening May 2015

Expo Milano 2015 is a global, noncommercial event that will take place in Milan from May 1st to October 31st, 2015. The exhibition will host 130 countries which will enjoy high visibility in the exposition site, an area of 1 million square meters.

The theme of the exhibition will be “Feeding the Planet, Energy for life” and Milan is expected to welcome over 20 million visitors in 6 months. Due to the importance of the theme, the Italian Government has officially invited all member states of the United Nations and many major companies as key stakeholders in the global debate and challenges related to nutrition and food.

The exhibition is meant to give a unique experience to visitors in building awareness about and giving access to the entire world population of the right for healthy, safe and sufficient food. To find out more about EXPO Milano 2015 please visit the official website: www.expo2015.org.

What is My Work?

At present I work as HR manager for NYK Line (Italy) SpA, the shipping agent of Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha (NYK) in Italy. One of my tasks is to support our management in placing “the right person in the right place.”

To succeed, it is fundamental to recognize high potential, to train staff properly, to support and find solutions and to give recognition to the value of individual personnel. Communication is one of the key elements together with the capability to listen to people, who are all different, have different needs, desires, dreams and thoughts.

Thanks to my working background (I worked in different multinational companies in the fields of law, administration, marketing and communication), my studies in Italy and abroad, the ability to speak 4 languages, my family and my tenacity, I have an open-minded attitude and keep learning something new every day.

Working at AGC

It has been a rewarding 15-year journey for me in the AGC Building Glass division with the opportunity to take on different portfolios.

I am currently responsible for marketing interior glass and fire-resistant glass for the Asia Oceania region, in AGC Asia Pacific.

In the AGC Asia Pacific (Singapore) office, I love the strong teamwork spirit and friendly working culture. Teamwork between different departments with colleagues from different nationalities (from Supply Chain to Finance to Sales Management to Project Centre) is required to get my tasks accomplished. What I have learnt through my AGC career is that every joint in the supply chain matters.

My job involves communication with AGC offices all over the world (Asia, Japan, Belgium, US). It allows me to learn about the interesting glass market trends and the unique working cultures in each country.

This has truly widened my perspective and heightened my cultural awareness which allows me to integrate into a multicultural company (like AGC) seamlessly.

It always excites me to see a nice project reference adorned with AGC interior or fire-resistant glass. Every project is a celebration of months or even years of effort contributed by different members in the AGC team (from factory production, project specification, logistics to technical support). There is always an interesting story behind every project. How I wish I could show the nice projects to every single person in the whole supply chain!

Bonding with colleagues

Being a nature lover, I enjoy exploring new jogging and hiking routes. It allows me to explore the less-travelled and scenic areas of Singapore. To me, jogging is therapeutic. I am blessed to be surrounded by like-minded colleagues who share this same passion. Jogging has become a regular after-work group activity for us, especially with such a scenic park just next to the office. This provides a precious bonding time when we can wind down and share with each other the challenges and victories at work and in our personal lives.

Having such bonding sessions not only enhances our relationships, but also brought some moments of excitement when we were filmed for a lifestyle program on local television. This came about due to our participation in a run, a weekly jogging session organized by the local Health Promotion Board to encourage working adults from nearby work precincts to jog together. This was certainly a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

Jogging has been gaining huge popularity in recent years. There are several local running events both competitive and fun-themed races such as the 2XU Run, Safari Zoo Run, and Hello Kitty run. In a small city like Singapore, there is an event almost every other week which attracts many participants from all walks of life. Every year, we participate in some local running events as a group. We will motivate each other in training and look forward to post race celebrations; feasting on food and recapping memories.

We recently completed the North Face 100 Singapore 2014 (Asia Pacific Series) which is an endurance trail running race. The route covers various picturesque paths where we had fun taking photos during the race. I look forward to crossing the finish line in more races with my colleagues.
Green Diamonds highlights the ongoing efforts of Mitsubishi companies to foster a greener, more sustainable planet and brighter, more vibrant communities through wide-ranging environmental and social initiatives.

Bringing Smiles to 89,000 Children in Disaster-struck Regions through Football

Kirin Group launched the Kirin KIZUNA Relief Support Project in July 2011 to help reconstruct communities affected by the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. Through the project Kirin has been working with the Japan Football Association in sponsoring touring football classes under the JFA-Kirin Smile Field program and targeting some 1,200 junior schools in the Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima Prefectures of northeastern Japan. As at October 9, 2014, these classes have been conducted at 600 schools, bringing smiles to some 89,000 children through the medium of football. The program gives the children the opportunity to enjoy football anytime by making gifts of balls and goalposts to the schools as well as by providing coaching by former members of the Japan national football team.

Charitable fund-raising by Nikon UK

Every year, employees of Nikon U.K. Ltd., a Nikon group company, select an organization to support and conduct fund-raising activities for it for one year. In 2013, they supported Macmillan Cancer Support, which provides assistance to cancer patients and their families. Most of the employees participated in their own way – some collected street donations, some ran in the London Marathon as charity runners – and they collected about 2 million yen for the cause.

In 2014, they chose to support the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. This charity supports the Royal Marsden Hospital, the world’s first specialized hospital for cancer, which provides treatment and patient care as well as conducting leading-edge research.

Minimizing the Environmental Impact of New Plant Construction

Asahi Glass group member AGC Glass Brazil implemented activities to lighten the burden on the surrounding ecosystem when it constructed a new plant. Specifically, in 2011, the company worked with local authorities to survey the surrounding ecosystem before construction began.

In the survey, priority was given to recuperation of vegetation and wildlife preservation; capture and relocation of wildlife to safer areas; and minimizing forest fragmentation by maintaining soil permeability and protecting water quality. During this survey, it was discovered that an endangered Brazilian Rosewood (Dalbergia nigra) tree was growing at the site and it was subsequently transplanted to a safe location.

An additional 33,000 trees cleared for the plant’s construction will be replanted in safe areas over the next three years, starting in 2014.

Two i-MiEVs Donated to the City of Ulan Bator

Mitsubishi Motors has donated two i-MiEV new-generation electric vehicles (EV) and one electric vehicle charger unit to the city of Ulan Bator, capital of Mongolia. Ulan Bator has made environmental protection one of its principal administrative policies and is particularly active in introducing measures against air pollution. The donation followed the city’s interest in EVs, which do not produce tail-pipe emissions that cause air pollution including carbon dioxide, nitric oxide and particulate matter. At the delivery ceremony on September 15, 2015, Ulan Bator Mayor Bat-Uul Erdene stated: “I hope to raise awareness about environmental protection in Ulan Bator and to reduce fossil fuel imports by increasing ownership of electric vehicles.”

Nikon employees collecting donations on the street for Macmillan Cancer Support