



Newsletter September 2008

EBC Secretariat News

- * **Mr. Richard Collasse** has served as the Chairman of the European Business Council in Japan (EBC) for the extraordinary period of seven years. He has decided that it's time to step down and hand the reigns over to someone else.
- * **An election committee** has been set up by the Executive Operating Board to identify candidates and hold an election of a new chairman. The process should be completed by early December.
- * Because of his exceptional service to the EBC, we will hold a **"Thank You" Buffet Lunch** on November 4 to give every member of the EBC and its stakeholder organisations the chance to meet Richard and give him their personal vote of thanks. Please sign up when you receive the flyer. We need you to be there!!
- * The EBC secretariat has a new part-time staff member, **Bjorn Kongstad**, who will be at the EBC at least until the end of February.

The Executive Operating Board in Osaka

The ECB Executive Operating Board was invited for the second year to Osaka by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI). Activities included a meeting with OCCI representatives, our own EOB meeting, presentations on projects carried out by different organizations in Osaka. The EOB also had the chance of seeing the Osaka Port, both the actual port and also different sites for new plants for production of different high-tech products such as LCD displays by Sharp and specialty glass by Corning Japan.

**Last chance to apply for the Executive Training Programme (ETP). Last day for applications are September 30. For more information and assistance with your application please contact Alison Murray at ebcam@gol.com
Deadline for applications: September 30 2008**

EBC Committee News

Medical Devices

The situation with very long product registration times still persists. Due to this there are now preliminary talks on changing the fee system. This will hopefully enable the authorities to hire more reviewers and speed up the registration times.

Construction

The committee held a well received press conference July 2 concerning energy conservation. The press conference resulted in, among other things, a six-page-article in Nikkei Architecture.

Airlines

Thanks to the Japanese government's continued emphasis on tourism a tourism agency has been established, which hopefully, can also serve as a channel for influence for the European airline industry. Furthermore, on Haneda Airport there are now plans to build a new international terminal where night hours have been offered to US and EU carriers. The committee will push for access to other hours too.

Telecom Carriers

MIC has drawn up a 10-point plan to improve the current telecom carrier situation. One of the issues at hand is how to reorganise and divide NTT.



Registration of the European (EU) Chamber of Commerce in Japan with METI

The EBC is now registered officially as The **European (EU) Chamber of Commerce in Japan** with METI. There will be no alterations of the constitution apart from an addition concerning the official registered name. The name European Business Council will still co-exist with the registered name, which in Japanese is **在日欧州(連合)商工会議所**.

The approval by METI was granted on 5 August.



Key Reminders:

- * **Funding for the White Paper is still needed.**
The goal of 5.5 million yen needed to fund the White Paper and subsidise the White Paper Launch event has not yet been met. If your company would like to sponsor or order a copy of the white paper we would really appreciate your doing so by contacting the secretariat at ebc@gol.com
- * **White Paper Launch - November 26** - the EBC White Paper will be launched at the Okura Hotel at a formal seminar-style lunch as usual. As the annual production and launching of the EBC White Paper has become a key must-attend event for the Japanese government and firmly established the EBC as a voice to be heard in Japan. This will be Richard Collasse's last formal EBC event and we NEED your attendance. Please sign up when you receive the flyer. **We need you to be there!!**
- * **"Thank You Buffet Lunch" - November 4** - to show our collective appreciation to Richard Collasse for his 7 years of dedicated and enthusiastic service to the EBC. Please sign up when you receive the flyer. **We need you there!!** We are looking for companies to sponsor this event -please contact Alison at ebcam@gol.com

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Event Calendar

September 25:
BCCJ: Welcoming of the new British Ambassador, lunch at the Okura Hotel

September 26:
6th Annual North American-European Golf Challenge

September 26:
The EU Single Market for Hydrogen Fuel Cell vehicles

September 30
ETP: Deadline

September 30
GCCJ, CCIFJ, SCCIJ: Join network reception with Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry

September 30:
What's the Buzz in BERR?

October 1:
Seminar for Executives: Strategic Planning

October 3
SCCJ: Crayfish party at the-Happo-en

October 3:
The Silver Market Phenomenon: Business Opportunities & Responsibilities in the Ageing Society

October 9:
Will the LDP Cling to Power?

October 17:
Beatlemania Night

October 20:
FCCJ Luncheon Meeting
Mr. Marutei Tsurunen
Member of Upper House

October 22:
Seminar for Executives
Business Presentation Skills

For details on these events refer to the Event Calendar on the EBC website :