



Event Calendar

July 10th

"Nomu-nication" event CCIFJ – ACCJ

Dîner mensuel du Cercle France Kansai à Osaka

DCCJ & DCCJ Social Summer Barbeque Event

July 13th

Fundamentals of Finance & Accounting for Nonfinancial Managers

July 14th

Legal & Finance for the SME Executive

IJCC Guest Speaker Evening

July 15th

Conférence - Grand Paris - projet pour l'avenir de la France et de l'Europe

3 Practical Ideas to Generate More from Your Workforce

July 16th

Japan British Society Wine Tasting

ICCJ and DIHKJ : Chambering

July 22nd

Tow day workshop seminar " Don't Let Unfamiliarity with Finance and Accounting Hold You Back "

July 23rd

BCCJ 51 Night

July 30th

Dynamic Rightsizing - HR Management in the Crisis

EBC Launches New Website

The EBC is pleased to announce the launch of our new website at <http://www.ebc-jp.com>. By exploring the reconstructed site, viewers will find a large body of information related to the business and investment environment in Japan and the structural and regulatory changes that EBC is working hard to achieve for European companies. We have tried to make our website easier to navigate to learn more about the EBC's work in Japan. A special feature is the catalogue-style layout of the 2008 EBC White Paper, which also is available as usual in PDF format.

The EBC would like to thank the staff at *Wizcorp* (<http://www.wizcorp.jp>), whose professionalism in developing the new website and meeting the multiple challenges presented by our demanding requirements has ensured that the EBC site will serve as an important source of information on issues affecting business in Japan.

EBC Calls for White Paper Sponsorship

Although the annual White Paper is the EBC's trademark report, the organisation faces a severe reduction in funding this year, which means it will be impossible to produce the 2009 version without financial support to cover the costs of production, translation, printing and distribution. Accordingly, we are calling for EBC members to kindly sponsor the publication as "Blue-Star Sponsors," "Special Sponsors" or "Sponsors" or to place advance orders. Please contact Alison Murray at ebcam@gol.com for details. We need your support more than ever.

7th Annual North America-Europe Golf Challenge - the Daimler & Chrysler Cup

The annual golf challenge will be played this year on Friday 2 October at the same venue as in previous years, Atsugi Kokusai C.C. To sign-up as a player and/or sponsor, please go to <http://www.dccgolf-japan.com>

Office Space at the EBC Available for Sub-Leasing

The EBC has space available at a reasonable cost that includes the use of all office equipment, telephone line, meeting room, utilities, broadband/wireless, stationery, storage etc. If you know of anyone wanting to lease office space that is suitable for a one-person operation, without the burden of overhead realty costs, please refer them on to Alison Murray at ebcam@gol.com for further details. The EBC can also provide office representative services for organisations.

Committee News

Banking Committee

The committee has been reviewing the latest amendment to the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law (FIEL), submitted by the Financial Services Agency (FSA) to the lower house. The committee is concerned that if there are no exemptions for products to which the new rules should not be not applied, trading of foreign government bonds and securities in Japan could be suspended and ordinary trading of Japanese stocks could decrease substantially. Look under "Press" then "Press Releases" on our renewed website for more information.

Airline Committee

The committee members have been severely affected by the initial impact of swine flu on the industry as there was a severe over-reaction in Japan, which handled the situation differently from the rest of the world. Several thousands of airline bookings were cancelled, adding a further loss of some 0.4% to Japan's GDP this year. The situation improved after domestic cases of the swine flu appeared, but there is still a reduction in bookings. Some airlines have requested the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT) to cancel some flights, but retain their slots, which normally is not possible. The committee has raised these issues with the MLIT.

Please Support our Annual White Paper

With a critical funding shortage this year, we need sponsors for the 2009 white paper. Read the top right article to find out how you can help!

EBC Chairman Visits Europe

From May 14-21, Tommy Kullberg visited Europe in his capacity as EBC Chairman. He participated in the Annual EUROCHAMBRES Congress, held in Prague, speaking about EU-Japan trade relations and current issues in Japan. In Brussels, he met with senior governmental and private officials and the Japanese Ambassador to the EU, and was impressed by the high level of goodwill and respect received on both the European and Japanese sides.

Executive Operating Board News

The EBC welcomes a new member to the Executive Operating Board: Mr. Igno van Waesberghe, representing the Board of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in Japan.

Board of Governors News

The EBC welcomes a new member to the Board of Governors: Mr. Jeroen Dalderop, President of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in Japan.

EBC Offering Consulting Services

EBC is offering its expertise on a fee-charging basis to members and non-members to deal with company-specific regulatory, non-regulatory & other trouble-shooting issues. The EBC has a long history of dealing with Japan's regulatory environment and an extensive network of key contacts among politicians and government officials. We can help with matters like approval procedures, standards, issue-specific lobbying, research, setting up of various meetings with government officials, and so on. Contact Alison Murray at ebcam@gol.com for more details.