



Press Release

Office of Economic Development

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact

Steven Brewster
(415) 577-8851 mobile
San Jose Office of Economic Development
steven.brewster@sanjoseca.gov

Cities of Osaka and San Jose to Collaborate on Opportunities for Clean Tech Innovation Partnerships

SAN JOSE, CALIF., October 13, 2010—The cities of San Jose and Osaka will host a seminar, ***Opportunities for Clean Tech Innovation Partnerships***, focusing on clean technology (cleantech) innovation collaborations 8-11 a.m., Fri., Oct. 15, in Rooms 118-120, City Hall Wing Building at San Jose City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara St. The gathering will focus on potential partnerships among companies in Osaka and San Jose and how they can create successful partnerships in the global market.

“I’d like to welcome our friends from Osaka to San Jose, the Capital of Silicon Valley, the Innovation Center of the World,” said San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed. “We look forward to fostering collaborations that will help promote the numerous clean technologies being developed here in San Jose.”

Speakers for the event include Mayor Reed; Keizo Kitayama, Vice Mayor, City of Osaka; a representative of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce

and Industry; Eric Hafter, Sr. Vice President, Solar Energy Solutions Group, Sharp Electronics Corp. and John J. Curcio, Vice President, Cupertino Electric, San Jose. The event will be moderated by James Robbins, Partner, Business Cluster Development.

“We are very pleased to be in San Jose, the Capital of Silicon Valley and to be co-sponsoring this event. We see it as the first step in establishing a partnership between Osaka and San Jose, two global centers of clean technologies, innovation and entrepreneurship. It is an open invitation and opportunity for companies in Osaka and San Jose to come and work together to create business, economic and public-private partnerships for generations to come,” said Mr. Keizo Kitayama, Vice Mayor of Osaka.

San Jose and Osaka Recognized as Global Cleantech Hubs

The cleantech event brings together two global cities known for their advances in the cleantech sector. Osaka is the center of Japan’s cleantech industry home to three of the world’s 10 largest solar companies, 20 percent of worldwide solar panel production and an 80 percent world share of lithium-ion batteries for use in electric vehicles.

San Jose is designated as a “Solar City” by the U.S. Department of Energy, is the hub of U.S. high tech innovation and the capital of cleantech innovation. This can be attributed in part to the San Jose Green Vision, which sets 10 ambitious goals for environmental protection and economic development. This 15-year plan envisions: creating 25,000 Clean Tech jobs; building or retrofitting 50 million square feet of green buildings; installing 100,000 solar roofs (1/10 of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s 1 million solar roofs for California initiative); reducing per capita electricity use by

half; becoming a zero waste city; recycling and reusing 100 percent of the city's water; and moving to 100 percent renewable energy.

Co-sponsored by the Consulate General of Japan, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California, the San Jose Office of Economic Development, the Environmental Business Cluster, Osaka University, San Jose State University and the US Market Access Center, the event brings together cleantech luminaries from both sides of the Pacific to discuss the latest developments in cleantech and energy.

Admission to Opportunities for Clean Tech Innovation Partnerships is free. However, space is limited. To attend, please RSVP to:

economic.development@sanjoseca.gov by Oct. 14.

ABOUT THE CITY OF OSAKA

Japan's first capital and an international port, Osaka has prospered from ancient times as the gateway to the Asian mainland and as a hub for domestic transport and distribution. By flexibly absorbing cultural influences from around the world over its history, Osaka has continuously given birth to new technologies, companies and original forms of culture. Today, Osaka is the core of the second largest economic center in Japan with a population of 2.6 million people. Osaka's Chicago office is the North American access point into Osaka. Our core focus is in building mutually beneficial relationships with organizations throughout North America. For more information, please visit Osakacity.org

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City of San Jose's Office of Economic Development (OED), part of the San Jose Office of the City Manager, is committed to a vital, competitive San Jose economy that increases prosperity for people and companies and enhances City revenues. The Office—which includes the San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs—guides the City's economic strategy, provides assistance for business success, helps connect employers with trained workers, and provides art and cultural resources to our community. For more information, please visit, www.sjeconomy.com.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10th largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, to work and to live. For more information, visit, www.sanjoseca.gov.

###