

# CYBER WORLD

## Exploring the Future

2014  
No. 43

### MIMTA TOUR

Event Report

### IMTS 2014

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World Technology Center



Example workpieces at World Technology Center



Tea ceremony explanation



Tour of Zan Yu So



# MIMTA TOUR



MINOKAMO machining area



MINOKAMO assembly area



Dinner at Crescent Valley Country Club



"IKEBANA"



MIMTA (Mazak International Machine Tool Association) tours have been held several times each year since 1980. Members of these tours are customers and Mazak distributors from around the world who come to Japan. The purpose of these tours is to visit the Mazak factories in Japan in order to learn more about Mazak machine tools as well the company. Since this is normally the first time that most members visit Japan, this is also an introduction of Japanese culture

and for some, Japanese cuisine. Normally, three days are used for the Mazak plant tours in the Nagoya area and the rest of the time is spent on cultural visits – such as the tea ceremony explanation at the Zan Yu So, and sightseeing in historic cities such as Kyoto or Nara. Members of these tours also appreciate the opportunity to

make new friends from many countries as well as new contacts that can be useful in future business. For more information about MIMTA, please contact the Mazak Technical Center in your country or region. If you do join a future MIMTA tour, you will receive a heartfelt welcome in Japan.



Welcome



VERSATECH assembly



MINOKAMO plant tour



Cocktails at Crescent Valley Country Club



# IMTS 2014 Event Report

## Customer Appreciation Dinner

During IMTS 2014, an appreciation dinner was held at Navy Pier on the shore of Lake Michigan the evening of September 10th. This regular event is designed to express our gratitude with the Mazak spirit of hospitality, and also to encourage exchanges between the attendants. We invited approximately 1,000 guests from the United States and 24 other countries. Tomohisa Yamazaki, president of Yamazaki Mazak, greeted them with "Our machines exhibited at this trade show were developed in consideration of the valuable opinions from all our customers who have chosen Mazak as a partner." He continued with, "I promise that Mazak will continue to give the top priority to your opinions in order to provide even higher levels of technology and support in the future."



- 01. Navy Pier
- 02. Guests enjoying dinner
- 03. Tomohisa Yamazaki, president of Yamazaki Mazak Corporation
- 04. Brian J. Papke, president of Mazak Corporation



## Premier of Machines Designed and Developed in Kentucky

The International Manufacturing Technology Show (IMTS) 2014 was held for 6 days from September 8 to 13 at McCormick Place in Chicago, the largest exhibition center in the United States. IMTS is one of the four main international machine tool exhibitions along with EMO in Europe, JIMTOF in Japan and CIMT in China and is held every even-numbered year. Approximately 1,500 companies from more than 30 countries displayed their products. A record number of visitors attended this show indicating the strong interest to invest in new production equipment by a wide range of industries, such as automotive, aerospace and energy.

Many locally developed Mazak machines were presented at Level 3 of Hall A of the South Building, where cutting machine tools were mainly displayed.



Mazak's Booth was in a prominent front location of the South Building and was completely full of visitors a few minutes after the show opened every day. 22 of the latest Mazak machine tools were displayed under the theme "Discover More With Mazak." Nearly half of them (10 units) were US models produced in the Kentucky Plant. Developed in consideration of local requirements, the machines provided a good opportunity for the Kentucky Plant to demonstrate the expertise it has accumulated over 40 years to meet various demands from a wide range of industries. The new models that were developed and produced by Mazak Corporation attracted considerable attention – many visitors took a very close look at the innovative turret design of the Quick Turn Universal as well as the operation of the Vertical Center Universal 300 5X which was

designed in response to the requirements of the medical industry.

### Debut of New Mazatrol CNC

It was not only the machines that attracted attention in Mazak's booth at IMTS 2014. The new MAZATROL SmoothX CNC drew just as much attention as the machine tools themselves. This new system features extremely fast operation as well as exceptional surface finishes. The new operator interface display has a touch panel with operation very similar to a smartphone or tablet. Visitors were tremendously impressed by this new direction for CNC operation.

### Customer Appreciation Dinner

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# Customer Report 01

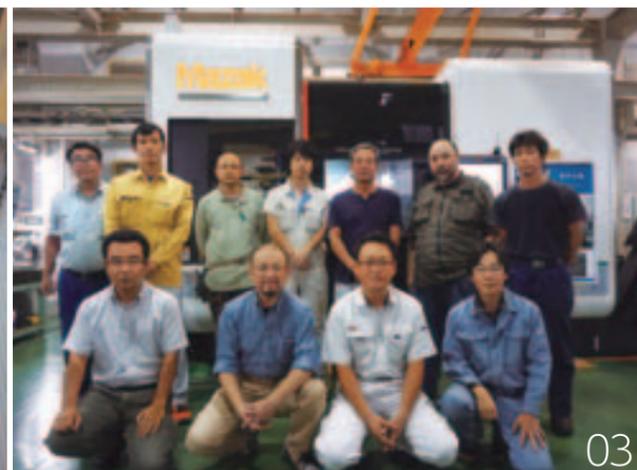
## Central Workshop Makes Parts for Tomorrow

Japan Institute of Industrial Science, the University of Tokyo

Ranging from the micro world at the quantum level to the macro world at the universe level, the Institute of Industrial Science (IIS) at the University of Tokyo covers various fields in its research activities. Having been established in the Second Faculty of Engineering in 1949, IIS is one of the largest research institutes in Japanese national universities, with five research departments, one special research department, nine research centers, one experimental facility and six collaborative research centers. The experimental equipment and instruments they need are exclusively produced by the Central Workshop.



02



03

01. The Central Workshop located on the campus of the University of Tokyo  
 02. VERTICAL CENTER SMART 530C and other Mazak machines installed in the workshop  
 03. Mr. Etsuo Yatagai, deputy head (front row, second from left) and technical staff



This workshop sign was produced by a Mazak VERSATECH V-40



Japan Institute of Industrial Science, the University of Tokyo

Central Workshop, Institute of Industrial Science, the University of Tokyo

Address : 4-6-1 Komaba, Meguro-ku, Tokyo  
 Number of staff : 13

www.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp/

"What we produce does not always exist yet. We never receive the same order again," says Mr. Etsuo Yatagai, Deputy Head of the Central Workshop, about the orders it receives. The workshop is responsible for the design and fabrication of the experimental equipment and instruments and test pieces, as well as procurement of parts and materials, required by the more than 200 laboratories working in the IIS. Most of the orders are the supply of advanced and sophisticated experimental apparatus as the Central Workshop is renowned for producing one-off workpieces suitable for the objectives of the research departments. This is the biggest difference between the roles of the Central Workshop and other general workshops that produce prototypes for future mass production products.



The same job is not ordered twice, says Mr. Yatagai, deputy head

The workshop is housed in a quaint brick building located in the premises of the IIS. With total floor space of about 1,300 square meters (13978 sq ft), the building accommodates the No. 1 Plant mainly for electrical discharge machining and the No. 2 Plant mainly for machining. Rooms for glass processing technology, wood processing technology and precision measurement are also included in the building along with a processing technology room for shared use. "It is essential to closely

work with the user in order to solve any minor problems identified after the completion of the requested work. We try to achieve the results that cannot be obtained from processing by outside subcontractors because our mission is to supply the products suitable for the research objectives," stated Mr. Yatagai. For machining applications, Mazak machine tools are used.

### High Evaluations for Ease of Operations

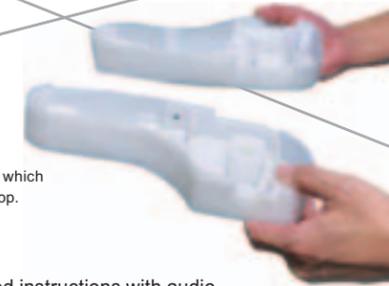
The workshop's No. 2 Plant for machining has Mazak CNC lathes, machining centers and multi-tasking machines including a SUPER QUICK TURN 15M, the first Mazak machine for the plant installed in 1992, as well as a VARIAXIS 500, a VERTICAL CENTER SMART 530C (in 2012) and an INTEGRAX i-200 (in 2014), which are arranged in an orderly fashion. It looks better equipped than a small factory. Nevertheless, the serious look on the faces of postgraduate students from various laboratories and other operators using the machines indicates that the plant is not aimed at manufacturing products for commercial purposes, but for the creation of prototypes for research activities.



Precise machining is essential for accurate experiments

One of the staff helping their operations says, "The ease of operation is most notable as even postgraduate students who operate a machining tool for the first time can easily handle the machines."

►Feet of a jumping robot which were made in the workshop.



"In particular, detailed instructions with audio guidance and error messages are very helpful for those who lack sufficient skills."

### Serving as an Incubator for Future Technologies and Human Resources

The Central Workshop has produced associated equipment and experimental components that support the Subaru Telescope at the Hawaii Observatory of the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, an autonomously navigating submarine (underwater robot) and other advanced research tools. The workshop thus covers various areas ranging from the universe to the deep sea, by doing so it serves as an incubator to develop future technologies. Most of the machining required for these research activities is performed by Mazak machine tools.



PTEROA 150, autonomously navigating underwater robot produced with Mazak machine tools

"I hope that the students use the lessons learned from the operation of Mazak machine tools in their work after graduation," mentioned the deputy head. The Central Workshop is developing not only future technologies but also the next generation of human resources.

►The Central Workshop also produces art works in addition to experimental equipment.

A beautifully shaped scale, and clear cups that form a human figure when stacked, created by artist Mr. Yasuhiro Suzuki





**MST Corporation**

President : Haruki Mizoguchi  
 Address : 1738 Kitatahara-cho, Ikoma City, Nara  
 Number of employees : 228  
 www.mst-corp.co.jp

Customer Report 02  
**Developing Next Generation Manufacturing with "Uniqueness and Creativity"**

Japan MST Corporation

MST Corporation has a history of 77 years, which is longer than any other tool holder manufacturer in Japan. While people at the age of 77 are entitled to celebrate their longevity, the company's business strategy is still youthful. A new plant was constructed adjacent to its existing plant in the spring of 2014. MST is actively introducing systems for unattended operation over extended periods to strengthen its commitment to "next generation manufacturing." The company is also devoting itself to the establishment of a system to focus on the global market.



02



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- 01. INTEGREX i-300 with
- 02. Production line
- 03. A colorfully designed wall in the new plant
- 04. Mr. Mizoguchi (back row center) and employees

Fits comfortably in your hand — Mr. Haruki Mizoguchi, President of MST Corporation, asserts that this is an essential condition for tool holders, the core product of the company. "As tool holders connect machines and tools, it is inevitable that they are handled by people. It is therefore most important that they are light and have a simple mechanism," says the president. The company was founded as "Mizoguchi Iron Works & Co., Ltd" in 1937 to manufacture industrial machinery and machine tools in Nogata, Fukuoka Prefecture (southern Japan), and started to produce tool holders for machine tools in 1946. After its move to Nara Prefecture in 1965, the name was changed to the current one in 1991. MST Corporation has pursued original technologies according to the corporate philosophy of "uniqueness and creativity" since its foundation. One of the achievements of this pursuit is the shrink-fit holder Slim Line that is the representative product of the company.



Slim Line component machining

Slim Line was originally developed to respond to rapid improvements in the speed and accuracy of machining centers. In the development process, MST focused on a chucking method in anticipation of further improvements in speed and accuracy in the future, instead of sticking to the tapered collet method, which was a specialty of the company. By doing so, MST selected the way toward technological innovation in line with its "uniqueness and creativity" policy.

**Adoption of HSK Spindle Further Promoted Relations between the Two Companies**

Shrink-fit based on thermal expansion and shrinkage of metal was not a totally new technique. Nonetheless, MST Corporation had original development technologies and expertise as it had been interested in the technique. Slim Line was put into the market in 1998, and is now widespread in manufacturing facilities as an essential high-accuracy holder for precise processing.



Many Mazak machines contribute to high-accuracy processing

The production of Slim Line tool holders involves many Mazak machines. In addition to the 12 units previously installed in the new plant, an INTEGREX i-200S, INTEGREX i-300ST and VERTICAL CENTER NEXUS 535C-II have been delivered to MST recently. The company began to introduce Mazak machines much more often when Mazak participated in the planning and consideration of the ICTM standards for HSK for multi-tasking machines, in which MST Corporation was involved as a leading company. The business relationship between MST and Mazak was deepened further when the HSK milling spindle was made available for the INTEGREX series, our flagship multi-tasking machine. The INTEGREX series has helped MST reduce the processing time and increase production, and also made it possible to perform unattended operation over extended periods by integrating the machines with robots.

**Mazak Machines are expected to Contribute to the Operation of the Unattended Factory**

The new plant aims to achieve cost reduction, delivery in a shorter period of time and next generation manufacturing in an improved environment. To meet these targets, it is promoting (1) operation of an unattended factory based on a unique automatic transfer system, (2) improvement of material handling through a review of the production system (classified by process instead of product) and (3) pursuit of better quality through improvement of the environment in the plant. Mazak's multi-tasking machines and systems, which are effective for process integration, are expected to make great contributions as the main equipment in the unattended factory.



Automated system comprised of two INTEGREXs and two robots

MST Corporation plans to raise the ratio of overseas sales from the current level of 35% to 50% with the increase of its production capacity as a result of the full-scale operation of the new plant. Its overseas inventory centers "J-compo" have been established in the United States, Germany, Hong Kong and Singapore. The focus on the global market is shared by Mazak's business strategy. The bond created through multi-tasking machines is as rigid as the two-face HSK contact system.



▶ Shrink-Fit Holder Slim Line series



01

COMPANY PROFILE



LON SHENG INDUSTRIES CO., Ltd.

Chairman of the Board : Bergen Lin  
Address : No. 15 Rencheng Rd., Dali Dist., Taichung City 412, Taiwan R.O.C.

Customer Report 03  
Production of Medical Components  
Led to Great Growth

Taiwan LON SHENG INDUSTRIES CO., LTD.

LON SHENG INDUSTRIES CO., LTD. (Bergen Lin, Chairman of the Board) was established in 1979 to process parts for home sewing machines as the main business in Taichung, which is located in the center of Taiwan. Taking advantage of the good access to all of Taiwan and the high reputation of its technical abilities, the company steadily increased its sales. However, the global financial crisis in 2008, as well as a downturn in the textile machinery industry, forced LON SHENG INDUSTRIES to review its business. To break the deadlock, Chairman Lin and other executives determined to try to process parts for different industrial sectors.



02



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01. Polished titanium bone setting plates  
02. A total of 16 machines, including the VARIAXIS j-500 and VERTICAL CENTER SMART series, installed in the plant  
03. Mr. Bergen Lin, Chairman of the Board (left) and Mr. Pao-Shu Lin, General Manager (right)

system for trial production and research. The partnership had a synergistic effect of using the strengths of both organizations.

Production Efficiency Increased by 20% after installing Mazak Machines

Changing its focus to bone setting plate processing, LON SHENG INDUSTRIES repeated research and trial production using its technical capacity developed through the processing of sewing machine parts, and eventually obtained certification for mass production. Their efforts were supported by Mazak machine tools.



Production line with Mazak machines

The company selected Mazak from many machine tool manufacturers based on "accuracy, after-sales service and value for performance." For example, processing of the plates takes much time because they are made of titanium, which is difficult to cut. "Mazak machines can process machined surfaces of high quality thanks to their rigidity. They are optimal for processing titanium products," says the company.

The first Mazak machine, a VARIAXIS 500-5X II, was installed in 2012, followed by the VARIAXIS j-500 (5 units) and the

VERTICAL CENTER SMART series (10 units) to establish a line of 16 machines in total. "The tool life was extended by developing rigid workpiece setups, and non-cutting time was reduced by accelerating the ATC cycle and vertical movement, which resulted in a 20% increase in production efficiency."

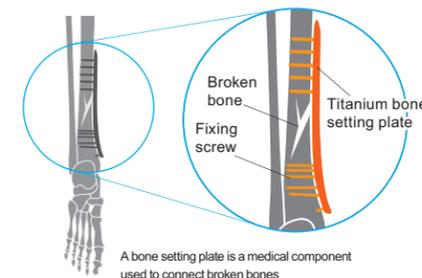


Multiple Mazak machines are integrated in a company network

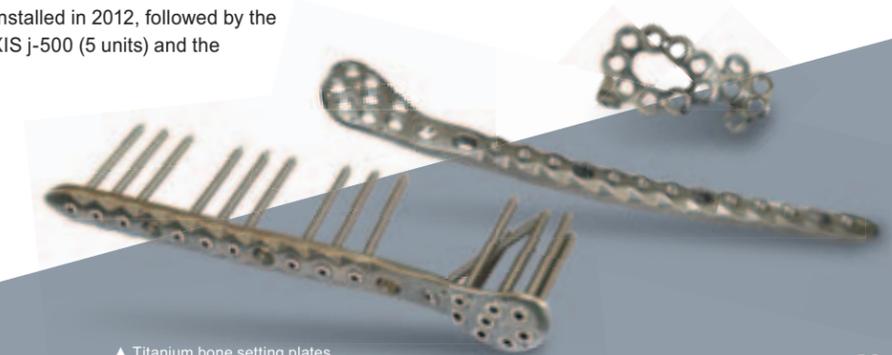
Planning to Construct a New Plant in Anticipation of an Increase in Demand for the Plates

It is expected that demand for these plates will surely increase in Taiwan. LON SHENG INDUSTRIES now plans to construct a new plant to respond to the demand increase. Installation of multiple Mazak machines is being considered to establish a line dedicated to plate processing. The company intends to develop a system to increase the production volume in line with demand growth in foreign countries as well, and also plans to introduce the INTEGRIX series and other multi-tasking machines to develop and manufacture components other than the plates.

"As medical components continue to be our priority, we would like to establish an even closer relationship with Mazak," says the company. The partnership between the two companies seems to be more solid than the titanium used in the bone setting plates.



A bone setting plate is a medical component used to connect broken bones



▲ Titanium bone setting plates



01

COMPANY PROFILE



Jiangyin Wilson Machinery Co., Ltd.

General Manager : Xu Huimin  
 Address : No. 6, Xiejing Rd, Chengjiang Town, Jiangyin City  
 Number of employees : 160  
 www.wilsonchina.com

Customer Report 04  
**Business Growth Thanks to the Introduction of Mazak Machine Tools**

China Jiangyin Wilson Machinery Co., Ltd.

From 3 million yuan (5 hundred thousand US\$) to 100 million yuan (16 million US\$) in 12 years — Jiangyin Wilson Machinery Co., Ltd. (Xu Huimin, General Manager), a precision metal processing company based in Jiangyin, Jiangsu Province, China, grew rapidly with an increase in annual production by more than 33 times over a dozen years. One of the important factors for this exception growth was Mazak machines and systems, which have continuously helped the company expand its business.



02



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01. Rotary bases for industrial robots in the plant  
 02. Compressor housing machined in the plant  
 03. HORIZONTAL CENTER NEXUS 8800-II

Ranging from heat exchangers to mechanical wheels, side panels for rapier looms and parts of aircraft fuselages, Jiangyin Wilson Machinery supplies various components to major manufacturers in China and other countries, which include globally well-known companies in such sectors as air conditioners, compressors, robots and looms. The company's capability has been officially recognized as it was awarded a high-tech enterprise certificate from the Department of Science and Technology of Jiangsu Province, as well as an AAA credit rating several times. Along with the quantitative growth, the business structure to pursue quality in a strict manner is also respected.

In 2008, when most of its competitors were using 3-axis boring machines, Jiangyin Wilson Machinery purchased a Mazak INTEGREX e-1550 V/10 II 5-axis multi-tasking machine. "Introduction of advanced production equipment improves production efficiency and greatly promotes the development of the company. While creating a profitable cycle of purchasing a machine, improving our productivity, purchasing another machine, manufacturing components with higher quality and further improving productivity (profit), and on and on — we further deepened our relationship with Mazak."



HORIZONTAL CENTER NEXUS 8800-II and Mr. Xu, General Manager

Mr. Xu, General Manager asserts that the key to the company's growth is the profitable cycle generated by the latest production equipment.

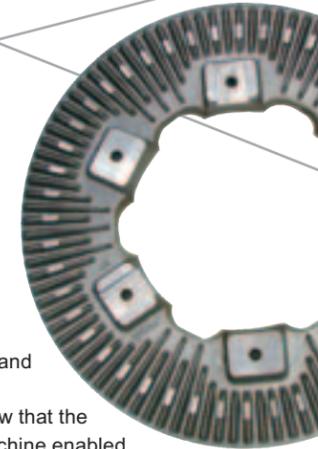


HCN μ8800 for high-mix, low volume production

**9 Mazak Machines Installed Over the Past 7 Years**

The comment of Mr. Xu is consistent with the successive purchase of Mazak machines as a result of the effect demonstrated by the first machine. The company purchased nine machines in seven years, and the plant with those machines "serves as a showroom that presents the trends of machine tools." The machining area is currently equipped with Mazak multi-tasking machines, double column machining centers, horizontal machining centers and FMS including the INTEGREX e-1550V/10 II, FJV 35/60 II, FJV 60/80 II, HORIZONTAL CENTER NEXUS 8800-II (2 units), HCN μ8800 (2 units), FH-10800 and PALETECH MANUFACTURING CELL 8800.

► Precision machined disc brake used by railroad cars



"The 5-axis machining center we purchased first fully satisfied our high demand for performance and cost effectiveness. We now know that the choice was right as the machine enabled us to meet both targets of dramatically improving the processing efficiency and reducing the labor expense," says Mr. Xu.

**Rapid Growth Supported by Automation and Intelligent Technologies**

Mr. Xu was especially impressed by the substantial improvement of the company's abilities to produce a wide variety of parts in small lot sizes after the introduction of the HCN μ8800 24-pallet FMS.

"Top manufacturers aim to seize new business opportunities through future-oriented marketing. Our company has grown dramatically thanks to the advanced automation and intelligent technologies of Mazak machines."

Jiangyin Wilson Machinery continues to receive orders at a high level, and works to establish the framework for production increase. For this reason, Mr. Xu looks forward to its further business development in the future. Under his initiative, the company will strive to continue this profitable cycle.



► Heat exchanger used in various industries, which is one of the products featuring the best of the company's technology



# MAZAK PEOPLE

Yamazaki Mazak Italia S.r.l. Sales Admin. Manager

 **Mr. Takuya Sumita**

## I want to be a leading expert of the Italian market

Yamazaki Mazak operates many bases in Japan and other countries for various functions such as production, sales and before and after-sales service and support. MAZAK PEOPLE introduces employees who are active in the forefront of the Group companies. This issue features Mr. Takuya Sumita, who has been involved with foreign markets since he joined Mazak and now works at Yamazaki Mazak Italia, the Italian Mazak subsidiary company located near Milan with a history of more than 20 years.

### PROFILE >> Mr. Takuya Sumita

Born in Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan in 1985, Mr. Sumita joined Yamazaki Mazak in 2008. He worked in the overseas sales section at headquarters where he handled the Chinese market and moved to the current position in May 2014. He likes to visit gelato shops to taste the authentic flavors, and enjoys shopping and short trips on holidays.

### A Typical Day for Mr. Sumita



#### >> Go to the office

Mr. Sumita drives from his home in Milan to the office which takes about 30 minutes. Even though cars in Japan have the steering wheel on the right side, he has become used to driving a left hand drive car.



#### >> Start of work

His work day starts by checking emails. In consideration of the time difference, he concentrates on communication with the Production Department in Japan in the morning.



#### >> Lunch

Lunch at a nearby cafe with colleagues. Authentic pizza is delicious.



#### >> Meeting

He attends a company meeting in the afternoon. Progress in projects is checked and various issues are discussed.



#### >> Seminar

Seminars are organized jointly with local sales companies. Support of such events is also an important job for Mr. Sumita.



#### >> Leave the office

Sometimes he stops at a gelato shop. The line can be as long as 30 meters (ft) but the taste is worth waiting for.

#### — What does your current job involve?

My job involves various tasks ranging from sales administration to visits to customers for business discussions, arrangement of machine specifications, support of the local sales staff including negotiation on delivery time and preparation for events and trade shows. I think that the company overseas training program I experienced in the UK and Italy in 2013 is a great help to me now.

#### — What sectors are strong in Italy now? What machine tools and other products are commonly used?

We especially receive many inquiries from customers in the automotive sectors. In fact, the Italian economy characteristically has a wide range of industries - including various industrial machinery, hydraulic equipment, agricultural machinery and energy. Italian companies are highly interested in automation, and actively use the combination of a horizontal machining center and FMS, along with robots. The INTEGREGX series and other multi-tasking machines are commonly used as well.

#### — How do you feel living and working in Italy?

At first, I was surprised by the Italian way of thinking and how people work here. They seem to have excellent ability to start doing things quickly. If they have any problems, they can quickly make corrections and keep on going. This was not what I used to, so I just tried to watch them and learned their way. I think it is a valuable experience to have other ways of thinking and working in a different country because now I can compare my way and their way and see the better sides of both.



Mr. Sumita (who is fluent in Italian) talking with a customer

#### — When do you feel rewarded at work?

As an employee sent here from headquarters, I always try to be of assistance to the local staff in any way I can. Nevertheless, it is not easy to explain the demands from Italy to Japan accurately and receive a quick response to facilitate business discussions. Therefore, I feel rewarded when I serve as an interface between the two countries and help the local staff obtain a purchase order.

#### — What will you try to achieve in the future?

I was involved in a large project right after I was assigned to Italy, but the negotiations were at a deadlock over some items. So, I visited the customer to understand the background and significance of the business discussions. By working with headquarters, eventually we and the customer came to a satisfactory conclusion. I would like to make efforts to have more experiences like that to improve my understanding of the Italian market. Then, by using my skills as a leading expert, I hope to satisfy each customer's requirements in cooperation with the local staff.

Thinking while running — anything can be turned positive by taking positive action. Now Mr. Sumita has found a different approach for working. The difference surprised Mr. Sumita as a sort of culture shock at first. But the more he becomes accustomed to it, the more he can be flexible to deal with any situation - involving the local staff in Italy or those in Japan. While he is assisting in coordinating both sides, he will steadily make progress to be a leading expert who can provide even better service in the future.



Business tool of Mr. Sumita

Useful business tools are partners for business people. Mr. Sumita particularly recommends the following item:

### BRIC'S / business bag

Mr. Sumita bought a BRIC'S leather bag in Milan. This excellent bag is compact but can accommodate even a laptop PC or a file full of documents. He says "this bag is also useful for a business trip because it can be attached to a trolley." The bag will travel around Italy and other parts of Europe with Mr. Sumita.



## News & Topics

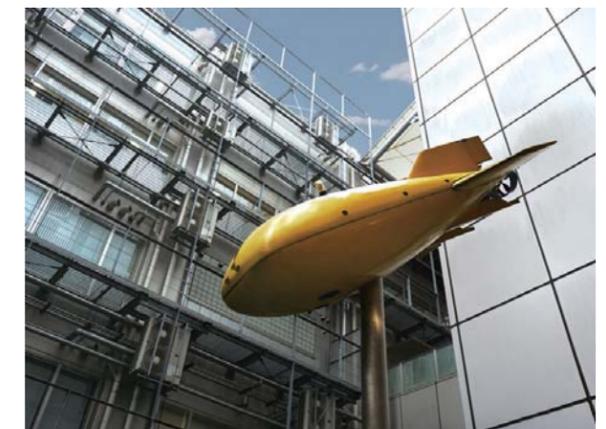
### Global Website Launched



Yamazaki Mazak renewed its website in August. A common design was introduced for all countries local websites as well as headquarters to encourage customers around the world to visit the renewed website. We update the website regularly with the latest news on new products and events. Visit our website using your PC, tablet or smartphone any time.

<https://www.mazak.com>

### This Issue's Cover



PTEROA 150, a underwater robot displayed in the cafeteria terrace of the Institute of Industrial Science at the University of Tokyo. Underwater surveys were previously conducted by a submarine with researchers on board or remotely controlled by a long cable from a surface ship. To extend the survey range, the unattended robot PTEROA 150 was developed in 1989. Mazak machines also played major roles in the production of the components of this robot.

The Yamazaki Mazak Museum of Art was opened in April 2010 in the heart of Nagoya in order to contribute to the creation of a rich regional community through art appreciation and, consequently, to the beauty and culture of Japan and the world.

The museum possesses and exhibits paintings showing the course of 300 years of French art spanning from the 18th to the 20th centuries collected by museum founder and first museum director Teruyuki Yamazaki, as well as Art Nouveau glasswork, furniture, and more.

We look forward to seeing you at the museum.



THE YAMAZAKI MAZAK MUSEUM OF ART

## Collection Showcase



BOUCHER, François (1703-1770)  
The Love Letter, 1745, oil on canvas

## François Boucher - The Love Letter

A girl reclines at the water's edge, smiling with a love letter in hand. Near her lies a little white lamb, while a herd of sheep lingers in the bushes behind, indicating that she is a shepherdess. A dog beside her appears to be a sheep dog. From the depths of the bushes a boy can be seen resting his chin on his index finger while secretly watching her, implying that the love letter is a secret message from her love.

The surface of the water and the sky cast a pinkish hue, beautifully illuminating the skin of the innocent girl, while red berries in the foliage add further beauty to the painting.

Around 1745, when this piece was painted, Boucher was reaching the zenith of his career as a painter, producing a series of high-quality works of art one after another. It is said that this painting, which was allegedly produced at the request of Madame de Pompadour, Louis XV's favorite mistress, was displayed in Bellevue Castle, which was owned by her.

## Émile Gallé - Vitrine

This piece of furniture with étagère (staggered shelves) was designed by Émile Gallé during the 1890s. Snails, cicadas and giant silkworm moths are engraved on the corbels that support the shelves, as if the creatures had crawled up the twisted pillars to get there. Bats are designed on partitions, keyholes and other places, and thistles and roses are inlaid on the door and side panels. The combination of thorny flowers with grotesque creatures is softened by the lilting rhythm of the twisting pillars to convey the atmosphere at the end of the 19th century, when various cultures were mixing. Having experience also as a botanist, Gallé was greatly charmed by the feel of wood and the rich expressions and tones of grains, and he kept hundreds of varieties of wood on hand. This piece, which draws out the characteristics of the wood to their utmost, expresses the playful mind of the artist as he enjoys combining these different types of wood.



GALLÉ, Émile (1846-1904)  
Vitrine (early 1890s)