

TFWA ANNOUNCEMENT

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TFWA APPOINTS ITS NEW REPRESENTATIVE IN JAPAN AND BIDS FAREWELL TO LOYAL COLLEAGUE

TFWA is pleased to announce the appointment of Shigeru Kikuchi as its new representative in Japan with effect from 16th October 2009.

Kikuchi, who is based in Tokyo, will be responsible for further developing TFWA relations with the duty free and travel retail industry in Japan, providing the focal point for all enquiries relating to TFWA Asia Pacific and GATE ONE2ONE as well as to the global event, TFWA World Exhibition.

He will seek to broaden and extend the Association's relationship with buyers, landlords, agents and other companies which participate in the TFWA events. He will also maintain regular contact with existing exhibiting companies and will use his local knowledge to advise on potential exhibitors.

Educated in Japan and the USA, Kikuchi has worked in the tourism and Meetings, Incentive Travel, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) industry in Japan and Singapore for the past 26 years in close partnership with travel agencies, airports, airlines, duty-free operators, MICE players, government agencies and media.

Prior to joining TFWA, he was Deputy Director MICE Japan, Business Travel & MICE, Service Quality, Leisure Marketing, and Sightseeing & Attractions at the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) in Japan and Singapore. He is also a former Member of the ASEAN Promotional Chapter on Tourism formed by the ASEAN-Japan Centre.

The appointment follows the retirement of Hiroshi Yoshino who has served as TFWA Japanese Envoy for ten years, bringing practical experience of airports, airlines and duty free to his role.

During his tenure Yoshino developed excellent relationships with the duty free and travel retail community in Japan and, through sustained promotional efforts, he has raised significantly the profile and reputation of the TFWA events.

Erik Juul-Mortensen, TFWA President: "Hiroshi san is a most highly regarded colleague and a valued friend whose dedication and professionalism have enhanced the image of TFWA in Japan over the past decade. We thank him sincerely for his considerable contribution to the Association and wish him well in his retirement.

"On behalf of my colleagues in the Association I would like to welcome Shigeru san whose broad experience of the tourism industry in Asia will, I am sure, prove invaluable as we further develop our global and Asia Pacific events."

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Ends

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