Press release 27 August 2007

Japan Organizing Committee for International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007 (JOCISF) Kimiko Nishimura, Director General of General Affairs Mitsunobu Kawakami, Director of Public Relations TEL: 03-3815-5197 Email:m-kawakami@skillsfestival2007.or.jp

2007 International Skills Festival estimates 3,452 participants from 63 countries/regions in accreditation

The 39th WorldSkills Competition (WSC) and the 7th International Abilympics (IA) to be jointly organized in Shizuoka, this November under the banner of International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007, accredits 3,452 from 63 countries/regions which includes 836 competitors from 45 countries/regions for WSC and 425 contestants from 28 countries/regions for IA.

Especially, the 39th WorldSkills Competition will become the largest event more than ever in the number of countries/regions, competitors and also delegates of which are judges, official delegates, technical delegates, official observers, observers, team leaders and interpreters. (The details are shown in table 1 and table 2.)

The confluence of both events will be the first time and an important chapter in their history. The joint opening will take place on Wednesday 14 November, followed by WSC through four days competing 48 skills categories and concurrently IA will continue for three days competing over 26 vocational skills and 6 leisure & living skills, each of which is one day competition (as shown in Table 3). The event will be an enthusiastic showcase of skilled champions on the world stage.

Table 1) Accreditation status of International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007As of 20 August 2007

| | 2007 International | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Skills Festival | The 39 th WSC | The 7 th IA |
| | | ():latest in Helsinki, | (): latest in New Deli, |
| | | Finland 2005 | India 2003 |
| Countries/Regions | 63 | 4 6 | 3 7 |
| | | (41) | (33) |
| Participants in total | 3,452 | 2,472 | 980 |
| | | (1,673) | (1,116) |
| Countries/Regions | 58 | 4 5 | 28 |
| registered in | | (39) | (23) |
| competitions/contests | | | |
| Competitors/Contestants | 1,261 | 836 | 425 |
| | | (696) | (424) |

* The accreditation status might be changed.

Table 2) The list of participants in "International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007"

| | | 39 th WorlsSkills | Competition | 7 th International Abilympics | |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| Region | on Country | Total number of | Compatitors | Total number of | Contestants |
| | | Participants | Competitors | Participants | Contestants |
| Asia | INDIA | 24 | 5 | 42 | 31 |
| | INDONESIA | 41 | 17 | 20 | 15 |
| | KOREA | 153 | 47 | 100 | 27 |
| | SINGAPORE | 81 | 16 | 32 | 24 |
| | SRI LANKA | | | 10 | 6 |
| | THAILAND | 65 | 17 | 50 | 15 |
| | CHINESE TAIPEI | 138 | 44 | 54 | 19 |
| | CHINA | | | 50 | 33 |
| | JAPAN | 163 | 51 | 173 | 82 |
| | PAKISTAN | | | 13 | 6 |
| | BANGLADESH | | | 1 | 0 |
| | PHILIPPINES | | | 26 | 14 |

| | BRUNEI | 3 | О | | |
|----------|---------------------|-----|----|----|----|
| | VIETNAM | 30 | 9 | | |
| | HONG KONG | 46 | 14 | 79 | 29 |
| | МАСАО | 27 | 10 | | |
| | MALAYSIA | 39 | 15 | 16 | 8 |
| | NEPAL | | | 2 | 2 |
| | USA | 21 | 5 | 22 | 0 |
| North | ECUADOR | 9 | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| America, | CANADA | 138 | 29 | 2 | 0 |
| Central | JAMAICA | 16 | 4 | | |
| & South | BRAZIL | 76 | 25 | | |
| America | MEXICO | 26 | 7 | | |
| - · | AUSTRALIA | 66 | 28 | 11 | 6 |
| Oceania | NEW ZEALAND | 38 | 14 | | |
| | IRELAND | 92 | 26 | | |
| | UK | 91 | 23 | | |
| | UKRAINE | | | 13 | 5 |
| | AUSTRIA | 61 | 28 | 33 | 22 |
| | NETHERLAND | 60 | 26 | | |
| | CROATIA | 13 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| | SWITZERLAND | 88 | 40 | | |
| | SWEDEN | 68 | 32 | 1 | 0 |
| | SPAIN | 44 | 8 | | |
| | SLOVAKIA | | | 24 | 15 |
| | CZECH | | | 43 | 24 |
| _ | DEMARK | 29 | 12 | | |
| Europe | GERMANY | 68 | 29 | 7 | 0 |
| | NORWAY | 52 | 25 | | |
| | HUNGARY | 14 | 4 | | |
| | FINLAND | 100 | 45 | 69 | 4 |
| | FRANCE | 101 | 43 | | |
| | BELGIUM PORTUGAL | 55 | 18 | | |
| | | 58 | 18 | | |
| | SOUTH TYROL, | 47 | 10 | | |
| | ITALY | 47 | 18 | | |
| | LICHTENSTEIN | 19 | 8 | | |
| | LUXEMBOURG | 13 | 5 | | |
| | ESTONIA | 10 | 4 | | |

| | UAE | 48 | 19 | 38 | 15 |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | IRAN | 73 | 21 | | |
| Middle | QATAR | | | 2 | 0 |
| East | KUWAIT | | | 2 | 0 |
| | SAUDI ARABIA | 14 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| | LEBANON | | | 5 | 3 |
| | GHANA | | | 6 | 5 |
| | KENYA | | | 5 | 4 |
| | CONGO | | | 5 | 0 |
| A <i>f</i> u i a a | SUDAN | | | 6 | 2 |
| Africa | TUNISIA | 14 | 5 | | |
| | SOUTH AFRICA | 28 | 6 | | |
| | MOROCCO | 12 | 4 | | |
| | RWANDA | | | 3 | 1 |
| | Total | 2472 | 836 | 980 | 425 |
| | 63 | 46 | | 37 | |

countries/regions

countries/regions in

46 countries/regions

all

4

Table 3) Diurnal Contests Program of International Abilympics

Vocational Skills Contest

| 09:00 ~ on Thursday 15 November | Hrs. | 09:00 ~ on Friday 16 November | Hrs. | 09:00~ on Saturday 17 November | Hrs. |
|------------------------------------|------|--|------|-----------------------------------|------|
| CAD-Machinery | 4.5 | CAD-Architecture | 3 | Artificial Limb Making | 4.75 |
| Creating Web Pages | 3 | Dress making (Advanced) | 6 | Basket Making | 5 |
| Date Processing (Advanced) | 3 | Electronic Circuit Connection Techniques | 3 | Computer Programming | 6 |
| Dress Making (Basic) | 4 | Furniture Making (Basic) | 6 | Data Processing (Basic) | 2 |
| Electronic Assembly & Testing | 2 | Mechanical Assembly | 3 | Dental Techniques | 5 |
| English Desktop Publishing | 3 | PC Assembly | 4 | English Text Processing | 1.25 |
| Floral Arrangement | 3.25 | Photography | 6 | Tailoring | 6 |
| Furniture Making (Advanced) | 6 | Poster Design | 6 | Wood Carving | 5 |
| Jewelry Making | 5 | | | | |
| Precision Sheet Metal Work | 2 | | | | |

Leisure and Living Skills Contest

| 09:00~ on Thursday 15 November | Hrs. | 09:00~ on Friday 16 November | Hrs. | 09:00~ on Saturday 17 November | Hrs. |
|-----------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|------|
| Embroidery | 6 | Hand-Knitting | 6 | Painting | 6 |
| | | | | Pottery | 6 |

(Annex 1)

Information on International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007

| (Program) V | Vednesday 14 November ~V | Vednesday 21 November |
|--------------|---|--|
| Dates | 39 th WorldSkills Competition | 7 th International Abilympics |
| Wednesday 14 | Joint Openir | ng Ceremony |
| Thursday 15 | Competition Day 1 | Contests & Marking, Demonstrations, Exhibition |
| Friday 16 | Competition Day 2 | Contests & Marking, Demonstrations, Exhibitions, International Convention |
| Saturday 1 7 | Competition Day3 | Contests & Marking, Demonstrations, Exhibition |
| Sunday 18 | Competition Day4 | Art Festival, Closing Ceremony (Awarding) |
| Monday 19 | Marking | |
| Tuesday 20 | Marking | |
| Wednesday 21 | Closing Ceremony(Awarding) | |

| [Venue of Joint Opening Cerem | ony] Granship (79-4, Ikeda, Suruga-ku, Shizuoka City) |
|-------------------------------|---|
| | Nearby JR Higashi-Shizuoka Station |
| [Competition Site] | 39 th WSC (Thursday 15 ~ Sunday 18 November) |
| | at Kadoike area (4044 Ooka), Numazu City 7 th IA (Thursday 15 ~ Saturday 17 November) |
| | at Twin Messe Shizuoka |
| | 3-1-10, Magarikane, Suruga-ku, Shizuoka City |
| [Venue of Closing Ceremony] | 39 th WSC (Wednesday 21 November) |

| | at Kira Messe Numazu, 1-4-1, Otemachi, Numazu City 7 th IA (Sunday 18 November) at Granship, Shizuoka City |
|---------------------|--|
| [Host Organization] | Japan organizing Committee for International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007 (JOCIS) |
| [Co-hosts] | WorldSkills International, International Abilympic Federation, Rehabilitation International, Shizuoka Prefecture, Shizuoka City, Numazu City |
| [Sponsorship] | Ministry of Health, labor and Welfare, Cabinet Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Japan Organization for Employment of the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities, Employment and Human Resources Development Organization, The National Federation of Certified Skilled Workers Associations, National Governors Association, National Federation of Small Business Associations, Japan Vocational Ability Development Association, The Promotion Office of the WorldSkills Competition and the International Abilympics of Shizuoka Prefecture Government, Japan Business Federation, The Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, The Japan Newspaper Publishers & Editors Association, Japan Broadcasting Corporation, National Association of Commercial Broadcasters in Japan |

[Information on Event] <u>http://www.skillsfestival2007.or.jp/</u>

[Expected Visitors] 200, 000 or more visitors

The 39th WorldSkills Competition

The WorldSkills Competition has been held every two years since 1980s over the last a half century as the premier world event for the youth skills champions representing their nations/regions to facilitate new opportunities for skills innovation and to encourage the transfer of skills, knowledge and cultural exchange between participants and other young people across the world. (Age limit) not more than 22 years (or 25 years or less for some skill categories) (Number of skill categories) 48 skills/trades (Competition Time) 22 hours (Skills/Trades)

7

| Polymechanics Automation | Telecommunication Distribution Technology | Manufacturing Team Challenge |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Mechatronics | Mech. Eng. CADD | CNC Turning |
| CNC Milling | IT/Software Applications | Welding |
| Printing | Wall & Floor Tiling | Autobody Repair |
| Metal Roofing | Plumbing | Industrial Electronics |
| Web Design | Electrician Installations | Industrial Control |
| Bricklaying | Stone masonry | Painting & Decorating |
| Cabinetmaking | Joinery | Carpentry |
| Jewellery | Floristry | Ladies/mens Hairdressing |
| Beauty Therapy | Ladies Dressmaking | Confectioner/Pastry Cook |
| Automobile Technology | Cooking | Restaurant Service |
| Car Painting | Landscape Gardening | Refrigeration |
| IT/PC Network Support | Graphic Design Technology | Caring |
| Mobile Robotics | Mould making | Bakery |
| Mechanical Device Control | Construction Metal Works | Pattern Making |
| Plastering | Sheet Metal Technology | Animator* |

*Animator = demonstration

The 7th International Abilympics

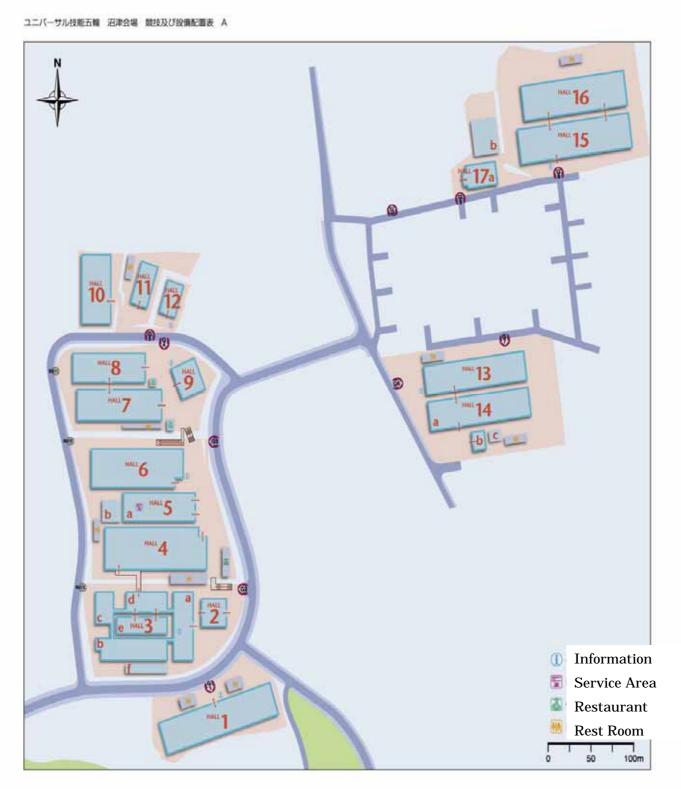
The 7th International Abilympics is held every four years to focus on contests, demonstrations and exhibitions among the disabled and to promote increasing employment opportunities and vocational stability

| (Qualifications of contestants) | 15 years old or more with disabilities |
|---------------------------------|--|
| (Skills Categories) | 30 contests (26 vocational skills and 4 leisure & living skills) |
| | as shown in Table 3 |
| (Contest time) | 6 hours or less |

(Annex 2)

Competition Site of the 39 WorldSkills Competition

1 Layout (Hall No 1 ~ No 17)

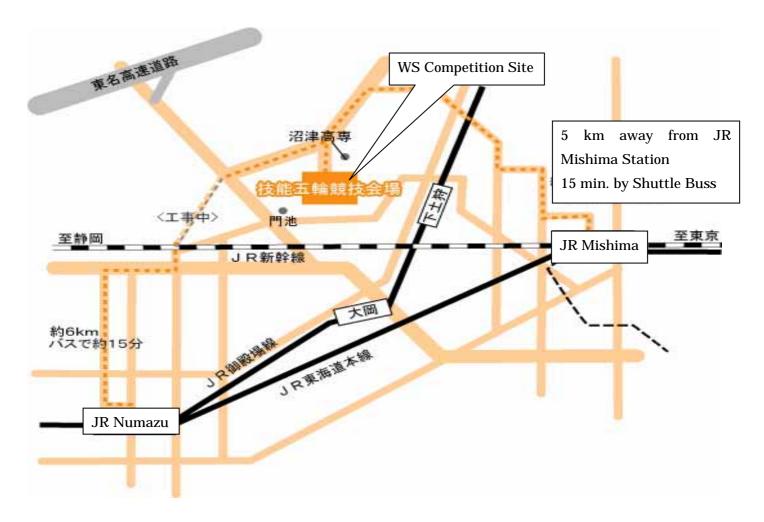


2 Functions of Halls

| Hall No. | | |
|----------|-----------------------|---|
| 1 | Competition | Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting |
| 2 | Global Skills Village | Exhibition by country/regions |
| 3 | Administration | Secretariat, Conference rooms, Restaurants for Competitors, etc., First |
| | | Aid, Day nursery |
| | Competition | Telecommunication Distribution Technology, Mechatronics, Mech. Eng. |
| | | CADD, ITPC Network Support |
| 4 | Competition | Polymechanics Automation, Manufacturing Team Challenge, CNC |
| | | Turning, CNC Milling, Printing |
| 5 | Sponsors Village | Exhibition by event sponsors |
| | Service area for | Shops |
| | visitors | |
| 6 | Competition | Mechanical Device Control, Construction Metal Works, Mould Making, |
| | | Pattern making, Sheet Metal Technology, Weldingt |
| 7 | Competition | Bakery, Confectioner/Pastry Cook, Cooking, Restaurant Service |
| 8 | Competition | Plumbing, Refrigeration |
| 9 | Japan Skills Village | Exhibitions of Skills in Japan |
| 10 | Competition | Wall & Floor Tiling, Bricklaying |
| 11 | Competition | IT/Software Applications, Web Design |
| 12 | Competition | Industrial Electronics |
| 13 | Competition | Caring, Jewellery, Ladies/Men s Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, Ladies |
| | | Dressmaking |
| 14 | Competition | Floristry, Landscape Gardening, Stonemasonry |
| 15 | Competition | Plastering, Metal Roofing, Cabinetmaking, Joinery, Carpentry |
| 16 | Competition | Electrical Installation, Industrial Control, Painting & Decorating, Graphic |
| | | Design |
| 17 | Competition | Mobile Robotics |
| | | |

1) Skills Competition lasts 22 hours over four days from 15 18 November.

2) Visitors will be admitted to enter into Halls: 10:00-17:00 on 15 November, 10:00-17:00 from 16-17 November, 09:00-16:00 on 18 November.

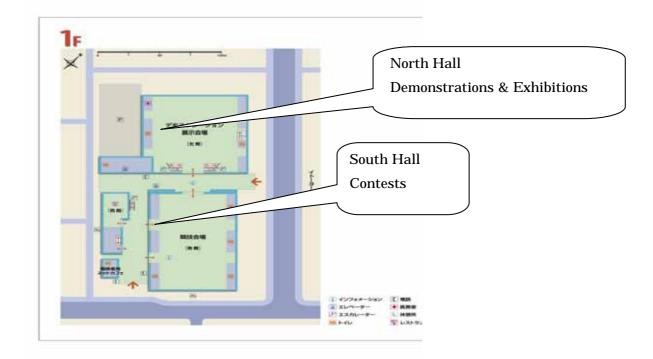


3 Directions to the 39th WorldSkills Competition Site

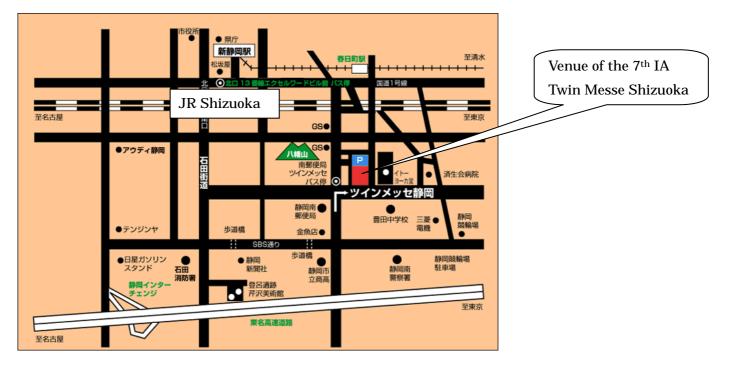
NB. During the four days competition, Shuttle bus service from JR Mishima and JR Numazu will be available for visitors..

Competition Site of the 7th International Abilympics

1 Layout



2 Directions to the Venue of the 7th International Abilympics



During the 3 days Contests, Shuttle Bus service from JR Shizuoka and JR East Shizuoka will be available for visitors.