

### 2012 Japan Die Casting Congress & Exposition

The Japan Die Casting Association (Chairman, Mr. Hiroshi Kai, President of A.K. Die Casting Industry Limited) recently revealed that the 2012 Japan Die Casting Congress & Exposition is going to be held on 8, 9 and 10 November in Yokohama. It has been held once two years, and this year's event is the 17<sup>th</sup>.

The association aims at the favorable progress of die casting industry and the effective public relations on die casting business and other concerned industries throughout this big event, which has been only one and the most informative within the die casting industry in Japan.

At the congress, the newest various studies are going to be presented, and at the same time, the latest equipments and die casted products will be shown at the exposition. The exhibitors are over 100 companies and the total visitors are estimated to exceed 20,000, the previous visitors.

According to the association's announcement,

Opening term	8, 9 and 10 November	9:00 am ~ 5:00 pm
Site	Pacifico Yokohama	
	1 - 1, Minato-mirai Nishi-ku	Yokohama

If readers should have any inquiries, please contact:

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### Our golden week holidays

We are pleased to inform you that our golden week holidays are

April 28 Saturday ~ May 6 Sunday

In Japan April 29 is a national holiday, Green Day. May 3 is a national holiday, Constitution Day. May 5 is also a national holiday, Children Day.

Since this season has the best whether, we call the first week in May "Golden Week". During this week, people go on a pleasure trip domestically or abroad. Consequently, every train and airline is fully occupied and long jams are usual on highways.

### Demand of aluminum beverage can in 2012

The Aluminum Can Recycling Association (Chairman, Mr. Takao Fujiwara, President of Showa Aluminum Can, Limited) recently revealed the estimated demand of aluminum beverage can in calendar year 2011 and 2012.

According to the announcement, the demand in 2011 increased 1.3 per cent from the previous year to 18.8 billion can, in which the demand for beer decreased 2.7 per cent and the various drinks except beer increased 5.1 per cent year on year.

The beer breweries have gloomy prospects: the beer consumption marked the highest in 2007 and then the consumption becomes lower gradually year by year causing the aging society and the decrease of drinkers.

Therefore the association estimates that the total demand in 2012 will be 18.8 billion can similar to the previous year, but the beer can is estimated 2.8 per cent of decrease. And the various drinks can except beer and imported beer is estimated increase.

The demand of aluminum beverage can in Japan has marked for past some years as follows.

2004	18.52	2007	18.52	
2005	18.42	2008	18.43	( billion can )
2006	18.36	2009	18.24	

Notes for the table on page two:

- A. beer, other alcoholic, nonalcoholic, totaled except beer, totaled domestic supply, bottle type (inside figure)
- B. empty imported
- C. canned imported
- D. canned exported
- E. totaled domestic demand

unit: 0.1 billion can, bracketed is per cent compared with the previous year.

#### JARA estimates 1.7% growth in fiscal 2012

The Japan Aluminum Refiners Association recently revealed the secondary aluminum alloy demand in fiscal 2012 starts in April 2012 and ends in March 2013.

According to the announcement, the demand in fiscal 2012 increases 1.7 per cent from the previous year to 1,508,100ton. Regarding the prediction in fiscal 2012, the association has a careful outlook; the auto production is favorable right now, but the Europe's sovereign debt crisis is still a great, unsolved and gloomy problem for world economy.

The table on page three shows the prediction of secondary aluminum alloy demand in fiscal 2012, in which 22 means fiscal 2010, 23 means fiscal 2011 and 24 means fiscal 2012.

Top line shows cast, second die cast, third sheet and extrusion, fourth steel and others and bottom total. The right side figures are the comparison with the previous year. The figures include the consumption of imported ingot. Unit is ton.

#### Nishio tea harvest opens

There are many green tea farms and processors in the Nishio area where newly budded leaves are picked and processed for green tea every May. Nationally, Nishio tea is noted for its excellent quality.

Traditionally, the fresh green tea is esteemed because of its nice taste and goodness for health. Just before the harvest season, as the photo on page four shows, some girls with traditional costume perform a classic harvest show in early May.

#### New plant awaits test run

After the completion ceremony on March 24, various facilities have been installed. Finally, the test run is expected in May. The photo on page three is our new plant.