

JARA estimates 1.4% growth in fiscal 2013

The Japan Aluminum Alloy Refiners Association held a board of directors on March 21 in Osaka, where the presumption of secondary aluminum alloy demand in fiscal 2012, started in April 2012 and ended in March 2013, and its prediction in fiscal 2013, starts in April 2013 and ends in March 2014 were approved and revealed subsequently.

According to the announcement, the presumed demand in fiscal 2012 increased 2.9 per cent from a year earlier to 1,542,700 ton. In fiscal 2012, the domestic auto production showed doldrums with both the end of a helpful support program – government subsidiaries on purchases of environmentally friendly vehicles and the somber Chinese sales plummet by a fraying Tokyo-Beijing ties.

However, the overseas auto production showed a big increase, which helped powerfully the export of component parts. As a result, the association presumed the demand in fiscal 2012 increased 2.9 per cent from a year earlier to 1,542,700 ton.

Regarding to the demand in fiscal 2013, the association calculates to increase 1.4 per cent year on year to 1,564,500 ton. The bases of the calculation are;

- (1) Domestic auto production will stagnant but the export of assembly parts will be still pretty active brought by the swelling overseas auto production.
- (2) The demand for beverage aluminum can will move sideways.
- (3) The demand for steel will not change.

The table on page one shows the prediction of secondary aluminum alloy demand, on which 23 means fiscal 2011, 24 means fiscal 2012 and 25 means fiscal 2013. 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 years.

The tonnage includes the consumption of imported ingot. Unit is ton.

Our golden week holidays

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

April 27 Saturday ~ May 5 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.

Alconix takes over Osaka Aluminum Center

A major nonferrous metals trader, Alconix Corp. revealed the buyout of Osaka Aluminum Center, Hirakata City Osaka, from Aluminum Recycle Center Limited (President, Mr. Kenji Tokugawa, Tokyo).

Aluminum Recycle Center Limited is one of the most powerful and noted aluminum scrap traders, and had three business branches, the above Osaka Aluminum Center, Nagoya Aluminum Center (Yatomi City Aichi-ken) and Chiba Aluminum Center (Chiba City Chiba-ken). Recently, Aluminum Recycle Center Limited wanted to concentrate the business power on Nagoya Aluminum Center, the biggest stronghold.

Alconix Corp. says Osaka Aluminum Center would embark copper and other

nonferrous scrap business in the future.

Mino Industry Co., Limited acquires Fruchu Limited

Mino Industry Co., Limited revealed recently the buyout of the all shares of Furuchu Limited. Mino Industry Co., Limited (President, Mr. Jun Sugimoto, Nakatsugawa City Gifu-ken) was established in 1950, They are a famous aluminum diecaster in central Japan, and have factories in Thailand, China and the U.S. Their main products are smaller parts for automobile in central Japan

Furuchu Limited (President, Mr. Shoji Suda, Oyama City Tochigi-ken) is a time-honored diecaster in eastern Japan, which products are medium and larger size for truck and industrial machines. The unification of the two major diecasters would cover central and eastern Japan extensively with whole size diecasted products. The integration effects are greatly expected.

Impact of devaluated yen

Yen devaluated to \96.5/US dollar on March 12. It was the first time for past three years and seven months. Comparing with the start of 2012, yen has devaluated really 26.8 per cent. They say the lower yen stimulates business. On the other hand, the most imported goods would cost more, and we are afraid that the higher prices of imported goods, from various energy resources to Scotch whisky and wine, would depress the consumption. The chart on page two shows the yen/US dollar market.

Two new graduates join us

On March 21, new graduates joined us. Please give them warm and kind support. They have many duties to do for the present, medical checkup, safety and sanitary education by Labor Standard Agency and freshmen training seminar by Nishio Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The photo on page three is recruits from right Mr. Daisuke Suzuki, Chairman Hisashi Amano and Miss Rina Niinomi.

Spring traffic safety campaign

Aichi prefectural government promotes the spring traffic safety campaign on April 6 ~April 15. In this season, new fiscal year starts. New pupils begin to go school and new graduates begin to go and from the office by car. The elderly go out enjoying comfortable climate. Furthermore various parties are held, welcoming, enjoying cherry blossoms and so on.

Under these circumstances, we must prevent any traffic accidents at all costs.

Company news

Welcoming recruits, we are going to make a bus excursion to Hirugami Spar on April 20 and 21. We want to enjoy the best cherry blossoms season in mountainous Gifu area thoroughly ourselves.