

Change of nonferrous metal market during past 10 years

Asuka Aluminium News has reported year end nonferrous metals market on every December news, in which the market price of zinc shows a big price rise margin. In 2016 the zinc market price skyrocketed, and at the yearend it reached ¥370/kg.

Though some rebounded price decline was expected in 2017, the market maintains still favorable tone. Zinc has been a representative and old practical nonferrous metal for brass, die casting and plating.

This price rise was not happened by a temporary imbalance of supply-demand. It is thought that there is a structural and fundamental change at zinc production. It is very difficult that it returns to old or former market, and at the same time the main zinc consumers' reactions are watched.

In the other hand, aluminum market has been very reasonable supported by a big production volume and a moderate increase of demand. However during past 10 years so many aluminum smelters shut down by unprofitability, and the capacity of production converged into China.

Today the Chinese production capacity of primary aluminum exceeds a half of whole world production volume.

Notes for the table on page one

(1) primary aluminum (2) zinc die casting (3) copper listed (4) lead listed (5) zinc listed (6) tin (7) nickel (8) gold (9) yen
unit: yen/kg except (8) and (9).

Many reservations of plant observation tour in October

Hot summer is over and the most comfortable season, autumn, has come. Reaching this best season, so many plant observation tours rushed on.

For last some years schools and local governments have executed environmental education, and Asuka plant observation tour has been one of their measures. Right now the appointments are as follows.

September 29	Nagoya City Environment Department (Meito Ward)
October 11	Ohbu City Environment Department
October 17	Nakabata Primary School (pupil)
October 27	Central Japan Die Casting Cooperative Association
October 31	Ohbu City Environment Department

The letters of thanks we received after tour show us that the tour had an impressive effects. The photo on page two is Nakabata Primary school's pupils at our plant in last December. They had a very big educational effects.

Whole Japan Labor Sanitary Week opens

Every year from October 1 to October 7, Ministry of Health and Labor campaigns to keep better healthy condition at each company. The slogan this year is as follows.

Everyone is shiny at healthy workplace.

Look at again workshop for better condition.

Aluminum cast and die cast production favorable in July

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry recently reported the production of aluminum cast and aluminum die cast in July. According to the announcement, the production of aluminum cast increased 3.6 per cent from the previous same period to 37,533 ton. In the same way, the production of aluminum die cast rose 7.1 per cent from a year earlier to 87,904 ton.

The favorable production of automobile and excellent export of knockdown parts still continued to the twelve months successive increases from a year earlier for both productions of aluminum cast and aluminum die cast.

The table on page two shows the production of aluminum cast and aluminum die cast in July, and comparison with a year earlier. (1) aluminum cast totaled (2) machines (3) automobile (4) others (5) aluminum die cast totaled (6) machines (7) electrical machine (8) automobile (9) two wheeled vehicle (10) others.

The 54th Asuka Seminar at hand

The hoped-for 54th Asuka Seminar is going to be held on 6 and 7 October at the Kira Kanko Hotel in Kira Waikiki Beach, Mikawa Bay National Park. The speaker and subject are as follows.

speaker Mr. Nakaba Ichikawa
 Chief Manager, Eco System LLC.

subject The fittest condition of molten aluminum for cast and die cast

After the seminar, a grand party in traditional Japanese fashion is held to enjoy a comfortable autumn evening, and in the morning of October 7 the 29th Asuka Golf Competition is held at the Kira Golf Club.

Every arrangement is over. All we have to do is welcome guests. The left photo on page three is the Kira Kanko Hotel.

The 7th Nishio Products Fare is held at Nishio Culture Center

One of autumn events in Nishio City, the 7th Nishio Products Fare, is going to be held on October 7 and 8 at Nishio Culture Center and Nishio Castle Park.

Every year, the various commodities made in Nishio are demonstrated and offered cheaply. It has overwhelming popularity among citizens. Furthermore as a sideshow, a classic gun show will be performed on October 7 at Nishio Castle Park.

The right photo on page three is classic gun show by “Musket troops of Nishio Domain”, devotees of classic gun.

Company news

Thanks to good care by staff, our sweet potato's harvest time has come at our small farm. On September 15, we dug a lot of pretty sweet potato, which delighted everyone thoroughly.

The Japan of today

Prime Minister Abe dissolved the Lower House on September 29 suddenly, and the election will be held on October 22. He seeks to capitalize on a fractured opposition.