



JAPAN SOCIETY
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



US-ASIA TECHNOLOGY
MANAGEMENT CENTER
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

June 1, 2016

MEDIA ALERT

***Japan – U.S. Innovation Awards Program Announces
2016 Innovation Showcase Companies Highlighting Five Visionary
Japanese Startups To Be Featured At Annual Stanford Symposium***

San Francisco, CA – The **Japan Society of Northern California** in cooperation with the **Stanford University US-Asia Technology Management Center** proudly announces five Japanese startup companies to be featured in the **2016 Innovation Showcase**.

Innovation Showcase Companies are young, rapidly growing companies founded in Japan around exciting technologies and highly innovative business ideas that have the potential for major worldwide impact. Innovation Showcase Companies are firms that show outstanding promise and are beginning to gain international traction.

The CEOs of the 2016 Innovation Showcase Companies will participate in the **Japan-U.S. Innovation Awards Symposium** at Stanford University on **Friday, July 22, 2016**.

- **Axelspace Corporation**
Yuya Nakamura, Ph.D., President & CEO
<http://www.axelspace.com/en/>
Low cost, micro-satellites for private sector satellite imaging and data service markets.
- **Floadia Corporation**
Kosuke Okuyama, President & CEO
<http://www.floadia.com/>
Embedded nonvolatile memory (eNVM) chip technology with potentially disruptive low manufacturing cost and low-power-consumption
- **Preferred Networks, Inc.**
Toru Nishikawa, Founder
<https://www.preferred-networks.jp/en/>
Deep learning (artificial intelligence) technology for industrial IoT applications such as manufacturing, automotive & healthcare
- **Spiber, Inc**
Kazuhide Sekiyama, CEO
<https://www.spiber.jp/en/>
Mass-production of spider silk using genetic engineering technology
- **Xenoma Inc.**
Ichiro Amimori, Co-Founder & CEO
<https://xenoma.com/>
"E-skin," a platform-based solution for fully customized wearable electronic apparel

At the Symposium, each CEO will share the story of the company’s innovation and subsequent progress in a panel discussion to be moderated by Ken Yasunaga, Managing Director, **Innovation Network Corporate of Japan**. The Innovation Showcase is also arranging connections for the featured companies with Bay Area experts in strategic startup growth.

According to Awards Program Steering Committee Chair, Richard Dasher, “The companies selected for the 2016 Innovation Showcase reflect the broad range of technology-intensive innovation underway in Japan today, including advanced materials, big data, and space technologies. We are proud to play a part in helping bring these exciting, dynamic young companies to the heart of Silicon Valley.”

The **2016 Japan-U.S. Innovation Awards Symposium** also will include welcoming remarks by former **U.S. Ambassador to Japan** and **Geodesic Capital** General Partner **John V. Roos**, a keynote speech by a leading executive deeply involved in U.S. – Japan innovation, and presentation of the **Emerging Leader Award** to one Japanese and one U.S. company, which are beginning to demonstrate world-changing impact. (more details to be announced shortly).

Symposium attendees will have the opportunity to see first-hand the exciting products and services offered by each Showcase company in a variety of exhibits, as well as an **unmatched opportunity to network** with thought- leaders who are active at the intersection of Japanese creativity and Silicon Valley entrepreneurship and innovation.

Now in its sixth year, the **2016 Japan-U.S. Innovation Awards Symposium** will be held **July 22, 2016** at the **Stanford University Arrillaga Alumni Center from 1:30 - 6:30 p.m.**

Additional information and registration, now in the Early-Bird period, are available at: <http://www.usjinnovate.org>.

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