

Micromachine Seminars in Europe

Seminars were held in Helsinki and Athens as part of an industry trade mission dispatched to Europe by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) from June 16 to 24, 2001. The seminars were organized jointly with local research institutions and organizations involved in the micromachine field in Finland and Greece. The objective of the two seminars, which are described below, was to disseminate information about micromachine technology in Japan and to provide opportunities at each location for interaction with specialists in this field.

Lectures by members of the Japanese mission

Speaker	Organization	Presentation Title
Takayuki Hirano	Micromachine Center	The Future Prospects of Micromachines
Haruo Ogawa	OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO., LTD.	Micro-Assembly Systems
Tatsuaki Ataka (Only in Finland)	Seiko Instruments Inc.	The Experimental Microfactory System in Japanese National R&D Projects
Shinichi Kawakita	DENSO CORPORATION	Development of Autonomous Mobile Microrobots
Munehisa Takeda	MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION	Multiple Distributed Micromachine Systems
Masaya Kakimoto	Micromachine Center/ SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, LTD.	Applications of Deep X-ray Lithography

1. Japan-Finland Summit Seminar

The Helsinki seminar was held on June 18, 2001 as part of the PRESTO program sponsored by Finnish National Technology Agency (TEKES). More than 110 participants enjoyed this grand event. Five presentations were made

by representatives of Finnish private sector, including Nokia, and the National Research Center (VTT). The following day (June 19), visits were made to VTT, automobile sensor maker VTI, and Tampere University of Technology.

2. Greece-Japan Joint Workshop on Microsystems

This seminar was held at "NCSR-Demokritos", Greek National Center for Scientific Research, on June 21, 2001. Approximately 50 participants attended and Greek speakers made six presentations. The following day (June 22), visits were made to IMEL (Institute of Microelectronics) and IMS (Institute of Material Science).



With Greece-Japan Joint Workshop participants at NCSR-Demokritos

Application Deadline Approaching for the 9th (Fiscal 2001) Research Grant Themes on Micromachine Technology

The Micromachine Center, through the establishment and diffusion of basic technology in the micromachine field, aims to contribute to the growth of Japan's industrial economy and to international society. To this purpose, the center conducts studies and research in a wide range of fields involving micromachine technology, gathers and provides data, and in conjunction with micromachine-related organizations both within Japan and overseas, is involved in research exchange and collaboration, the diffusion of micromachine technology, and public education activities.

This research grant program has been offered every year since its inception in 1993. The program's purpose is to assist college and university staff engaged in basic research on micromachines, as well as to promote further development of micromachine technology and communication between academics and people in the industrial world. The program is being offered again this year and applications from researchers in micromachine-related fields are welcome. Prospective applicants should refer to the details below.

1. Objective of the research grant

Basic research on basic technology, functional element technology, and systematization technology for micromachines

2. Research period

Theme A: April 2002 - March 31, 2003 (1 year)

Theme B: April 2002 - March 31, 2004 (2 years)

3. Application period, theme decision, and funding grant date

Application period: July 10 - October 31, 2001

(Valid if postmarked on or before October 31.)

Theme decision: Middle of March 2002

Funding grant date: End of March 2002

4. How to apply

Send a fax requesting an application form to the Micromachine Center. Be sure to include your own fax number or a fax number where we can contact you.

Micromachine Center Fax : +81-3-5294-7137

5. Qualifications

College or university faculties (professors, associate professors, lecturers, or research associates) who belong to any of the following societies or associations: Intelligent Materials Forum; The Japan Society of Applied Physics; The Society of Instrument and Control Engineers; The Society of Polymer Science, Japan; Japan Society of Next Generation Sensor Technology; The Japan Society for Precision Engineering; The Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan; Japanese Society for Medical and Biological Engineering; The Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers; Japanese Society for Artificial Organs; The Biophysical Society of Japan; Japan Society of Drug Delivery System; Japanese Society for Biomaterials; The Robotics Society of Japan; Personal Computer Users Association; Micromachine society; Research Committee on Micromechatronics

6. Other

(1) Total funding granted: Approximately 10 million yen

(The upper limit for a single research project is ¥2 million for theme A, and ¥3 million for theme B.)

(2) After the grant is decided, we may ask recipients to carry out their research in collaboration with supporting member enterprises of the Micromachine Center, as one of the objectives of this project is to encourage communication between enterprises and academics.

(3) Contact: Research Department, Micromachine Center

Niikura Bldg. 5 F, 2-2 Kanda Tsukasa-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo. 101-0048

Tel : +81-3-5294-7131

Fax: +81-3-5294-7137

Contact Personnel: Mr. Hodono

E-mail: hodono@mmc.or.jp

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Takayuki Hirano, Executive Director, Micromachine Center (MMC)
5-F, Niikura Building, 2-2, Kanda-tsukasacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0048, Japan
Tel : +81-3-5294-7131, Fax : +81-3-5294-7137
Internet Home Page <http://www.iijnet.or.jp/MMC/>

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