



# IRT 2014 held in Kushiro

The 8th International Roundtable on Automotive Recycling (IRT) 2014, hosted by the Japan Automotive Recyclers Association (NPO JARA), was held from October 1 to 4 in Kushiro City of Hokkaido, Japan. Auto recycling representatives from around the world reported on the recycling situations in their own countries and discussed future business development from the viewpoint of a global framework.

#### Globally targeted "Kushiro Statement" adopted

The Kushiro gathering marked the eighth IRT conference and the second time IRT has been held in Japan, with the first time being in Tokyo in 2007.

"We want to export our recycling systems to emerging markets," said NPO



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JARA Chairman Shigeru Tenmyo. Based o n discussions of reports on each country's current status and issues on the third and fourth days, participants adopted a sevenclause "Kushiro Statement". The statement heightened the fact that recycling efforts

in the countries involved have achieved a recycling rate of higher than 95 percent of what is required by each country's control regulations and that each of the participating associations have contributed to the recycling business in each country. In addition, the statement acknowledged the importance of grassroot efforts to raise awareness of the recycling business, as well as the importance of increasing interest by governments toward the auto recycling business in each country and of diffusing worldwide NPO JARA's Automotive Recycling Dictionary, which was designed to support personnel training.

#### JAPRA Chairman Shimizu reports on auto recycling in Japan, stressing the achievement of visualization of contribution to environmental conservation

During one of the country-report sessions, on behalf of the Japanese recycling industry, Nobuo Shimizu, Chairman of the Japan Automotive Parts



CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction Result

(based on Super-Line System)

The use of Reuse Parts saved

## 2,891 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

in September 2014

The reference figure represents the difference of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions at the vehicle repair using genuine (new) parts and recycled parts.\*

\*: Based on "Green Point System", which was jointly developed by the Japan Automotive Parts Recyclers Association and Waseda University Environmental Research Institute using a life cycle assessment (LCA) technique.



Recyclers Association (JAPRA) outlined efforts in Japan to increase the use of recycled auto parts in the Japanese market. Because awareness of recycled parts is still low in Japan, Shimuzu asserted, "I believe that demand for recycled parts will still grow in Japan." The chairman also introduced the Green Point System initiated by JAPRA. The highlight of the system is to convert the reduce impact on the environment by the use of recycled parts into numerical values, thereby helping users to decide to

### -Continued on Page 2



#### JAPAN AUTOMOBILE RECYCLE NETWORK NEWS No.81 NOVEMBER 2014 < 2 >

## JARA Corp. ties with CarPart.com

On Oct. 3, JARA Corporation announced that it formed a partnership agreement with CarPart.com, the leading U.S. automotive recycled parts system operator. The announcement was made at the venue of the IRT 2014 in Kushiro. As the first step, JARA will provide its inventory information of recycled auto parts to CarParts.com. "We will enter the mutual distribution of parts between Japan and the United States in the future," said JARA Corp. President Sosho Kitajima.

Kentucky-based CarPart.com is the largest recycled parts distributor in the United States. More than 4,000 companies in North America are registered with CarPart.com, representing 150 million registered parts on its website, which attracts 400,000 monthly viewers, with 11 million parts viewed per month. The website is available in English and Spanish, which

### -Continued from Page 1 IRT 2014 in Kushiro

use such parts with a visualized factor of the contribution to the environment. Overseas participants positively responded to the system. "The system truly provides visualization of the reduced amount of CO2. It is a new approach," said an Indian industry leader. Concerned parties overseas seem to be active in reducing CO2 whereas calls to prevent global warming recently seem to be waning in Japan, due to energy shortages following the accidents at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant hit by the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami.

#### Participants share issues

encourage transactions in or with Europe, South America, and Australia. JARA Corp. aims to complete the startup of shipping within 2015. For system cooperation with CarPart.com, JARA Corp. says that a detailed schedule will be set at the beginning of the next year.

Through its partnership with giant North American network operator CarPart.com, Japan's JARA Corp. aims to develop overseas markets for recycled auto parts. Also through mutual distribution between Japan and the United States, in which transaction volume is expected to be large, the two companies are likely to see further expansion of the market.

## Govt. hosts opinion hearing from four automotive groups

On Oct. 2, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's Recycling Working Group and the Ministry of Environment's Automotive Recycling Subcommittee

Speakers from other countries presented issues and confirmed that they will support each other. In India, the definition of end-of-life-vehicles (ELVs) is not clearly established. So the industry association in India, in order to build a base of standards and regulations, will actively promote information exchange with other countries. In Australia, more than 90 percent of recyclers do not meet the safety requirements stipulated by the government. As such, associations in other countries said they will help the Australian industry create regulations.

Participants also decided to further basic discussions on holding the next IRT in Hungary.

In addition to the discussions and other gathering at the main venue, overseas participants received a chance to tour the dismantling plant of Takahashi Shokai held their thirty-third joint meeting. The meeting was attended by automotive industry representatives, academic experts, and local body officials to gather opinions on the Automobile Recycling Law's operational status and issues to be resolved.

As representatives of the "collector" and "distributor" both specified under the law, four industry groups attended the meeting to present their reports on the operational status of the law as well as their efforts to improve operational efficiency. They were the Japan Automobile Dealers Association, Japan Light Vehicle & Motorcycle Association, Japan Used Car Dealers Association, and Japan Auto Auction Association. The associations explained how they provide to information to their member companies, how they distinguish ELVs from non-ELVs, actual operations as the collector, and the industry's positions and issues. At the meeting, participants discussed the issues and solutions to be employed from the viewpoint of improving and further promoting the 3Rs of automobiles, stable and efficient implementation of the law, and the ideal state of the recycling system. (Daily Automotive News Oct. 9 issue)

Co. on the second day. During the visit, the participants were impressed by the high levels of dismantling work and the completeness of the facilities, where they witness the recycling processes used in reuse parts production and automobile dismantling. They also had opportunities to watch a nibbler machine go to work on dismantling an ELV and to see how tires are crushed, as examples of how resource recycling is carried out in Japan.

A Spanish participant expressed praise by saying, "The dismantling efficiency here is more advanced than in Europe". Many participants also greatly evaluated the operators' skilled control of the nibbler. As such, Takahashi Shokai was able to present the quality of its facilities and the advanced skills of its personnel in the form of a "model plant" of automotive recycling in Japan.



### JAPAN AUTOMOBILE RECYCLE NETWORK NEWS No.81 NOVEMBER 2014 < 3 >



## JAPAN AUTOMOBILE RECYCLE NETWORK NEWS No.81 NOVEMBER 2014 < 4 >



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