

JETRO Houston April Newsletter

JETRO Houston <inqu-hou@jetro.go.jp>

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To: Sheridan_McKisick <Sheridan_McKisick@jetro.go.jp>

This is JETRO Houston

Dear Friends,

I hope my message finds you all well. Most of all, I hope you, your families, and your colleagues are all safe and well prepared with the necessary resources for the days ahead.

As we tackle the COVID-19 containment in the United States, it is JETRO's primary duty as a bilateral trade and investment organization between the US and Japan to maintain a deep level of interactions with Japanese companies throughout the country during these uncertain times. All of our JETRO offices have been working around the clock, though presently from our homes, to communicate with Japanese companies which have been impacted thus far.

Japanese companies in the US currently employ over 880,000 workers. In the manufacturing sector, Japanese companies are the largest foreign investor with over 400,000 workers. To support Japanese companies is to support America; Japanese companies are crucial to business and job growth of the US economy. JETRO is currently fully devoted to conducting business surveys and providing critical information primarily focused on business assistance.

For instance, we are paying the utmost attention to the effect that the spread of COVID-19 is having on labor, production, and sales for Japanese companies, as well as the types of measures other companies are utilizing. All JETRO offices (New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Atlanta, and Houston) conducted a business survey from April 6 to 8, asking existing Japanese companies with operations in the US about their business concerns and reactions to COVID-19. We received feedback from 1,048 respondents from throughout the United States. The results of this JETRO survey are in English.

JETRO's Recent Quick Business Survey: Business Concerns and Reactions to COVID-19

https://www5.jetro.go.jp/newsletter/ama/2020/covid-19_surveyresult_0409_en.pdf

Additionally, Japanese companies need information about various assistance programs in order to continue to operate smoothly. JETRO will help provide them to further their understanding of federal and state guidelines as well as public aid and assistance measures. When you believe the timing is appropriate, JETRO will make every effort to work with you to communicate to Japanese companies.

We have created a special Coronavirus page within our JETRO's Japanese website to provide information and initiatives related to Japanese companies in the US and COVID-19.

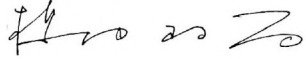
<https://www.jetro.go.jp/world/covid-19/us/>

(Website available only in Japanese)

If you encounter any assistance measures or initiatives from the state, county, city, economic development organizations, or private institutions that may be useful to Japanese companies, please share them with JETRO. We will provide Japanese companies with this information.

It is an uncertain and difficult time for all of us, however be assured that we at JETRO will make our very best effort to support Japanese companies in the United States by providing factual information and business guidance in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



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