

Osaka Business and Investment Center (O-BIC)
Achievements in Fiscal 2006(April 2006 – March 2007),
And Activities Planned for Fiscal 2007(April 2007 – 2008)

For the purpose of inviting foreign companies and organizations from abroad to Osaka, O-BIC serves as a 'one-stop-service-center' offering support free of charge to those interested in entering the Osaka market. Established in April 2001 through joint collaboration of the Osaka Prefecture, Osaka City and the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), O-BIC has been keeping its Secretariat based in the International Division OCCI which performs the role as principal organizers.

Hereunder are O-BIC's main achievements in FY2006 in successfully attracting foreign companies to Osaka and also its activities planned for FY2007:

1. Main Achievements in Fiscal Year 2006 (April 2006 – March 2007)

During FY2006, O-BIC has responded to 175 cases of various inquiries, of which 55 cases are concerned with investment, consisting of 24 from China, 5 from the U.S. and 4 from Taiwan, with those of China standing out again similarly to FY2005. (23 from China out of the whole 57 cases of investment)

Of the above cases of investment for FY2006, O-BIC succeeded in inviting 24 companies to settle in Osaka. Through such successful cases, similar trends so far seem to continue with Asian companies taking up 58.3 percent (14 cases), and 10 companies from China (out of the 14) compose 41.7 percent of those that actually advanced into Osaka.

Breakdown of the 24 successful cases industry/business-wise shows that 9 companies are high-tech-related (IT, biotech, research & development, etc.) and another 9 are for the purpose of imports, sales and opening up a market.

In the 6 years from FY2001 to FY2006, the total achieved is 133 cases with the following year-to-year results:

FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	TOTAL
13 cases	14	33	24	25	24	133 cases

2. Activities planned for FY2007

Following the activities of the previous year, O-BIC plans to continue its emphasis on biotech/ robotics/ IT-related fields in the 'engine industries' contributing to revitalization of the Osaka economy where we will do our best to invite foreign companies, as well as to focus on attracting companies from Asia, particularly fast-developing China. We also plan to make more efforts to introduce the advantages of Osaka to executives and managers of foreign member companies belonging to Tokyo-based foreign economic organizations or chambers of commerce and industry to invite them to expand their business in Osaka. Main activities planned now for FY2007 are:

(1) To further strengthen promotional activities overseas:

O-BIC participates in 'the Japan-Korea-China INDUSTRIAL FAIR 2007 in Seoul' sponsored by JETRO and similar organizations (for display of exhibits and meetings of business talks) to be held in June 2007, not only to promote business exchange with those from Korea and China but also to make approaches to them for their companies to set up a base of operations in Osaka.

(2) For more promotion in Japan:

On May 22, we introduced the advantages of Osaka to invite to Osaka the Operating Board meeting of 'European Business Council' where many Tokyo-based European companies belong.

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<By-Country/By-Industry at a glance>

24 cases of New Entry Figures in brackets () =FY2005

Region/ Country	Industry IT/Bio Tech/ R&D	Robot Tech	Trade	Service	Import/Sales/ Marketing	Organizations /Agencies	Others	Total
Asia								
China	2			1 (2)	6 (3)	1 (3)		10 (8)
Korea	1 (1)				(1)			1 (2)
Singapore	(1)							0 (1)
India					1			1 (0)
Taiwan	1			1	(1)			2 (1)
Thailand				(1)				0 (1)
<i>Asia Total</i>	4 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (3)	7 (5)	1 (3)	0 (0)	14 (13)
North America								
USA	(4)			(2)				0 (6)
<i>North America Total</i>	0 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (6)
Europe								
UK				2 (1)	(1)			2 (2)
France	1							1 (0)
Germany	1 (1)				1 (1)			2 (2)
Switzerland	1							1 (0)
Czech	1							1 (0)
Sweden							(1)	0 (1)
<i>Europe Total</i>	4 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (1)	1 (2)	0 (0)	0 (1)	7 (5)
Oceania								
New Zealand					1			1 (0)
Australia	1 (1)							1 (1)
<i>Oceania Total</i>	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (1)
Africa								
Cote d'Ivoire			1					1 (0)
<i>Africa Total</i>	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)
Total	9 (8)	0 (0)	1 (0)	4 (6)	9 (7)	1 (3)	0 (1)	24 (25)