

JAPAN

The hot summer months in Japan tend to be a quieter time for the Affiliate before the much busier fall and winter seasons. Nonetheless, there are a number of activities to report.

The Kansai Regional Meeting on August 1 proved very popular with 55 persons registering for this periodically held event in Osaka. The Meeting is formatted as an informal dinner in a restaurant selected by the organizers, offering excellent networking opportunities as well as information exchange.

The Affiliate has newly established an Investigational Products COP under Dr. Hiroaki Ishii of Pfizer, as Leader. Henceforth, this IP COP will seek to boost its numbers and actively engage in activities of benefit to the Affiliate.

Meanwhile, the translation of "GAMP 5 Good Automated Manufacturing Practice" into the Japanese language is proceeding based on the volunteer efforts made by GAMP COP members. The target date for publication is the first quarter of 2009.

A second document currently under translation is "Commissioning and Qualification of Pharmaceutical Water and Steam Systems" due to be available to Affiliate members by the end of this year.

Meanwhile, planning is under way for the 2008 US Plant Tour, to coincide with the attendance by tour members at the Annual Meeting in Boca Raton. Leadership of the planning phase is being taken by Shigeru Nakamura, Head of Secretariat.

For more information on the Japan Affiliate and events/activities, please visit www.ispe.org or contact Ms. Natsumi Sahara, Office Manager, at ispe-japan@iris.ocn.ne.jp or tel: 81-3-3818-6737. Alternatively, contact Shigeru Nakamura, Head of Secretariat, at shigeru.nakamura@shimz.co.jp.