

## JAPAN

After a tumultuous 2011 for Japan as a nation, the Affiliate closed out its year's program on December 6 on a happy note with a successful 25th SAM & GMP Meeting hosted by AJINOMOTO PHARMACEUTICALS CO., LTD. at the company's Fukushima Plant. The format adopted for the occasion was lecture, Plant tour and reception party, arranged by the host organization in coordination with the Affiliate's Tokyo office. Notably, Plant operations had been restored by intense repair work following the damage sustained through the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake.

As the first event of 2012, the 14th Kansai Regional Networking Meeting took place in Osaka on January 27. This was truly a networking occasion for ISPE members, combined with a New Year function, led by Takashi Hoshino for the more than 30 professionals gathered.

Again event-wise, the Affiliate is now fully focused on organizing a very international Annual Meeting on April 12 and 13 at the Grand Prince Hotel Hiroshima, a resort on the Seto Inland Sea. As the commemorative 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, a special event is under preparation with a larger than usual number of distinguished overseas speakers to contribute. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Translation work into the Japanese language is ongoing for the HVAC, GEP, Sterile, IP, Maintenance, FSE and GAMP Good Practice Guides. The Maintenance document has reached the final layout work, ready for publishing in early April.

Filing of candidates for the 2012 Board members has begun and the elections themselves will be from February 6 until February 24.

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