

A Glimpse on TAPA Japan Chapter 2013



**Mr. Asou,
Chair of Japan
Sub-chapter**

TAPA Japan sub-chapter started the fiscal year of 2013 with a blast by promoting TAPA Certification Across the country and the focus was to take a peek into the possibility of introducing TAPA Certification to the food and pharmaceutical companies. In line with the USA FDA's interest into audits of food manufacturers for safety and security, especially on sanitation management and facility security, TAPA Japan sub-chapter worked rigorously towards inculcating TAPA security requirement awareness among the industry players in Japan.

The Annual Member's Meeting of TAPA Japan Chapter held in May apart from the normal routines of yearly reports saw Daisuke Watanabe PhD from the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology illustrated the theme "Evaluation of the Routes of Transportation in South East Asia". This researched presentation was about the assertion of truck transport security being centralized across many countries in South East Asia and how this web of a network is being coordinated and collaborated by the many parties be it the border patrols, the logistic players, the Custom regimes, the highway and road authorities and the companies themselves. The urge is to push TAPA-TSR to be an encompassing security standard for transport in these countries whereby the information, movement, cargo manifest and data related to every facet of the end to end transportation can be streamlined with security and safety taking the main stream in the supply chain.

TAPA Certification on promotional and public relations activities have been the focus of TAPA Japan sub-chapter and to this effect they took part by being present at RISCON 2013 (Security Show) in Tokyo. Likewise members of TAPA Japan were also at the International Medicine & Transportation Fair. iSkip an automated door manufactured by Isono-Body Corporation was in response to TAPA-TSR requirement. TAPA Japan applauds and praises Isono-Body Corporation, a Board Member of Japan Sub-chapter for its efforts to complement and support TAPA security requirements in its products.



i-skip auto-door by Isono-body co.

Mr Asou, Chairman of TAPA Japan Sub chapter was a distinguished speaker at the Food Safety Seminar organized by Bureau Veritas. Mr. Asou spoke on the theme of “latest Trends in International Food Defense with focus explanation on TAPA Food Defense Security Requirements and the United States Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). This proposed Act seeks to strengthen physical security, especially to prevent willful food contamination, to significantly minimize or prevent hazards such as food poisoning. Mr Asou correlated the significant match to TAPA FSR requirements. In the future, security of manufacturing facilities and warehouses of Japanese food companies will be strengthened in order to clear the US FDA audits. This will be an effective means of promoting TAPA certification. The US FDA has announced that the rule will be effective January 4, 2014. Mr Asou further elaborated and stressed that adopting the TAPA standards would definitely pave the way towards an easier path to obtaining the clearance from the US auditing authorities.

Mr. Asou and Daisuke Watanabe, PhD conducted the TAPA FSR Training in Tokyo. The TAPA Japan Chapter again took to public relations at the Logistics Solution Fair 2013 held at Big Site Tokyo Members for the Chapter's Security System Subcommittee conducted an on-site TAPA certification visit to Tsukagoshi Transport Co., Ltd in Kyoto and did a gap analysis. Likewise TAPA Japan Chapter is being consulted by AQ Logistics Co, TNT, Ueda Transport and a few other other companies on TAPA certification.

Mr. Asou spoke at the “Food Safety and Security Seminar” Co sponsors: Bureau Veritas and Japan Management Association on the theme of Necessity of Food Defense: To Prevent International Introduction of Foreign Objects. The participants at this seminar showed great interest and requested for more

information on TAPA standards and Security Audits leading to TAPA FSR and TSR security certification.

November 2013 witnessed the TAPA Japan Sub chapter Annual Member Meeting and Seminar. An opportunity to introduce new members, meet and greet among the members as well as an avenue to explain types of membership and status.

TAPA Japan expects 2014 to be a full throttle of activities for the chapter especially overseas supplier inspection program under FSMA may be an effective means to promote TAPA certification and many more companies will come forward to acquiring TAPA standards. In the same note, with the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) which is being reglementally being negotiated is seeing inception of implementation. New construction and renovation of warehouses and buildings in the vicinity of Narita International and Haneda International Airports is going strong to prepare for the expected increase in logistics with the implementation of the TPP. TAPA Japan is pleased to see that the National AEO Center at Osaka Customs is recommending TAPA certification to transportation companies which are aiming to earn AEO status in Japan.

TAPA Asia Board applauds the highly favored status of TAPA Japan in its endeavor and admires the reception it receives across the industry. The Board assures of its continuous support to TAPA Japan Sub chapter and will complement the activities and training by accommodating trainers and subject matter experts from the Board to Japan. Kudos to the TAPA Japan Management Committee especially the Chairman and Board members as well as all the members for their confidence and support to the Chapter in all its activities and projects.

