

The Japan Investor Relations Association Announces its Fifteenth Annual IR Grand Prix

Evaluating Investor Relations Activities at Companies that are Met with Appreciation by Investors

The Japan Investor Relations Association (JIRA, chaired by TDK Corporation chairman Hajime Sawabe) is happy to announce the recipients of its FY2010 IR Grand Prix Awards. The IR Grand Prix (Head of the judging committee: Masanobu Kaizu, Chief Research Officer at Nomura Securities CO., LTD., Financial and Economic Research Center) aims, in this fifteenth year of the program, to recognize companies that have a deep understanding of the intent of investor relations, are actively involved in them, and can point to superior results stemming from a high level of support from persons involved in the market.

Recipient companies this year had the following characteristics.

- In spite of drastic changes of financial environment, executives maintained and continued a focus on investor relations.
- They implemented presentations for the benefit of investors and disclosed easy-to-use organized information.
- The opinions of shareholders and investors were presented as feedback to the executive level, and the related divisions cooperated with investor relations.

“We evaluated investor relations activities that captured the interest of investors, such as overseas site visits and business presentations. When industry leaders are companies that implement investor relations, those are the businesses that maintain and increase activity, even when the business environment is difficult” said Mr. Kaizu, head of the judging committee. *“Also, the broader diversity in award winners is proof that the importance of investor relations has expanded in Japan.”*

Award recipients were chosen from among 322 applicant companies in 2010 that were members of the JIRA and were publicly traded companies. The winners are as listed below, one award for IR Grand Prix, six for Best IR Award, five for IR Special Award and one for Best IR Award for small and medium-sized companies, a total of thirteen company recipients.

“IR Prime Business Award”

Recipient, IR Grand Prix

Komatsu Ltd.

Recipients, Best IR Award

Asahi Breweries, Ltd.

Oriental Land Co., Ltd.

Konica Minolta Holdings, Inc.

Tokio Marine Holdings, Inc.

NISSAN MOTOR Co.,LTD.

FamilyMart Co., Ltd.

Recipients, IR Special Award

The Sumitomo Trust and Banking Co., Ltd

PARK24 Co., Ltd.

PARCO CO., LTD.

PROTO CORPORATION

Marubeni Corporation

Recipient, Best IR Award for Small and Medium-sized Companies

CyberAgent, Inc.

About JIRA

The Japan Investor Relations Association (JIRA) is a not-for-profit association founded in 1993 for the purpose of promoting investor relations in Japan. The Association sponsors educational activities and publishes a variety of IR-related information, supported by 658 members (as of October 31st, 2010). The Association became a general incorporated association on April 1, 2010. TDK Corporation chairman Mr. Hajime Sawabe serves as chair of the JIRA.

<https://www.jira.or.jp/jira/jsp/usr/english/en1.html>

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