

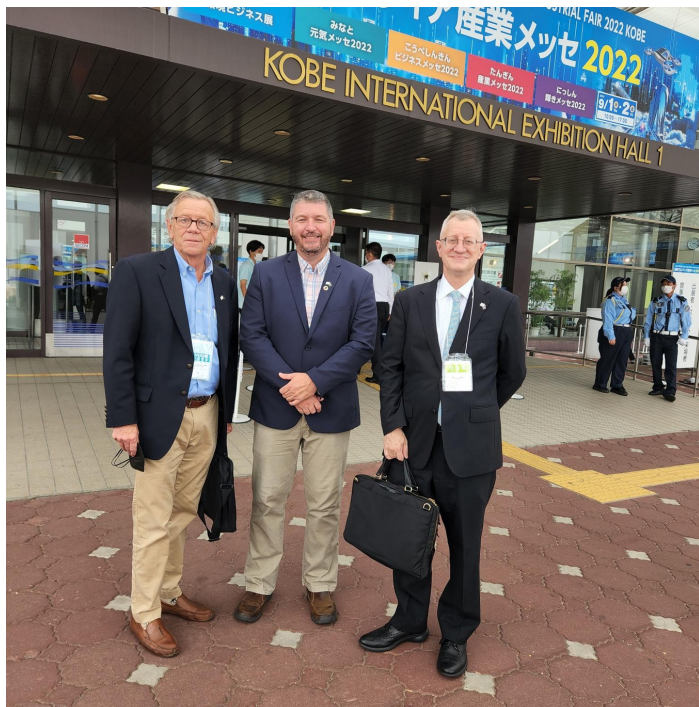


JCIDC Returns to Japan

After the past two years of COVID made international travel difficult, JCIDC returned to Japan this year which marked the first economic development visit to Japan by an Indiana community since 2019.

Seymour Mayor Matt Nicholson and Jim Plump, executive director of JCIDC, visited Japan from August 28th through September 3rd, to meet with existing companies which have invested in Jackson County, traveling to Tokyo and Nagoya, as well as attending an international trade show in Kobe with State of Indiana officials headquartered in Japan.

“A very good, productive trip,” said Plump, noting that the pandemic had prevented Nicholson from visiting Japan since he took office in 2020. “The companies were pleased to meet the Mayor and we had great discussions with them about their future plans for our area.”
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Paul Roland, right, director of the Japan Office of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, poses outside the exhibition hall in Kobe, Japan with Seymour Mayor Matt Nicholson and Jim Plump, executive director of the Jackson County Industrial Development Corporation, during the recent JCIDC visit to Japan.

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Mandy Rohdert JCIDC Workforce Partnership Coordinator

Mandy Rohdert has joined the staff of Jackson County Industrial Development Corporation as Workforce Partnership Coordinator, and she also will assume responsibilities as social media director.

Rohdert attended Seymour High School and graduated from Ball State University in 2006. She located to Nashville, TN following graduation, where she was involved with the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. In 2016, she returned to the Hoosier state when her family moved to Indianapolis, and then returned to Seymour in 2020.

Mandy and her husband, Kyle, are the parents of two sons, Bowen, 10, and Benny, 7, and says she’s happy “to be back in THE ‘Small Town’ and looking forward to making a difference in her community.”





Seymour Mayor Matt Nicholson and JCIDC Executive Director Jim Plump met with representatives of Nippon Steel Pipe in Tokyo, including Nick Hiro, far right, who recently served as President of Nippon in Seymour.

A visit to the Aisin Corporation in the Nagoya area offered Nicholson and Plump the opportunity to meet President Moritaka Yoshida, who assumed his position a year ago after 40-plus years at Toyota, plus to visit with former Chairman of the Board, Kenshiro Toyoda. Mr. Toyoda was instrumental in the company selecting Seymour for its first U.S. manufacturing operation in 1986 as well as subsequent investments in Crothersville and Seymour.

“Not to state the obvious, but a very impressive company,” said Nicholson after the visit, which also included discussions on upcoming changes to the automotive industry.

Prior to the trip to Nagoya, Nicholson and Plump were in Tokyo to meet with several companies and trade organizations, including Nippon Steel Pipe (formerly Seymour Tubing), where they met with Nick Hiro, who recently returned to Japan after spending time in Seymour as President of the local Nippon Steel Pipe facility.

In addition, a meeting with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) offered the pair a good overview of the Japanese economy post-COVID, and other meetings also were held with management of Cummins-Japan and the trade organization of Toyota.

“We were also able to meet with Paul Roland, who currently heads up the Japan office for the State of Indiana as well as past directors of the Indiana office,” said Nicholson. “That really provided me with a good history of Jackson County’s work in Japan.”

So far this year, Japanese companies have invested over \$80 million in their Jackson County facilities which will help create 83 jobs and retain nearly 2,800 workers.

E&H Tubing Expanding

E&H Tubing announced plans to invest \$2 million at its Brownstown location during a meeting of the Brownstown Town Council on October 3rd, and members of the Council approved 10-year tax abatement for the project.

Rodney Bruner, controller for the company, attended the meeting and said the \$2 million will be invested in production finishing and packaging equipment, and although the company had hoped to begin the project during 4th quarter of 2022, actual investment and installation will probably occur after the first of the year.

The company employs 80 workers at its 848 Sweet Street location.



Scott Turpin, President of Aisin World Corp. of America, is interviewed during the recent North American International Automotive Show in Detroit. Aisin had a major display touting electric vehicle components at the annual conference.



Job Fair at Crossroads Park

Beautiful weather and open job opportunities are the perfect combination for a great outdoor job fair. Over 120 job seekers recently attended a job fair held at Crossroads Park on September 22nd. Nine industries were on hand to speak with individuals about job and career opportunities at their respective places of business. Employers were extremely pleased with the attendance and genuine interest from those attending. One employer stated they ran out of applications by the end of the day and another employer stated they had a candidate for a potential Tool and Die Technician which is a diamond in the Skilled Trades Recruiting world. Another employer indicated they had tours and interviews scheduled for the following week. JCIDC Workforce Partnership continues to assist our industrial partners with their employment needs and is always pleased to coordinate opportunities to connect individuals with companies for employment. “It was a successful day,” said Jackie Hill, JCIDC Workforce Partnership Director. “It is always a question when planning these events if the weather will cooperate and what the attendance will look like. We hit a home run on both.”

Jackson County Robotics Welcomes Team from Sauers Lutheran

St. John’s Sauers Lutheran has joined the Jackson County “36 Robotics” group. This school, along with the addition of Crothersville Elementary earlier in the year, brings the total of elementary/middle schools in Jackson County to 18. Dallas Goecker announced at the last team lead meeting that Jackson County has the highest per capita participants. Tentative dates for tournaments scheduled in Jackson County at Immanuel Lutheran School are November 19, December 10, January 14, and February 25. Volunteers are needed for team practices and assistance at the local tournaments. For more information on how to become a volunteer in the VEX Robotics program, contact Jackie Hill, jackiehill@jcidc.com, or Mandy Rohdert, mandyrohdert@jcidc.com.

Maverick Challenge

Thirty nine students from Brownstown, Crothersville, Seymour, and Trinity Lutheran high schools have registered for the 2022-23 Maverick Challenge and will navigate through the Pitch – Plan – Present challenge. The field will be narrowed to ten finalists in December who will present to an oral panel in January 2023 with a winner and finalists receiving cash awards. The winning team will represent Jackson County in the regional competition in February 2023.

The Maverick Challenge is a business planning competition for high school students in Southern Indiana. The program aims to further develop the innovative spirit of our region by reaching out to high school students and showing them viable career opportunities through entrepreneurship.

Since the program began in 2011, over \$77,000 has been awarded to Jackson County students at the local, regional, and state competitions.

Along with JCIDC Workforce Partnership, the Jackson County Maverick Challenge is sponsored by the Jackson County Chamber and Brownstown Ewing Mainstreet with JC Bank being a funding contributor.

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JCIDC Staff

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Silver continued...

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Lannett Company Inc.
Lawyer Excavation
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