

# TOYO SEIKO Joins Aircraft Parts Manufacturing Cooperative

**TOYO SEIKO CO., LTD** has joined the Aircraft Parts Manufacturing Cooperative (APM) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) in a plant location agreement with Matsusaka City in Mie Prefecture, Japan. With these agreements, the framework has been laid to establish an industrial cluster centered on the Matsusaka Plant for the integrated production lines of small parts for commercial aircraft, and vertical and horizontal tails for the Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ), a next-generation regional jet.

TOYO SEIKO will provide shot peening for all integrated parts requiring the metal surface treatment produced in the Matsusaka Plant. In order to process such a large volume of parts per month, TOYO SEIKO will install several shot peening machines in the facility. The machines will be operated by TOYO SEIKO's shot peening technicians.

The shot peening job shop services provided by TOYO SEIKO are Nadcap accredited and the company is seeking AS9100 certification as well. In addition to their job peening services, TOYO SEIKO is well known for their Conditioned Cut Wire for Aerospace, High-Hardness Cut Wire, the Coverage Checker, Residual Stress Measurement Services, Ultrasonic Shot Peening Services and the distribution of shot peening-related products.

APM plans to establish a "Smart Cluster" at the site that will enable the effective and flexible integrated production of small parts for commercial aircraft, including the MRJ and airplanes manufactured by The Boeing Company. In their quest to achieve this goal and compete more aggressively in the global market, APM will blend the highly efficient manufacturing methods used in the automobile parts

industry into a aircraft parts production system in order to create a sophisticated, self-sustaining parts production system. Going forward, the participating companies aim to begin full-fledged operations in the latter half of fiscal 2016.

MHI plans to make the Matsusaka Plant a key manufacturing base for MRJ in Japan, and is preparing to begin production of vertical and horizontal tail sections by the end of March 2017.

Matsusaka City is located in the Tokai region, which is home to many aircraft-related businesses. The Japanese government has designated it as a "Special Zone to Create Asia No.1 Aerospace Industrial Cluster" in an effort to promote the development of Japan's aircraft industries. Located in the Matsusaka Core Industrial Complex, the Matsusaka Plant is also a part of this special district.

The Mitsubishi Regional Jet, currently under development, is a family of 70-to-90 seat next-generation aircraft. The MRJ drastically reduces fuel consumption, noise and emissions while offering a more spacious and comfortable cabin than existing regional jets.

With the plant location agreements as a basis for further development, MHI will strive to make the MRJ project a success, and contribute to the creation of a Japanese aircraft industry that is a highly competitive power in the global market.

"We are very pleased to have secured a shot peening contract with MHI at the Matsusaka Plant. As shot peening professionals, we are looking forward to working with them on the new Mitsubishi Regional Jet," said Yoshihiro Watanabe, President and CEO of TOYO SEIKO. ●



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