

Q-Pitch 2022

Online

Transforming the world from Kitakyushu

The industrial city of Kitakyushu, site of the former state-run Yawata Steel Works and a key player supporting Japan's rapid economic growth between 1955 and 1961, continues to honor the spirit of its unique genetic code in its drive as an SDGs Future City to realize the creation of a sustainable society.

Selected as a Startup City under the Japanese Government's Startup City Project for creating ecosystems in Japan in 2020, Kitakyushu aims to build a tech-oriented ecosystem centered on its strengths in the environment, robotics, and DX sectors.

Join us in the regional city of Kitakyushu in Japan, and rise to the challenge of innovating agile business solutions to common social issues around the world.

Date & Time

January 26 (Wed), 2022 18:00-19:30 (Japan time)

Live Stream

ZOOM Webinar

(Delivered in Japanese and English using the ZOOM interpretation function.)

※Recording will be uploaded to YouTube at a later date.

■ Program

- **Opening remarks**
Mayor of Kitakyushu
- **Game-changing initiatives in Kitakyushu City**
Industry and Economics Bureau, City of Kitakyushu
(City overview, key industries, start-up support measures, other)
Kitakyushu Foundation for the Advancement of Industry, Science and Technology
(Collaboration between industry and academia
in the Kitakyushu Science and Research Park)
- **Examples of collaborative problem-solving approaches**
DHOWA TECHNOS CO., Ltd. (Local company × foreign corporation)
SWAT Mobility Japan K.K. (Kitakyushu City (Municipality) × foreign corporation)
- **Pitches by local companies**
RYOWA CO., LTD. (DX)
Reif Co., Ltd. (Robotics)
JEPLAN Japan Environment PLANning (Environment)

■ To register:

Please register via the URL below or QR code.

A link for the webinar will be sent to your email address before the event.

URL: <https://www.kti-center.jp/invest-kitakyushu/entry.html>



■ **Deadline for register:** January 24 (Mon) 17:00 (Japan time)

【Organizers】 City of Kitakyushu, JETRO

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Participating Companies

DHOWA TECHNOS CO., Ltd.



A trading company that is mainly engaged in the supply of parts and modification/repair of electric motors, DHOWA TECHNOS is also channeling its energy into refurbishing and upgrading motors, as well as in the field of robotics with an aim to provide solutions to achieve savings in labor and reduce costs. In recent years, the company has also been focusing on the visualization business using new products and services such as IoT and drones.

In 2021, DHOWA TECHNOS concluded a three-way business partnership agreement with EVO Japan, the Japanese branch of Germany-based EVO Informationssysteme GmbH, and Libertas Advisory Co., Ltd., a company specializing in support for formulating ICT strategies, to promote DX in small- and medium-sized enterprises and develop human resources in DX using EVO's technology.

SWAT Mobility Japan



SWAT Mobility Japan is the Japanese subsidiary of a Singapore-based mobility startup that develops and operates on-demand bus operation system in seven countries around the world. The company uses dynamic routing algorithms (technology to optimize mobility) to solve transportation issues in Japan that is facing a rapidly greying population.

SWAT Mobility Japan is working with the Kitakyushu City Transportation Bureau in proposing revisions for the development of more efficient timetables based on analyses of existing bus route data using its own original techniques and technologies, and is conducting a demonstration in Kitakyushu to design services in the future.

RYOWA CO., LTD.



Founded as a company specializing in hydraulic equipment and instruments, Ryowa moved into the visual inspection business in 2011 and is currently engaged in research and development for image processing systems.

A system developed by Ryowa, which uses existing surveillance cameras to detect high-density situations (3Cs: closed spaces, crowded places, close-contact settings) and notifies individuals on smartphones and other personal terminals, is being tested in public facilities in Kitakyushu as a measure to bolster local efforts in handling COVID-19. Ryowa is also moving forward with R&D in visual inspection using AI, including the creation of a system with functions that are even closer to that of the human eye.

Reif Co., Ltd.



Reif develops, manufactures, and sells medical, rehabilitation, and nursing care robots on its mission to develop innovative tools to design a dynamic future full of smiles.

In addition to business ventures in Hong Kong and Singapore, Reif is collaborating with the Kitakyushu City Yahata Hospital and other organizations on a demonstration of bed-transport robots that can help individual caregivers move patients, saving on personnel and labor costs.

JEPLAN Japan Environment PLANning



With an aspiration to create a sustainable circular society, JEPLAN is engaged in areas that are related to all aspects of the process of the circulation of goods and products.

In manufacturing recycled polyester, JEPLAN dissolves and refines polyester fibers contained in clothing to produce polyester resin, which is used again to produce polyester fibers. JEPLAN is also involved in the business of recycling cell phones, converting these into oil through pyrolysis, and efficiently recycling rare metals.