



HANDHELD COMPUTERS AT TOKYO CONFERENCE TO ENHANCE NETWORKING AMONG INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LEADERS

HONOLULU (February 15, 2001) - Aiming to both facilitate business networking among delegates and promote pro-environment meetings that minimize paper use, delegates attending the 34th International General Meeting of the Pacific Basin Economic Council — to be held April 6-10, 2001 in Tokyo, Japan — will be issued handheld computers to be used during the conference, and after returning home to their Pacific Rim company headquarters.

As business leaders interact, participate in roundtable discussions or hear insightful and provocative speakers, they will be able to use advanced handheld computers — rather than fumbling with papers — to reference, record, and exchange information.

Minoru Murofushi, Chairman of Japan's ITOCHU Corporation and Tokyo IGM Conference Chairman, explains the meeting's "3e" approach: efficiency, electronics, and environment. "We are confident that this conference format will help create an extremely efficient, environmentally friendly conference in which participants will find it much easier to network with other participants, and keep up their discussions and build upon their contacts even after the meeting is over."

The full-featured devices that will be used at the Tokyo IGM — the **NEC MobilePro** and the **Sigmarion** from NTT DoCoMo — feature keyboards, large screens, and fast processors. Running Microsoft's robust Windows CE software, they offer desktop versatility that fits in your pocket.



Mobile Pro

PBEC's IGM is the region's premier business conference — an opportunity for the region's foremost corporate executives to gather with other international leaders to discuss, in a frank and intimate setting, the key issues in the regional economy, and to publicly issue policy recommendations and statements. The IGM typically includes major addresses given by heads of government, governmental ministers,

leaders of prominent international organizations, and senior executives of some of the largest corporations in the region.

Speakers already confirmed to present at the Tokyo IGM include Sir John Bond, Group Chairman of HSBC, Mr. Dean O'Hare, Chairman and CEO, Chubb Corporation (USA), His Excellency Gustavo Bell, Vice President, Republic of Colombia, Mr. Yoshitaka Kitao, President and CEO, Softbank Finance Corporation, Ltd. (Japan), and Mr. Keiji Tachikawa, President and CEO, NTT Docomo, Inc. (Japan).

The theme of this year's conference is "Regional Vitality in the 21st Century." A full listing of confirmed speakers, agenda, and registration materials may be obtained through the web site or contact information listed below.

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About PBEC:

- PBEC is an international association of senior business leaders representing more than 1,100 major corporations in 20 economies around the Pacific, which account for more than US \$4 trillion in global sales and employ more than 10 million people.
- PBEC is a forum through which business leaders create new business relationships, exchange views with government officials, and produce recommendations on key business issues.
- The unprecedented scope of PBEC's membership constitutes a broad and balanced reservoir of international business knowledge, unmatched in credibility and expertise. PBEC is the independent voice of business in the Pacific.



Sigmarion