

Overseas Reports

【Current Activities of Former Participants】



Kaizen Seminar (one of their Kaizen promotion activities) held by the former participants from Chile on December 4th, 2013

- 1) Course Leader: Mr. Tadashi MIYAMOTO
- 2) Former Participant: Mr. José Miguel Santana Villagra,
la Fundación para la Promoción del Kaizen
(The Kaizen Promotion Association)

May 20th, 2014

Training Division

Kitakyushu International Techno-cooperative Association

~ We report on workshops being run by former participants playing an active role in their homeland of Chile after completing their JICA/KITA technical training course~

This issue of Overseas Reports covers the current situation of activities being run in their homelands by participants who studied in the " Practical Production Management (Theory and Practice on Productivity Improvement) for South America" training course held during the past five years.

Course Leader Miyamoto told us about the activities of the former participants. In the first installment we introduce the activities of a member playing an active role in Chile in the promotion of 'Kaizen' (continuous improvement).

1. Exchanges with Former Participants



Mr. MIYAMOTO
Course Leader



South American Countries

Course Name: "Practical Production Management (Theory and Practice on Productivity Improvement) for South America"
~ Number of participants and countries accepted in the past trainings~







JICA Training Course	Number of Participants	Countries
2007 FY	7	4 Countries (A•B•C•U)
2008 FY	6	2 Countries (B•C)
2009 FY	8	4 Countries (A•C•Pa•V)
2010 FY	8	4 Countries (C•K•E•Pa)
2011 FY	8	5 Countries (A•C•K•E•Pa)
2012 FY	7	4 Countries (C•E•K•Pe)

A: Argentina, B: Brazil, C: Chile, U: Uruguay, Pa: Paraguay
V: Venezuela, E: Ecuador, Pe: Peru

2. Messages from Mr. MIYAMOTO, Course Leader

- ✚ Theory can be taught even without experience of putting it into practice. However, practical learning (= application) cannot be taught unless it has actually been put into practice. You teach it from experience.
- ✚ An estimated 6 million shop floor workers in Japan exchange the know-how they have gained from experience in 'small group activities'. Therein lies Japan's true potential.
- ✚ The predominant corporate culture is one of "superiors and subordinates" who want to jointly produce a better company via the plentiful exchange of 'practical learning'.

3. Introduction of the Former Participants from Chile

Picture	Name	Country	JICA Training Period
	Mr. José Miguel <u>Santana</u> Villagra	Chile	2008/10/6~2009/2/7
	Mr. <u>Martini Yanssens</u> Francisco Javier	Chile	2012/10/15~2013/2/9
	Mr. Victor Manuel <u>Hernández</u> Pino	Chile	2008/10/6~2009/2/7
	Mr. <u>Ventura Soto</u> Hector Eduardo Jesus	Chile	2012/10/15~2013/2/9

4. Activities in Participants' Homelands

1) Mr. Santana's current situation

- He has created the Kaizen Promotion Association and is taking action to spread awareness, for example via seminars and university lectures.
- The association is made up of state-run quality and productivity centers, universities, IE associations, consultancy groups and industry groups.
- It has held international symposia that included Argentina and Brazil. There was a lecture from Masaaki Imai (the author of "KAIZEN") at the second symposium and one from Toyota Argentina S.A. at the third.
- He wants to hold activities to spread experimental design and the Taguchi methods with the support of the Chilean and Argentinian governments, and so is taking positive action so that, when the preparations are complete, they can jointly invite lecturers.



Mr. Santana is giving a presentation at Kaizen Seminar.

◆ **Expectations of the participant (Mr. Santana)**

- He used AP to draw up a plan to spread Kaizen in his homeland, went to the Japanese Embassy to explain it and gain support, and he is now working actively to build a system that is centered upon former participants in this course who have returned home.
- There was a change of president but her reinstatement last year has made things easier. We expect action based upon his mid-term plan so that activities do not get bogged down.
- Apparently there is a government subsidy, but we recommend that he secures their own source of capital by publishing teaching materials.

【Report on the Second Kaizen Seminar】

June, 2012



Please click here to read the presentation

【Report on the Third Kaizen Seminar】

December, 2013



Please click here to read the presentation

2) **Mr. Martini Yanssens's current situation**

- He is an executive at a major chain of DIY and electronic material stores in the southern part of South America. It has 15,000 employees and is currently expanding in countries such as Argentina.
- There can be no progress in Kaizen unless people can be got to participate, and he knows from experience how hard it is to keep on getting people's approval! He also understands that, as competition intensifies, it is important that everyone keeps moving in the same direction!



Mr. Martini Yanssens is giving a presentation at Kaizen Seminar.

◆ **Expectations of the participant (Mr. Martini Yanssens)**

- He has a good understanding of Kaizen from books and talks, and seems to have, in a sense, understood it as something simple, but he also seems to have understood that it takes on completely different dimensions when it comes to implementing it. In other words, knowing something and being able to put it into practice are two completely different things!
- He is a sincere man and I really hope that he will develop into an industry leader!

3) **Mr. Hernández's current situation**

- He comes from a regional minority and wants to help them to improve their living conditions.



Mr. Hernández is giving a presentation at Kaizen Seminar.

◆ **Expectations of the participant (Mr. Hernández)**

- Apparently he was a Chilean champion in kyokushin karate. His elder brother will develop a copper ore mine and he sounded us out as to whether there might be investors in Japan. In our discussion he told us that the Russians are already there.
- It would be difficult on an individual basis for Japan, so I expect that it would have to be via a fund. Trading companies in particular are focusing on this field, and some have branches in Santiago, so I have advised him that one possibility would be to contact people in that field.
- He is gentle and strong, and is playing an active role with the aforementioned Mr. Santana to spread awareness of Kaizen.

4) **Mr. Ventura Soto's current situation**

- He is the factory manager of a company that manufactures welding rods. The factory has apparently been considerably tidied up but Kaizen has not been successfully achieved in the all-important finishing of the welding rods, with such defects occurring as insufficient flux, fissures and unevenness.
- They use equipment such as drying furnaces and there are many production determinants, and he seems to understand that identifying the Kaizen process and setting conditions via experimental design will be a priority.



Mr. Ventura Soto is giving a presentation at Kaizen Seminar.

◆ **Expectations of the participant (Mr. Ventura Soto)**

- He has a robust physique and a strong thirst for knowledge. He has good ideas about equipment planning and tools, and was also admired at the Nissan Kyushu factory where the practical training was done.
- He can be overpowering as a leader so we are advising him to elicit more opinions from shop floor workers.
If they can cooperate smoothly it will create a virtuous cycle.

* He is highly inquisitive, however he returned home without returning DVDs that he borrowed during his training course, for example "An Introduction to Japanese Companies" and "Kendo Championship Bouts", though the difference in format meant that he could not watch them in his homeland.

[NOTE]

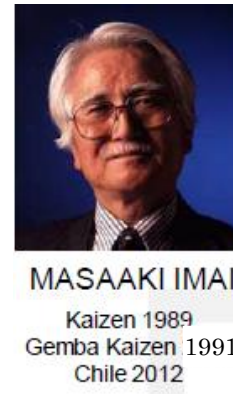
◆ Three Japanese people, who are contributing to the promotion of Kaizen in South American Countries, were introduced in Kaizen Seminar.



KITA course leader



JICA senior volunteer, who has the experience of residing in Mexico when he worked for Sumitomo Wiring Systems Ltd.



Widely known consultant for KAIZEN

5. Pictures of Kaizen Seminar

(1) Pictures of the Second Kaizen Seminar

(June, 2012)



(2) Pictures of the Third Kaizen Seminar

(December 4th, 2013)

