



## Japan's international community unites for the 2012 Mercedes-Benz Japan Cup

*Milestones to mark the tenth annual event include participation by professional golfers*

Tokyo (5 October 2012) – The tenth annual North America – Europe Golf Challenge in Japan, the 2012 Mercedes-Benz Japan Cup, took place at Atsugi Kokusai Country Club on 28 September. The event pitted 68 North American players against 65 European, as well as talented individuals against one another.

The North American team came out on top, scoring 74.09 versus Europe's 74.89, calculated on the average of 80% of the best net scores. Over the ten year history of the event, North America now holds seven wins and Europe three.

The individual winner was Masao Tetsuya (North America) with net 60.4/gross 86, second Adam Rider (North America) with net 69.7/gross 91, and third Hiroyuki Hosoda (North America) with net 69.8/gross 94. Robert Melson (North America) held the best gross score with 73, followed by Glen Sugimoto (North America) with 74 and Dean Rogers (North America) with 77.

Title sponsor of the tenth annual event, Mercedes-Benz Japan, and co-organizers the [American Chamber of Commerce in Japan](#) (ACCJ), [the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan](#) (CCCJ) and the [European Business Council](#) (EBC), are pleased to announce that it was commemorated with many important milestones.

For the first time, professional golfers from the [Ladies Professional Golfers' Association of Japan](#) (LPGA), who are qualified for the Mercedes-Benz support program, took part. The LPGA's Shiho Toyonaga, Kotono Kozuma, and Haruka Kudo were stationed at two holes to tee off with each foursome. Also for the first time, an After-Party took place for all participants, at [Mercedes-Benz Connection](#) in Tokyo. A portion of the funds raised go towards the local community in Japan, including the [YMCA Challenged Children Project](#) (CCP) and [Room to Read](#).

The North America – Europe Golf Challenge is the premier amateur tournament for Japan's international community, this year attracting more than thirty high profile [sponsors](#). The event aims to build the ties particularly across the North American and European business communities in Japan, and is open to members of the ACCJ and CCCJ and their respective embassies, and members of the European Chambers and other business organizations that are affiliated with the EBC and their respective embassies.

It was initiated by avid golfers former EBC Vice-Chairman Erik Ullner and former ACCJ President and Governor Robert Grondine, along with former EBC Chairman Richard Collasse. Modelled after the Ryder Cup Matches, which is a biennial golf competition between teams from Europe and the United States, the first North America – Europe Golf Challenge took place 26 September 2003.

Special thanks are extended to the cross-chamber Task Force, which planned and implemented this year's event - Dr. Robert C. Bernal (ACCJ), Aron Kremer (ACCJ), David Anderson (CCCJ), Erik Ullner (EBC), Joachim Hinne ([German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan](#)) and Clas G. Bystedt ([Finnish Chamber of Commerce in Japan](#)).

From 2003 to 2007, DaimlerChrysler Japan acted as the Title Sponsor. For 2008 and 2009, Daimler Japan and Chrysler Japan co-sponsored. Subsequently for 2010, 2011 and 2012, Daimler Japan has acted as sole title sponsor under its Mercedes-Benz Japan brand.

For more information on the 2012 Mercedes-Benz Japan Cup, please visit [www.dccgolf-japan.com](http://www.dccgolf-japan.com)

### **About the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan**

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 by representatives of 40 American companies and has grown into one of the most influential business organizations in Japan. Consisting mainly of executives from American companies, the ACCJ has members representing over 1,000 companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the governments of the United States and Japan and other business organizations, the ACCJ promotes trade and investment flows between the United States and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the environment for international business in Japan. Over 60 committees representing various industries play a central role in making ACCJ policy recommendations by issuing Viewpoints, Public Comments and White Papers and holding over 500 events and seminars annually on public policy and economic trends. The ACCJ also undertakes charitable efforts and supports its members' CSR activities. <http://www.accj.or.jp>

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### **About the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan**

Promoting the development of commerce between Canada and Japan since 1975, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan (CCCJ) is a private sector, not-for-profit business organization serving its members through communications, networking and advocacy. Representing some 33 business sectors, the CCCJ is a member-driven, member-focused organization and is the longest serving Canadian Chamber in Asia with over 300 representative members.

Our members represent a broad cross-section of businesspersons and entrepreneurs from Canada, Japan and other countries. They include Canadian companies operating in Japan, Japanese companies and individuals with ties to Canada, small business owners and Canadians working in Japan.

Contact us to find out more about how the Chamber can help you. [www.cccj.or.jp](http://www.cccj.or.jp)

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## **About the European Business Council**

The European Business Council (EBC) is the trade policy arm of 17 European national chambers of commerce and business associations in Japan. It is also registered with the Ministry of Trade, Economy and Industry as the European (EU) Chamber of Commerce in Japan. Established in 1972, the EBC works to improve the trade and investment environment for European companies in Japan. The EBC currently represents more than 3,000 local European companies and individuals who are members of their national chambers of commerce. Some 400 of these companies participate directly in the EBC's 30 sector-based committees.

For more information on the EBC and its activities, please contact:

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