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KYOTO'S SEMICONDUCTOR SUCCESS

"We look to make profits in Japan and on the global stage. Our platform is the wider world."

OSAMU TSUJI
CHAIRMAN AND CEO,
SAMCO INC.

IN AN AGE OF FAST-MOVING TECHNOLOGY, SEMICONDUCTOR manufacturing is increasingly becoming one of the most important sectors in the Japanese economy. Home to several key companies in the industry, the city of Kyoto is a major focal point for semiconductor production. According to Osamu Tsuji, chairman and CEO of electronics firm Samco, the region is the ideal base for tech developments due to its innovative traditions and global outlook. "We are proud of our long history. Until 150 years ago, Kyoto was the capital of Japan. Tokyo is now the center of politics, but we remain Japan's technical hub," says Tsuji. The business is supporting its research and development drive by opening a new 1 billion yen (almost $6.5 million) research center to help expand its product range and scope. The new site, scheduled to launch in December 2024, will add to existing facilities across Japan and the U.S. Additionally, it will focus on pioneering technologies for wafer bonding at room temperature, targeting substantial enhancements in heat dissipation efficiency from silicon and standard industrial classification substrates. "We want to increase our research capabilities in Kyoto and globally, especially in the U.S.," says Tsuji. To that end, Samco has also strengthened overseas ties by arranging a partnership with the Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences, developing a presence in the technology hub region of the Rhine Valley. The firm hopes these initiatives will support future success and has set a target of long-term sales growth from 10 billion to 50 billion yen (approximately $64.7 million to about $323 million), generating strong returns for investors. Fueled by the longstanding Kyoto traditions of innovation and looking outwards, the firm is excited for the challenges ahead."Entrepreneurship is still very alive in Kyoto. We have big dreams and big ambitions," says Tsuji. ■

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