

## Press Information

April 6, 2004

### Akebono Brake Becomes First Saitama Manufacturer to have Specially Recognized Subsidiary

Akebono Brake's wholly owned affiliate, Akebono 123 Co., Ltd., has been approved as a specially recognized subsidiary under the Japanese law for employment promotion, etc., of the disabled, making Akebono Brake the first manufacturer in Saitama Prefecture with such a subsidiary.

Akebono 123 Co., Ltd., established on September 16, 2003, preferentially hires the mentally disabled, and, with five such associates currently in its employ, has been engaged mainly in cleaning activities at Akebono Brake's Ai-City headquarters in Saitama Prefecture. The company received official approval on April 1, 2004, and a ceremony to mark the occasion was held on April 5.

The company will further hire employees through cooperation with "Hello Work" public employment bureaus and local schools for the disabled, and aims to increase its staff to around forty people by fiscal 2008 while expanding its operations both within and outside of the Akebono Group.

The approval as a specially recognized subsidiary also has immense significance from the standpoint of Akebono Brake's mission statement, part of which may be tentatively translated as "we are determined to protect, grow and support each and every life."

Akebono Brake, a people-oriented enterprise firmly rooted in the community, aims for an environment where the disabled and able-bodied can work side by side, and will continue to perform its social responsibilities by making a positive contribution to society.



#### Company Outline

Corporate name	Akebono 123 Co., Ltd.
Established	September 16, 2003
Capital	10 million JPY
No. of employees	6 (including 1 able-bodied person)
Address	5-4-71 Higashi, Hanyu-shi, Saitama, Japan
Management	Koji Saito, President & Representative Director Satoshi Utsugi, Director Hitoshi Tasaka, Director Kejiro Kimura, Auditor
Services	Building maintenance, security & cleaning Contract landscape gardening Mail room services Car washing Supplemental activities arising from the above

#### Contact

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