

Press Release

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Akebono Brake Completes Construction of New Global Headquarters

Akebono Brake Industry Co., Ltd., unveils new Global Headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. The environmentally responsible design features an intuitive floor plan for productivity, as well as a host of integrated business continuation measures.

TOKYO, July 29, 2008 — Akebono Brake Industry Co., Ltd., announced the completion of its new Global Headquarters in Nihonbashi, Tokyo, a construction project launched in May 2007.

Designed as a center for ideas and innovation, Akebono's Global Headquarters will serve as a communication hub of collective knowledge and information, connecting the company's sites around the world.

Notable Features of The New Global Headquarters

Akebono's new Global Headquarters boasts functionality that maximizes productivity with minimum environmental impact. The integrated business continuation plan (BCP) ensures proper response in the event of a natural disaster.

The company's ongoing commitment to the environment and sustainability is evident both in the construction and operation of the building. The rooftop solar panels generate enough electricity to power three elevators during the daytime. The toilets are flushed with rainwater, yielding substantial water savings of about 1.3 million liters, or 10% of total annual water consumption. The landscaping is planted in soil comprised of repurposed waste material from the brake manufacturing process. Exceptional insulation is achieved by the "Low-E" glass on the south facing walls, and an area of green rooftop help further minimize carbon dioxide emissions.

Measures for business continuity include a seismically isolated structure and electric

power provided by two substations. The electric generators located on the roof provide backup power for 72 hours in an emergency. In addition, the executive boardroom is equipped with a fire detection control panel and emergency intercom system, enabling it to function as a disaster control center.

Inside the office, glass is used as dividers to facilitate and encourage communication between all employees. Advanced high-definition video conferencing technology allows Akebono offices and plants around the world to connect at any time, reducing costly travel. Employees can speak face-to-face across great distances using the video conferencing system, which allows smooth and intuitive communication that contributes to greater operational efficiency.

Overview Of The New Headquarters:

Building name:	Akebono Nihonbashi Building
Address:	19-5, Koami-cho, Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Site area:	1,387.33 m ² (Note: Approximately twice the area of the previous Headquarters)
Total floor area:	9,470.93 m ² (Note: Three floors used for the Global Headquarters)
Number of stories:	9 (plus one basement level)
Structure material:	Steel and steel-reinforced concrete
Design:	Plantec Architects, Inc.
Construction:	The Zenitaka Corporation
Start date:	May 2007
Completion:	July 2008
Total investment:	Approximately ¥3.3 billion
Employees:	50 (full-time)

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