

**Inauguration of Soil Remediation Project
in
Amazonas Service Station of Petroecuador**

Based on Technical Cooperation Agreement with Petroecuador, the state owned oil company of Ecuador, JCCP started a project of soil remediation in Amazonas Service Station from 2015.

From April this year, the operation of the soil remediation system in Amazonas Service Station has just started. Seizing this milestone occasion, the project inauguration was held on May 12, at Petroecuador's headquarter in Quito City.



(Full view of Amazonas Service Station: Underground tanks that has leaked sit beneath the yellow zone on the left)

This project is to remove volatile organic compound such as benzene, which remains underground and in the ground-water after gasoline leaked from the underground tanks of the station. Besides, the Amazonas Service Station boasts one of the largest sales volume in Ecuador.

The Japanese consortium: Cosmo Oil Co., Meiji consultant Co., Ltd. and Tatsuno Corporation, are expected to employ advanced environmental technology of Japan and contribute to the Petroecuador's environment action.

For this project, inauguration meeting and the technical meeting between local environment contractor and the Japanese consortium were held ahead of schedule at the request of Engineer Pedro Merizalde, the new Gerente General, who took the oath and assumed the post in April 15. This manifests the Petroecuador's enthusiasm for the project.

Although Engineer Pedro Merizalde and HE Mr.Noda, the Japanese Ambassador to the Ecuador had been scheduled to attend the meeting, on May 11, a fire in a refinery broke out and Gerente General had to rush to the scene and spearhead the response team. In his stead, Mr. Jorge Reyes, the National Sales Manager welcomed the Japanese delegation as a proxy of Gerente General.

Mr. Jorge Reyes told that Gerente General regrets that he was not able to attend the meeting because of fire in a refinery. He stated that the Petroecuador expects a lot to the Japan's environmental technology for soil remediation.

Then, from Mr. Eiji Hiraoka, the Senior Executive Director, JCCP delivered condolences for the victims of the major earthquake that struck Ecuador northern coast, he told that he prays for the quick recovery of the Ecuador and Japan of which Kumamoto district was also hit by earthquakes. Then, he continued that although the Petroecuador and JCCP there is a long-record of human resources development, this technical cooperation project is the first-ever in the field of technical cooperation programs. JCCP and Japanese consortium are determined to help Petroecuador tackle the leakage from underground tanks and establish a safe and environmentally-friendly remediation method.

Then, the guest speaker from the Japanese Embassy in Ecuador. Mr. Itagaki, Counsellor, followed that this project does not remain as the soil pollution measures for a company, but it is a contribution to the health and welfare of citizens of Quito City and Ecuadorian nationals. Moreover, the project will be an important event for the coming 2018 year as it will be the 100th anniversary of establishment of the Ecuador-Japanese diplomatic relations.

Finally on behalf of the Japanese consortium, Mr. Nakayam, General Manager Crude Oil and Tanker Dep't, Cosmo Oil Co., Ltd., stated that Ecuador gathers much attention recently as a stable supply source of crude oil to Japan. Through implementing this project, he concluded that the relationship with Petroecuador deepens even further.

Then at the exchange of memorabilia, Ecuadorian Panama hats were presented from the Ecuadorian side. This Panama hat was made in the Pacific Ocean coast of northwestern Ecuador where the recent earthquake brought the most damage. Thus the present is intended to help the earliest possible recovery of economy and

reconstruction of the district.



(From left, Mr Nakayama, Mr. Itagaki, Mr. Jorge Reyes and Mr. Hiraoka)

Then, Mr. Hiraoka presented the JCCP activities in general, and Mr. Kusaka, Project Manager, Cosmo oil exhibited a short history and hereafter schedule of the project.

Finally, Mr. Jorge Reyes presented his word of appreciation for the Japanese delegation who come all the way from Japan and expressed Petroecuador's expectations for the joint technical cooperation project.

Then the project inauguration was closed.