

Supporting Kansai in its dynamic development as a protagonist on the 21st century stage



FM CO·CO·LO

Ambitious Projects of Formidable Scale

For centuries the Kansai region has served as a main pillar supporting the flourishing of the Japanese economy. Today, with the economy in a recovery trend, Kansai is attracting unprecedented attention as a central driving force for the nation's future growth and prosperity. In response to those weighty expectations, Kansai is currently setting down new foundations for its dynamic expansion in the coming years. Those foundations include a number of new initiatives of major scale, illustrated by a trio of projects offering exciting prospects for the future.

The first project is the development of "Kansai Science City," currently under con

struction on 15,000 hectares (37,000 acres) of rolling hills spanning Kyoto, Osaka and Nara prefectures. The project is targeted at the creation of a global launching ground for cultural, academic and research endeavors appropriate to the 21st century. Facilities are to include not only universities and corporate research centers, but also residential and community amenities to support the lives of those who will work and reside here. In conjunction with the City's infrastructure development, construction is presently proceeding on a new railway, the Keihanna New Line, to serve as a major new access route in the Osaka area. Plans call for the new route to go into service in 2006.

runway in 2007. The third large-scale work in progress in Kansai is the Bay Area Development Project, the objective of which is to make effective use of land along Osaka Bay, turning idle or undeveloped properties into sophisticated and attractive urban and residential facilities suited to a world-class metropolis. In tandem with this project, Universal Studios Japan opened here in 2001. The new theme park has quickly become one of Kansai's most popular destinations.

Besides supporting dynamic projects like these as the leading power supplier to the region, Kansai EP is playing a proactive role in initiatives designed to draw new businesses, both domestic and foreign, to Kansai as a

multilingual FM radio station. Operated by dedicated volunteers with financial support from Kansai EP and other corporate sponsors, the station provides a broad array of programming — from news and entertainment to language lessons and emergency information — in a kaleidoscope of languages.

Kansai EP is also active in operations that cater to the special needs of or provide employment opportunities to the physically and mentally handicapped.

In these various ways, through national projects, nurturing of new industries and a colorful palette of undertakings in support of the evolving needs of local citizens, Kansai EP today is contributing on broad fronts to the ongoing development of its home region.

Kansai EP plays a key supporting role as a proactive participant in projects and initiatives making Kansai an ever more vibrant and people-friendly region.

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The second mammoth project under way in Kansai is Kansai International Airport. Opened in 1994, the airport is the world's first facility of its scale built on a man-made islet and Japan's first airport operating round-the-clock. The underlying aim behind the project is to develop the airport into an international hub serving the entire Asian region, as a means of contributing to Kansai's further development. Currently the airport is in Phase II of construction, toward the inauguration of a second

way of contributing to its sustained development and prosperity.

Close Ties with the Local Community

Kansai is home to large numbers of non-Japanese, and to meet their needs as well as prepare for even greater internationalization of the region during the 21st century, a host of amenities are being developed. One example is FM CO·CO·LO, Japan's first

