SusHi Tech Tokyo 2025 知事オープニングスピーチ【英語】 令和7年5月8日(木)@東京ビッグサイト

(Welcome to Tokyo)

Welcome to SusHi Tech Tokyo 2025, one of Asia's largest startup conferences. I am overjoyed to see you all here.

(SusHi Tech Tokyo)

Once again, I express my deep gratitude to the executive committee, partners, and everyone cooperating in this event's operation.

(Global)

The global political and economic landscape is drastically changing, with turmoil and divisions spreading as uncertainty over the future grows. If we become more fragmented, we will not be able to unlock the future. So, what must we do to overcome this situation? It is more crucial now than ever for aspiring individuals to come together, exchange ideas, share their knowledge, and with everyone's cooperation, drive innovation and create new value.

(Sustainability)

Understanding changes, looking to the future with a more global perspective, and taking action... It is with such thoughts that we are holding SusHi Tech Tokyo 2025 to realize sustainable cities through high technology. We want to make the world more sustainable and resilient.

(Innovation, Human, Singularity)

AI is advancing at a far faster pace than was anticipated a few years ago, and innovation is growing at exponential speed. People have a fear of unknown territory, so how should we use AI to shape the future?

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government will be formulating its first AI strategy this summer. By firmly reflecting the discussions at SusHi Tech, we will create a Japanese model for use of AI in government services.

(Focus on)

Supporting AI's further evolution is quantum computing. Discussions will be held among experts who are striving to develop this key technology, which is also anticipated

to solve the issue of AI's significant consumption of power.

And, at the foundation of a sustainable world is food. We will think about how food and agriculture can be friendly to the planet, healthy, and very tasty.

Please join us at sessions and exhibits that focus on issues that the whole world must tackle together.

$(5 \rightarrow 16, 29 \rightarrow 47)$

Sixteen countries, cities, and regions from around the globe have pavilions. That's three times more than last year. The number of pavilions presenting open innovation initiatives, which is a strength of large companies, has also increased from 29 to 47. A firm foundation for discussions is being laid.

(Itamae)

The activities of young people, who are our future, are also expanding significantly. ITAMAE, an Innovative Technology Academic Maestro, now has more than 300 young people. You will find them wearing traditional

"Happi" coats and T-shirts in red, and like last year, they will be operating a pavilion they planned themselves, and providing support at the venue.

At SusHi Tech, interactive exchanges with the world will be held to promote

innovation.

(G-NETS)

As part of G-NETS, an international network launched from Tokyo to help solve urban issues, we have started reverse pitches at SusHi Tech and demonstration projects overseas. Last year's projects were for reducing carbon emissions in Helsinki and managing flood risks in Nairobi, with prospects for business development.

This year, startups will help solve social issues in Jakarta and Malmö.

(University Internship Program)

Interaction between students and overseas startups exhibiting at SusHi Tech will be promoted through an internship program. Students may also guide them around Tokyo. In this way, we will cultivate a global mindset and increase the number of young

people who will take on the world.

(DEI)

And then there is DEI, which is crucial for the creation of innovation. I have long argued that the capabilities of women are Japan's underutilized energy, and have worked to empower them. Tomorrow, at the EmpowerHER stage, sessions focused on diversity will be held from various angles including the empowerment of women.

(Tech GALA etc,)

In order to take on the global market, it is also essential to develop ecosystems that encompass not only Tokyo but all of Japan.

To that end, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government had a booth at the "Tech Gala" held in Aichi in February, and is also deepening ties with "Station Ai", one of Japan's largest incubation hubs. This opening is also being streamed live at Station Ai.

(All Japan Ecosystem)

At the All Japan Ecosystem Area, we have the participation of local

governments from around the country.

(Public Day)

And, for the first time, SusHi Tech's third day will be a "Public day". On this day, small children and even students and adults can enjoy building together the city of the future.

(Edo)

Next, at last year's opening ceremony, I spoke of the circular economy that existed in the Edo period. Having inherited the DNA of this sustainable Edo, this is Tokyo's great strength in creating the future—a strength that is hard to find anywhere else in the world.

I would like to explain how we are leveraging this strength to advance measures for innovation.

$(10\times10\times10)$

As part of Tokyo's Startup Strategy, we established the "10 by 10 by 10" innovation vision to achieve a tenfold increase in startups, unicorns, and public-private collaborative practices in five years. In the first year, we achieved a tenfold increase in public-private

collaboration, and set an even higher goal.

(Budget)

I also announced our plan to provide 1 billion US dollars of support over a period of five years. In the last three years, we have budgeted more than 900 million US dollars in total, making this goal well within reach.

(TIB)

The Tokyo Innovation Base or TIB, which aims to become the "Node" for global innovation, holds various programs on a daily basis to broaden entrepreneurial horizons and to nurture the growth of startups.

Since its launch in November 2023 under the concept of "building together," the TIB has welcomed over one hundred eighty thousand visitors from around the world to date, including various startups and ecosystem players. To further foster this interaction, we will boost the TIB's capacity.

(TIB, 1st Floor!)

We have doubled the floor space, so that the TIB now occupies the entire

building. And we were pleased to open the expanded facility today!

(Abu Dhabi, Paris)

This past year, I have also traveled the world in support of our efforts. In November, I traveled to the UAE Abu Dabi where I worked alongside startups to promote their technologies and potential. And last month, while in Paris, I spoke with Japanese startups active at the StationF.

Meeting with stakeholders from around the world, I strongly felt the need for Tokyo to advance to the next stage.

That is why Tokyo will launch "SusHi Tech Global" to form a group of top level startups with sustainable tech and provide firm support in areas such as personnel and funding.

(Nest Stage, SusHi Tech Tokyo)

TIB, a node for ecosystem players; open innovation with major companies; collaborations nationwide; interaction with the world and SusHi Tech Tokyo, one of Asia's largest startup conferences, held annually.

With these efforts as the foundation, we will continue working to swiftly put startups on an upward growth trajectory to nurture large unicorns capable of excelling on the global stage.

(Taste!)

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible. Let's enjoy and taste these exciting three days! SusHi Tech Tokyo 2025 starts now!