

May 23, 2014

Japan Automobile Importers Association (JAIA)

Shigeru Shoji Appointed as JAIA Chairman

On May 23 (Friday), the Japan Automobile Importers Association (JAIA) held the 49th General Assembly and the second meeting of the Board of Directors of this year at the Tokai University Club.

As Chairman Kintaro Ueno stepped down after the expiration of his term of office, Mr. Shigeru Shoji (President of Volkswagen Group Japan) was appointed as the new Chairman.

Mr. Shoji commented as follow:

"JAIA will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year. Since its foundation, the Association has been conducting broad-ranging activities for sound growth of the imported vehicle market.

I feel much honored to be appointed as the head of the organization with such history and past achievements. JAIA will continue its activities focusing on the international harmonization of certification and standards relating to the environmental and safety technologies of motor vehicles, and lobbying for streamlining of auto-related taxes and other issues.

JAIA is determined to spare no efforts to enhance ties with the ministries concerned to allow its members to provide Japanese customers with attractive new products featured with advanced technologies as quickly as possible, offering more choices to the customers and contributing to growth of the automobile industry, and in turn, the country's economy."

[Profile of Shigeru Shoji]

Name	Shigeru Shoji	
DOB	February 8, 1963	
Career Summary	Apr 1985	Joined ITOCHU Corporation (Automobile Division)
	May 1988	Ditto, Human Resources, Language Training (Germany)
	June 1992	Seconded to Mazda Austria (then, partly owned by ITOCHU) Assistant to President, Corporate Planning
	Jan 1994	Mazda Motor Hungary (then, partly owned by ITOCHU), President
	Oct 1998	ITOCHU USA, in charge of automobile
	Nov 2000	ITOCHU Corporation, South Africa Branch
	Feb 2004	Ditto, Automobile Department No.1, Development Strategy Office
	Nov 2009	Suzuki Motor Russia, President (50% owned by ITOCHU)
	June 2012	Joined Volkswagen AG
	Aug 2012	Volkswagen Group Japan, President

[Reference: Positions at Japan Automobile Importers Association]

Dec 2013	Vice Chairman
May 2014	Chairman