

“Lounge” (Chiba Bank’s publicity) Article on CBB/CBBJ

(Translated from article originally written in Japanese)

Clearbridge Biomedics Japan Co., Ltd. (in Kashiwa City)

The Novel Diagnostic Device for Cancer Treatment

Clearbridge Biomedics (CBB) is a Singapore company that specializes in novel technologies in the cancer diagnostic space. The company, known for developing the next generation cancer diagnostic device, won the “Asia Entrepreneurship Award 2012” and set up a Japanese subsidiary, Clearbridge Biomedics Japan Co. Ltd (CBBJ). We interviewed Mr. Oribe, the representative director of CBBJ on why Japan was chosen as a key market in its internationalization strategy.

Collaborations with Japanese Research Institutes and Manufacturers

Tumour cells circulating in blood are called Circulating Tumour Cells (CTCs). CBB manufactures and markets the device that enriches cancer blood samples in order to retrieve CTCs that remain intact and viable (co-developed with a US- Singapore university research alliance).

The system aims to contribute to a non-invasive method of cancer screening, staging including metastasis, personalized medicine and treatment monitoring using just a tube of blood. It is now being used for research purposes only.

Japan, known as one of the most advanced countries in medical technologies, is a very important key market for CBB. Besides, the system can be improved in its overall performance through collaborations with the Japanese research institutes and medical equipment manufacturers. Also, once the systems are well accepted in Japan, where high-quality equipment is manufactured, CBB expects to gain greater market adoption from other countries as well.

Chiba Prefecture is a good place for starting up and developing business

It has been a good incentive that CBB, having won the “Asia Entrepreneurship Award 2012”, received rent-free use of the facility at TTP for 3 years, where industry, academia and the government collaborate amongst each other and various kinds of support such as information and business matching services are available. This valuable ecosystem is necessary for our business strategy and is quite encouraging.

Chiba Prefecture having Narita International Airport and located adjacent to Tokyo Metropolitan Area, the major consumers’ market in Japan is a very attractive area for companies from overseas to locate their offices. It is expected that foreign investments would make beneficial economic effects such as creation of new job opportunities in the area.