



KEIZAI

SILICON VALLEY

US - JAPAN BUSINESS FORUM

*Keizai Silicon Valley US-Japan Business Forum
Newsletter*

Issue No. 277 – March 2019

Drones: Current Uses and Future Trends

Thursday March 21, 2019 5:30 - 8:45 pm



Brent Wu



Shailendra Singh



Tom Moss



Shawn Koyama (*Moderator*)

Drones: Current Uses and Future Trends

Event Details

Originally developed for military, drones are quickly evolving for commercial and consumer uses: facility inspections, first responder surveillances, filming, and so on. Yet it is still rare to spot a drone in our daily lives. Where are we today with drone technologies? This program will explore recent trends in the North American and Japanese markets in drone technology, how safety and industrial sectors are changing by the use of drones, and how they will lead to the future automated drones.

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Registration/Networking: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Program: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Networking: 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM

\$15: Early Bird Discount for first 30 registrations by Saturday, Mar 2 (11PM)

\$20: Regular Registration by Saturday, Mar 16 (11 PM)

\$35: Late Registration by Tuesday, Mar 19 (Noon)

\$50: Walk-ins (Seats are limited and may not be available)

Food and beverages will be served.

Location: DLA Piper

2000 University Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94303

Dress: Business casual

Registration at keizai.org

Featured Panelists



Brent Wu Partner, Geodesic Capital

Brent Wu is a Partner at Geodesic Capital and manages Investor Relations. His experiences and interests have been at the crossroad of business services and entrepreneurship, with a focus on seamlessly connecting end users to innovative solutions that solve real business problems. With a focus on building and growing partnerships with clients, companies, and individuals, he has been drawn into a variety of B2B and B2C verticals. Prior to joining

Geodesic, Brent was the Director of Business Development at Kespry, a leading commercial drone and data intelligence provider for industrial use cases. There he led channel sales and OEM partnerships to serve the Architecture, Engineering, Construction, and Mining verticals. Prior to Kespry, Brent built and led the Business Development and Account Management teams at Blackhawk Network's Gift Card Exchange Business where he worked with the world's largest retailers to fully leverage their brand equity.

Before private industry, Brent was a Senior Associate at Deloitte Financial Advisory Services, specializing in valuations of business entities, intangible assets, and equities. Brent earned a Master's in Business Administration from MIT's Sloan School of Management and a Bachelor's Degree from Berkeley's Haas School of Business. He is also a CFA Charterholder.



Shailendra Singh Director Business Development, Honeywell

Shailendra is part of Honeywell UAV group and responsible for business development in an entrepreneur environment for inspections and data-analytics services. He has been instrumental in setting up product and business strategy, industry partnerships and developing a global reach for Honeywell's UAV inspection service. Shailendra has been in product and business development for 20+ years and have lead several innovative programs including autonomous vehicles and related technologies.



Tom Moss COO, Skydio Inc.

Tom is COO of Skydio Inc., the world's leading autonomous drone company. Skydio's first product, the R1, is a fully-autonomous consumer drone that acts as an autonomous film crew that captures unique dynamic footage of your adventures (www.skydio.com). Prior to Skydio, Tom was co-founder and CEO of Nextbit Inc. (acquired by Razer Inc.), co-founder and CEO of 3LM (acquired by Motorola), and started the Android business development and partnership teams at Google, helping to take Android from zero to over 80% global market share (and over a billion total units) in just 5 years.



Shawn Koyama (Moderator) Startup Liaison Manager, Hitachi

Shawn is a Startup Liaison Manager at Hitachi, responsible for connecting startups and Hitachi business units to help our global customers. Previously he worked on developing the MARS seat reservation system in Japan and IEP train monitoring system in the UK as an engineer. He grew up in the US, then received a Bachelor's Degree in economics from Keio University.

Post Offices and Drones

By Joe Quinlan

On Thursday, March 21st, Keizai Silicon Valley will host an exciting forum on the current uses and future trends of drones. The Japanese post office is already ahead of its US counterpart in exploring the possibilities of drone delivery. While the efforts of the United States Postal Service so far have amounted only to some customer surveys, Japan Post is moving ahead with pilot programs to test actual drone deliveries. Last November Japan Post began transporting certain documents between post offices in Fukushima Prefecture. The use of postal drones could be particularly effective in rural areas of Japan, especially with the current labor shortages seen in those areas. In order to operate drones out of sight of the operator, Japan Post was required to equip the drones with remotely monitored cameras. Japan Post states that they will limit initial use of the drones to deliveries between post offices.



Japan Post Delivery Drone

Event Recap: Shinnenkai 2019 (January 25, 2019)

By Joe Quinlan

For several years now, Keizai Silicon Valley seems to have great luck with the weather for our Shinnenkai. This year was no exception. Hovering above the clear sky of Silicon Valley in the Palo Alto hills, Keizai held its annual Shinnenkai at the beautiful Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club. From the many happy faces, I think we can say it was one of the most enjoyable Shinnenkai's ever. Of particular joy was the down-to-earth and approachable comments that were made by former US ambassador to Japan John Roos in accepting Keizai's Outstanding Impact Award. Ambassador Roos stated that being the US ambassador to Japan was the greatest experience of his life. US presidents frequently pick a famous name for the role of ambassador to Japan, so Ambassador Roos had to overcome that obstacle in getting nominated and confirmed to the role. Eventually he was confirmed unanimously by the US Senate. Key to Ambassador Roos' confirmation was support via opinion articles from people such as Keizai's own Dr. Richard Dasher of Stanford University.

Ambassador Roos faced a number of challenges during his term of office. Roos saw five different prime ministers in four years, including the first DPJ prime minister Yukio Hatoyama, who related that he wanted to see Japan somewhat pivot away from the US and toward China. Perhaps Ambassador Roos' greatest achievement was in being the first US Ambassador to participate in the annual atomic bomb commemoration event at Hiroshima. This laid the groundwork for US Secretary of State John Kerry, and eventually US President Barack Obama to visit Hiroshima, which was a landmark event.

Finally, John Roos was ambassador during the devastating 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. In the wake of this event, Ambassador Roos asked a local Tohoku region mayor what America could do for his town. The mayor stated that the Japanese government will support the financial aspects of recovery, but what America can do is give hope to the youth of his town. Out of this grew the Tomodachi initiative, which invests in the next generation of Japanese and American leaders through educational and cultural exchanges as well as leadership programs. Ambassador Roos stated that people-to-people connections (like Keizai Silicon Valley) are the most important part of the US-Japan relationship, far more important than any governmental relationships. In summary, Ambassador Roos said that the strong US-Japan relationship cannot be taken for granted. We must all work to keep it strong.



Shinnenkai Event Photos



Our Honored Guests



John Roos with Chimmy Shioya and Shawn Koyama



The Traditional Kagamiwari



Ambassador Roos, Consul General Uyama, and Chimmy Shioya



Enjoying Food And Conversation



The Keizai Silicon Valley Volunteer Staff

Raffle Prize Winners!



*Donor – Fenox Prize – iPad
Winner – Sanshiro Kaneko of Pro-Vider*



*Donor – Sunbridge Prize – Robot Vacuum Cleaner
Winner – Tsunehiko Yanagihara of Mitsubishi*



*Donor – Tazan International Prize – Golf at Palo Alto Hills Country Club
Winner – Christopher Chan of Coalition of California State Workers*



*Donor – Bank of the West Prize – Nordstrom Gift Certificate
Winner – Longteng Liu of Mitsubishi*



*Donor – ZL Technologies Prize – Bose Bluetooth Speaker
Winner – Dr. Gary W. Cleary*



*Donor – Teraoka and Partners Prize – Fitbit Smart Watch
Winner – Carter Boisfontaine of Fenox*



Donor – Delta Airlines

Prize – Round-trip Domestic Ticket

Winner – Catherine Gormley of Teraoka and Partners



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Please join the LinkedIn Keizai Silicon Valley Group and participate in group discussions. You can also share and discuss jobs with the members by clicking the Jobs tab after creating a Keizai Silicon Valley Group account. If you have any questions, please contact jobs@keizai.org.

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