Asia’s largest tradeshow and conference dedicated to the design and manufacture of medical devices, Medtec Japan 2019 sponsored by UBM Japan Co., Ltd. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President: Christopher Eve) was held from March 18 to 20 (from Monday to Wednesday), 2019, at Tokyo Big Sight. A total of 523 companies and organizations involved in the design and manufacturing of medical devices ran their booths and a total of 25,407 persons involved in the research, development, manufacturing and marketing of medical and healthcare devices in and outside Japan visited the site during the period.

In this news release, we will review Medtec Japan 2019 this year and provide information on Medtec Japan 2020 next year.

- As in the past, this year’s Medtec Japan 2019 also provided many new encounters!

The 11th Medtec Japan was held for three days from March 18 to 20, 2019, at Tokyo Big Sight. Due to the Tokyo Olympic Games to be held next year, the event this year was moved forward by one month from usual years and held at the end of Japan’s fiscal year, with 523 exhibitors and 25,407 visitors. Medtec Japan will continue to contribute to the activation of the medical device industry by providing the first opportunity to encounter newly developed excellent technologies and help the deployment of medical devices and materials to support people’s lives.

During the period, various seminars including about the latest trends in the medical device industry and associated regulations in Japan and abroad were also provided by prominent guest speakers and attracted many earnest listeners.

- This year’s newly added MedTech City!

This year’s Medtec Japan newly added MedTech City, an exhibition on Disaster Medical/Innovation for Creative Technology. Utilizing the know-how accumulated by Medtec Japan so far, the MedTech City exhibition leads the expansion of the MedTech market toward the development of creative technology for regional medicine and disaster medicine.

The exhibition included displays of various types of drones used during disasters and their demonstration flights within the venue. A substantial number of visitors paid attention and made inquiries to the exhibitors, showing great interest in how to use drones at disaster sites.
Habilis Japan won the Medtec Innovation Award

Medtec Japan annually nominates innovative medical devices in Japan and gives Medtec Innovation Awards. On Monday, March 18, the first day of the exhibition, after the presentations by each company, a selection meeting was held to give the grand prize to pediatric prosthetic hands, Puer Hand Series, Armo/Tam-tam, developed by Habilis Japan.

Despite the fact that hand-using physical exercises such as the horizontal bar, mat and vaulting horse, are activities that every child is supposed to do at school, children who have lost a hand have difficulties in doing these exercises in the same manner as other children, causing a negative feeling about their disability.

To help such handicapped children fully enjoy the exercises the same as other children, Habilis Japan worked with various people, including children who have lost a hand, prosthetists, medical workers, occupational therapists, sports coaches, engineers, college engineering faculties, manufacturers and marketers to collect opinions and technologies and finally developed prosthetic hand Tam-tam for the mat and vaulting horse and Armo for the horizontal bar.

Armo, the prosthetic hand for horizontal bar exercises, optimized its sliding ability by having a shape suitable for the diameter of horizontal bars used in physical exercises at school and adjusting the hardness of the material rubber compound, thus adjusting its opening width and projection to appropriately secure grip performance of the bar in a forward roll and pullover.

On the other hand, Tam-tam, the prosthetic hand for mat and vaulting horse exercises, based on the movement of the vaulting horse exercise, secured shock absorption and strength against load and created a structure that provided optimum usability and repulsion with its rubber hardness and shape.

The grand prize recognized the uniqueness of these products different from other products, of which development was specially focused on infants and elementary school children whose physical activities were greatly increased while they were growing.

Companies and products of Medtec Innovation Awards

- Medtec Innovation Grand Prize: Habilis Japan
  Pediatric prosthetic hands, Puer Hand Series, Armo/Tam-tam
- New Entry/Future Expectation Award: Kobata Gauge Mfg. Co., Ltd.
  Respiratory muscle measuring device: The first product in Japan as a compact, lightweight, and single-function respiratory muscle measuring device
- Prize: Uchiyama Manufacturing Corp.
  A training simulator to practice manual techniques in bone-marrow puncture and biopsy in advance
- Prize: C&V Technix, Co., Ltd.
  Aiming to expand the applications of portable gas analyzers using ion attachment mass spectrometry into the medical field
- Prize: Sisiku Addkreis Corporation
  Add-on seat angle adjusting unit to be mounted on existing wheelchairs, creating an optimal posture for desk work and meals


Medtec Japan 2020 schedule

Medtec Japan 2020 will be held for three days from March 16 to 18 (from Monday to Wednesday), 2020 at Tokyo Big Sight South Halls. As a growth area, the medical device industry is increasingly attracting attention. Medtec aims for the further development and enhancement of its contents as Asia’s largest medical device exhibition that leads the medical device industry.

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