

CONVE·X

- International -

A Message from Toppan's President about COVID-19



Dear colleagues,

First, I would like to offer my thoughts and sympathy to everyone around the world who has been affected by COVID-19 and to pay tribute to all of the medical professionals and essential personnel in every country who have been treating people and ensuring the functioning of vital services in these incredibly challenging circumstances.

The World Health Organization has declared a global pandemic, and the end is not yet in sight. In the interests of public health and safety, countries are taking stringent measures that are having a significant impact. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the efforts of everyone in the Toppan Group to continue with work and keep business going while taking the greatest of care in the current situation.

We are facing the threat of a virus on a global scale. This has placed restrictions on everyday life and in particular on people's movement and communication. Naturally, it is starting to have an impact on Toppan. Despite this, colleagues around the world are continuing to supply packaging, décor materials, and other essential items for living; electronic components and security products indispensable for social infrastructure; and printed materials and other products and services crucial for communicating information. This is testament to everyone recognizing Toppan's role as a creator of social value.

However, the most important thing is to make every effort to ensure that employees and their families are not infected by the virus and that we all act appropriately to protect society as a whole from the further spread of infection. With a fundamental philosophy that emphasizes respect for human beings, the Toppan Group conducts its business based on the principle of protecting lives and ensuring the safety of its employees and their families. Please keep in mind that "safety comes first" and place the highest priority on your health and that of your family.

In the 120 years since its founding, Toppan has experienced many challenging periods. Those who came before us have overcome them with creativity, passion, and integrity to earn the trust of society. We have to be patient until the day when the systems that sustain our world return to a sound state and we can once again work with vitality and smiles on our faces. There is no tunnel without an exit.

Let's make a concerted effort as a group and support each other to get through this crisis together.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hideharu Maro". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Hideharu Maro
President & Representative Director
Toppan Printing Co., Ltd.



Contributing to Society

Since 2008 Toppan has held Toppan Charity Concerts and used the proceeds to support the SMILE Asia Project, which aims to raise literacy rates in Cambodia.

Why the SMILE Asia Project?

Since Toppan's founding in 1900, the company has expanded business centered on printing and contributed to the growth of culture, the arts, and the printing industry as a leading presence in the fields of information and culture. Toppan supports literacy education because its long association with printing means that it recognizes the importance of the written word.

Literacy education is a global challenge

There are thought to be roughly 758 million people over the age of 15 who have not acquired literacy, and two thirds are said to be women.

Goal 4 of the United Nations' SDGs is Quality Education. This goal includes targets for literacy. When women acquire literacy, it creates a positive cycle of improving the health of children and families, raising quality of life, enabling people to escape from poverty, and encouraging parents to ensure that their children get a good education. Raising literacy rates is seen as an important part of achieving the 17 SDGs.

Toppan's Activities

Toppan Charity Concerts

Toppan opened Toppan Hall, a classical music venue, in 2000 as part of events to mark the 100th anniversary of the company's founding. Toppan Charity Concerts have been held at Toppan Hall since 2008, with proceeds being used to support the SMILE Asia Project. Donations between June 2008 and January 2020 total US\$230,000.



Toppan Hall—opened to mark 100 years of Toppan



Concert held on June 6, 2019

Cambodia Today

A team from Toppan recently visited Tang Krouch and Thong Tao in Kampong Speu Province to see the progress that the SMILE Asia Project has made.

Why are literacy rates low?

Cambodia has been faced with the challenges caused by destruction of educational infrastructure and killing of educators, intellectuals, and other people with a high level of education under the Pol Pot regime. A gender gap still exists as a social norm, and there is a tendency to prioritize the education of boys. Gender differences are notable at the higher education level, with only some educational institutions accepting women. This gives rise to a negative cycle in which parents with a low level of literacy are economically poor and do not understand the long-term value of education, meaning that they may force their children to drop out of school.

About the SMILE Asia Project

The SMILE Asia Project is run by the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)* with the aim of raising literacy rates among pregnant women and mothers and grandmothers bringing up children. It provides literacy classes to enable people to learn reading, writing, and arithmetic, gain knowledge related to health and hygiene, and develop other life skills.

Aims of the project

The project aims to empower women in Cambodia, create employment opportunities, increase incomes, and improve the education and health of families and communities.

Outcomes

As of January 2020, the project has run a total of 60 literacy courses, enabling 1,340 women to enhance their literacy skills.



Cambodia is located in the southern part of Mainland Southeast Asia. Cambodia's Siem Reap Province is home to the Angkor World Heritage site, which includes Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom, and the Bayon temple.



Unpaved street and village in Kampong Speu

Content of the literacy classes

The literacy programs are spread over seven months. In the lessons, students use textbooks with content closely related to their daily lives and are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic.



Students practicing reading



Students writing their names on blackboards after learning the characters



Students taking lessons with their children and grandchildren



A textbook providing information on dengue fever

What students from 2018 and 2019 are doing now



"Thank you for giving me knowledge to help my family." This student learned how to read, write, and do arithmetic and started selling the rice from her family's farm.



"Thank you!" This student learned to read a book about growing vegetables and used that knowledge to help her family's farm.

From here on

Toppan will continue to hold Charity Concerts to support the SMILE Asia Project. Toppan also intends to raise awareness of the importance of the concerts and the SMILE Asia Project and to keep concertgoers and Toppan Group employees informed of progress in Cambodia.

*Since its establishment in 1971 through cooperation between the Japanese government and private sectors, the ACCU has collaborated with UNESCO to promote human resource development and exchange in the fields of education and culture in Asia-Pacific countries based on the UNESCO philosophy that "peace must be built upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of humanity."

Germany

Toppan and Interprint Showcase New Products at ZOW 2020



The Interprint and Toppan booth



A video presenting the company and its products was screened.

Décor products on display

Interprint exhibited at ZOW 2020, the supplier fair for the furniture and interior

design industry, which was held in Bad Salzflufen, Germany, in early February.

The event attracted 180 exhibitors and more than 4,000 visitors.

Interprint's booth piqued the interest of visitors with displays of original decorative design using the Interprint Decor Creator Service as well as new G-Effect and Fortina products developed through collaboration between Interprint and Toppan.

For more information, visit <https://www.interprint.com/news/pressarticle/133/interprint-zow-2020>.



G-Effect products developed jointly by Toppan and Interprint

Japan

Toppan Technical Design Center Recognized by TSMC as Value Chain Aggregator



Plaque given to TDC

TSMC Japan president Makoto Onodera (left) and TDC president Kazushige Koshika

Toppan Technical Design Center (TDC) has become the ninth company worldwide and first from Japan to be recognized under the Value Chain Aggregator (VCA) program of Taiwan Semiconductor

Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (TSMC), a leading semiconductor foundry boasting a share of about 50% of the global market.

A ceremony was held on February 7 via a video link between TSMC Japan in

Yokohama and TSMC's headquarters in Taipei. Agreements were signed by TDC's president Kazushige Koshika and TSMC's VCA program director Percy Chang.

TDC will build on this recognition by further expanding its LSI turnkey business* in Japan and overseas.

*LSI turnkey business involves using worldwide foundry services to deliver finished products based on bulk orders for manufacturing processes from design and packaging to testing.



The signing ceremony was held via videoconference.

Japan

Toppan at Automotive World



The Toppan booth

Toppan's Electronics Division exhibited at the 12th Automotive World, the world's largest exhibition for advanced automotive technologies, which was held at the Tokyo Big Sight exhibition center in mid-

January. Toppan collaborated with VTS Touchsensor and Brookman Technology to present a wide range of Toppan products, including LC MAGIC light control film and a levitating display. The levitat-

ing display uses Brookman Technology's ToF* range image sensor to make it appear as if objects are floating in midair. The Toppan booth was well received, with more than 1,000 visitors dropping by.

*ToF (Time of Flight): A technology for measuring 3D information using the time it takes for light shone on an object to reflect back and return to the starting point.



Visitors taking a look at LC MAGIC

Japan

Toppan Celebrates 120 Years

Toppan celebrated 120 years since its founding on January 17 this year. To mark the occasion, the Printing Museum and PLAZA21 showroom at the Koishikawa Building are being revamped and a book charting the company's 120-year history will be published.

The refurbished Printing Museum will re-open in June, marking its own 20th anniversary. As part of events to celebrate

the Museum's first 20 years, two books will be published and go on sale in October this year. One will cover the history of Japanese printing culture, while the other will focus on the Printing Museum's collection. In the spring of 2021, a revamped Koishikawa PLAZA21 showroom will present Toppan's past, present, and future vision to visitors from inside and outside the company.



Planned layout of page from book presenting the Printing Museum's collection



Conceptual images of the refurbished Printing Museum

The book tracing Toppan's 120-year history is due to be published in December 2021. It will look back at the company's journey as a creator of social value since its founding in 1900. The aim is to demonstrate and share with employees throughout the world the historical significance of Toppan's role and the company's DNA of always taking on new challenges. The book will be published in several languages, including Japanese, English, and simplified Chinese.

MEET OUR PEOPLE

Always learning, always evolving

02
PO FONG



Toppan Merrill's Hong Kong office, Everbrite Centre

Position/job

Assistant General Manager/Operations Director, Translation

Department & company name

Operations & Translation, Toppan Merrill Limited

Location

Hong Kong

How do you maintain a good work-life balance?

To me, maintaining a good work-life balance means how you juggle work stress and your personal life without allowing one to encroach upon the other. We need a balanced lifestyle to stay focused and motivated, and time management is the key to a good work-life balance. I always ensure that I spend enough personal time, particularly on reading and exercising, in order to recharge and get back to work refreshed.

What advice or message do you have for Toppan colleagues around the world?

Toppan is truly a constantly evolving company with a lot of potential and opportunities. Technology is the key for tomorrow; I would advise you to stay curious and keep learning. Embrace opportunities and go for them.

Po Fong leads the operations and translation teams of Toppan Merrill Hong Kong. He is a passionate person who loves working with different people and perspectives, setting up new processes, and driving change.

Tell us a bit about how you came to work for Toppan?

I joined Toppan Merrill in 2013 as a management trainee. I had learned about Toppan Merrill (which was still Vite in 2013) while I was working as a legal trainee in my previous job. Toppan Merrill is one of the biggest global financial printers that serves companies and legal firms in the processing of regulatory documents.

What experience have you built up since joining Toppan?

Toppan Merrill provided me with excellent exposure to taking part in the development

and evolution of the company. Having gone through an acquisition and re-branding exercise with the company, I have gained a lot of experience, particularly in system and culture integration, which also reinforced my skills in communication, problem-solving and strategic planning.

Throughout those experiences, I learnt that consensus building is often essential to innovation and collaboration; as it is vital to have stakeholders' understanding of change and its benefits.

Having fun with a passionate team



Maintaining work-life balance at weekends

