

**Business collaboration with IHI Ionbond AG regarding ceramic coating  
for automotive forming dies.**

Our subsidiary, Japan Coating Center Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Zama City, Kanagawa Prefecture, hereinafter referred to as JCC) has concluded a business collaboration agreement with IHI Ionbond AG (Headquarters: Zurich, Switzerland) regarding the ceramic coating for automotive forming dies.

Ceramic coating using physical vapor deposition (PVD) is a surface modification technology that improves the durability of products. For forming dies used by automobile and auto parts manufacturers in Japan, PVD ceramic coating is used to improve the dies' durability. Furthermore, automotive manufacturers with numerous production sites overseas, need to apply the same coatings when repairing the dies at their overseas production sites.

This business collaboration enables the main coating for forming dies of both company, JCC's "Venus", and IHI Ionbond's "Ionbond™ 90 Concept", to be processed by each other, which also means that JCC will be able to offer Venus to overseas production sites.

JCC is one of Japan's leading companies providing PVD ceramic coating, yet has no overseas production base. Meanwhile, IHI Ionbond AG is one of the world's leading surface modification manufacturer offering PVD, CVD and PACVD coating technology and has 35 services locations in 15 countries.

Through this business collaboration, we will be able to cover most of the production sites of automotive related manufacturers not only in Japan but also overseas in providing ceramic coating for automotive forming dies, and thus enhance customer convenience.

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