

MEDIA INFORMATION

For immediate release

JTI Philippines inaugurates new office in BGC



(JTIP New BGC Head Office. In photo: NTA administrator Belinda Sanchez, JTI Philippines GM John Freda, Japan Ambassador to Philippines Koshikawa Kazuhiko, JT Group President and CEO Masamichi Terabatake, PEZA Director General Tereso Panga and JTI APAC Regional President Yves Barbier.)

Manila, October 2, 2023 – JTI Philippines moves to its new BGC offices. JT Group President and CEO Masamichi Terabatake led the formal inauguration of the new offices of JTI Philippines in Bonifacio Global City (BGC), Taguig City located at the 11th and 12th floors of Ore Central Tower on the corner of 31st Street and 9th Avenue last October 2, 2023.

Mr. Terabatake was joined in the ribbon-cutting ceremony by Japan Ambassador to the Philippines Koshikawa Kazuhiko, Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) Director-General Tereso Panga, National Tobacco Administration (NTA) head Belinda Sanchez, and

top JTI officials led by Yves Barbier, JTI Asia Pacific Regional President and JTI Philippines General Manager John Freda.

In his speech, Mr. Terabatake said the relocation to a new office is a “reflection of JTI’s success” and an affirmation of the company’s belief in the “potential, not only of the Philippines as a market, but especially of its people.”

He stressed the story of JTI in the Philippines “underscored the same spirit that identifies the Filipino people so well, that of tenacity and resilience.”

Ambassador Koshikawa said the inauguration of the new JTI Philippine office is another milestone for JTI after having built a factory in Batangas, acquired the Mighty business and opened its own global business services center which “also signals a strong vote of confidence in the Philippines, underpinning JTI’s commitment to creating jobs in support of national development even against the backdrop of the recent pandemic.”

For his part, PEZA Director General Panga, who represented Trade Secretary Alfredo Pascual in the ceremony, said “JTI’s contributions are crucial as we facilitate the country’s overall economic growth and development in President Ferdinand Marcos Jr’s bid for the country to graduate to upper middle-income status by 2025.”

The new JTI Philippines head office, according to General Manager John Freda, marks an important part of the company’s continuous “journey” and “more than being a new physical space, it’s a place for collaboration, where everyone can work together as one team and a place that enables employees to bring their best to JTI.”

The new space can accommodate the 300 plus employees of JTI’s head office in addition to its 38 sales branches nationwide, for a company that has kept on growing despite the challenges of the pandemic.

JTI also operates its own business processing office called Global Business Services (GBS) in McKinley West, also in Taguig City, which employs 500 plus employees, together with its manufacturing facilities in Malvar, Batangas, with a workforce of almost 900.

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JTI in the Philippines is a global tobacco company with close to 40 branch offices across the country. It is the distributor of international brands Winston, Camel and Mevius, and local brands Mighty and Marvels. New to its Philippine portfolio is its smoke-free, vapor-free nicotine product, Nordic Spirit, which is a leading brand of nicotine pouches. With its market headquarters and a global business services center in Taguig City alongside its manufacturing facility in Malvar, Batangas, the company employs more than 4,500 people and has been awarded

Top Employer and accredited by Investors in People for the third consecutive year. Furthermore, the company is now in receipt of EY's Global Equality Standard (GES) certificate for equality, diversity and inclusion excellence. For more information visit www.jti.com/asia/philippines.

JTI is a leading international tobacco and vaping company selling its products in more than 130 countries. It is the global owner of both Winston, the number two cigarette brand in the world, and Camel, outside the USA. Other global brands include MEVIUS and LD. JTI is also a major player in the international vaping market with its heated tobacco brand, Ploom, and e-cigarette brand, Logic. Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, the Company employs about 46,000 people and was awarded Global Top Employer for the ninth consecutive year in 2023. JTI is a member of the JT Group of Companies. For more information visit www.jti.com.