

To: News Media
Press Release:

NEC Corporation of America Signs Asprova APS Distributorship Contract for North America

In the field of packaged production planning, with an internationally top class record of installations (1,026 sites in Japan and 173 sites overseas), the production scheduling specialist vendor Asprova Corporation (Japan, Tokyo, President: Kuniyoshi Takahashi) and NEC Corporation of America (Head office: USA, Texas, Irving) announce that they have signed a distributorship contract for Asprova APS. From hereon, NEC Corporation of America intends to expand the promotion of sales of Asprova APS in the U.S.A., Canada and Mexico centered on the Japanese manufacturing industry.

With this agreement Asprova Corporation now has five Japanese related distributors and two local ones with which to strategically cover the whole of America. The special characteristics of each distributor allow them to respond to the individual needs of their customers.

In Japan, NEC Nexsolutions, Ltd., are already a major Asprova APS dealership and since 2007 in China, NEC Solutions (China) Co., Ltd. have also been working with Asprova Corporation. In this way, NEC and Asprova will continue to progress with their business cooperation on a global base.

Outside of Japan, Asprova Corporation has developed a substantial global support network for the manufacturing industry with 25 overseas distributors established throughout Asia, Europe and the U.S.A. In addition, Asprova APS is available in nine languages (Japanese, English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese (Traditional and Simplified), Korean and Tai) with their global engineers providing world support via WebEx in Japanese, English, German, Chinese and Korean.

●About Asprova

Asprova APS is a production scheduler that creates production schedules at high speed for multiple items and multiple processes, whilst linking each segment of the factory's supply chain, sales, manufacturing, and purchasing. It is capable of simultaneously considering the capacities of individual machines and workers to produce realistically executable work instructions with accuracy measurable in seconds. Asprova enables manufacturers to realize visual management by creating high-precision schedules for several months into the future, and facilitates profit increase by shortening lead times, reducing inventory, and increasing on-time deliveries.

Asprova has been deployed at more than 1,200 sites worldwide, including Japan, the U.S.A., the United Kingdom, Spain, China, Taiwan, and South Korea. In Japan, Asprova is established as the top production scheduler with a market share of 52.4% ("2002 General Survey for FA Related Software Package Market": Researched by the Fuji-Keizai Group).

●History of Awards given to Asprova:

February 2007:	Japan Venture Awards 2007, Incentive Award for Entrepreneurs Division (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry)
November 2000:	Best Manufacturing Management System/Product, (The Official CIM 2000 Awards in UK)
April 2000:	12 th Annual Small and Medium Enterprise Excellent New Technology – New Product Prize (The Asahi Bank Foundation / The Nikkan Kogyo Newspaper)
October 1999:	Software Product of the Year 1999 (Software Information Council)
June 1996:	4 th Annual Outstanding Performance Award, New Frontier Award for Smaller Businesses (Japan Industrial Newspaper)

●About Asprova Corporation:

Company name: Asprova Corporation

Established: February 1, 1994

Capital: 20,000,000 yen

President: Kuniyoshi Takahashi

Lines of businesses: Development and Sales for Asprova, a Production Scheduling System for manufacturing

URL: <http://www.asprova.com/>

All the company names and product names mentioned in this press release are the general trademarks or registered trade marks of their respective companies.

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