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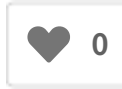
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Vol. 25 / January 2023

special feature

NEW



ENGLISH



Karakuri Kaizen Mr. Masamichi Kuronaka

An interview with Mr. Masamichi Kuronaka, the leader of the Karakuri Kaizen Group that supports JATCO's manufacturing!

Do you know the existence of the "Karakuri Kaizen Group" of the JEPS Promotion Department (MJ0)? "Karakuri Kaizen" means using wisdom to solve on-site problems without spending money. In recent years, manufacturing industry has It draws a lot of attention to the center.

This issue is the first of the improvement team that supports JATCO's manufacturing with the "Karakuri Kaizen" This is an interview with Masamichi Kuronaka, a person. "Gyoza no Osho fried rice on top of a wok I came up with the idea for the work when I saw it flying in the air!" said Mr. Kuronaka with a smile. He taught me about his passion for work, how to see things, and how rewarding things are.



Fig.1 Mr. Masamichi Kuronaka, the leader of karakuri improvement, talks about his favorite work

RANKING



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~
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overcoming hardships
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want to do in the life of
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INFORMATION

Mr. Kuronaka's profile ~Karakuri improvement

Insatiable challenge~

✓ Number of patents acquired: 6 (9 applications, all related to karakuri improvement)

profit)

✓ Number of exhibits at exhibitions: 15 Boasting numerous awards

✓ Award-winning works (partial introduction)

*At the recent Karakuri Kaizen Real Exhibition, he received the Effort Award for two consecutive competitions.

vinegar

2019 Award Winning Works

■ Award-winning work: Hook move

■ Work outline: Shooter that moves automatically using only the propulsion of AGV

2022 Award Winning Works

■ Award-winning work: Yes Wait!

■ Outline of the work: 4 operations are controlled with one operation of the lever (1 power), and the parts are placed at the operator's hand.

device to deliver to



Fig.2 "Yes, we are waiting!" @2022 Effort Award Working on the assembly line in Fuji 4 district *From the left, Mr. Masamichi Kuronaka, Mr. Moe Yamano from the 1st Manufacturing Section (M12), Mr. Ryoji Ogasawara from the JEPS Promotion Department (MJ0)

Selected for Karakuri improvement team, JATCO further



devoted to improvement

My life as a member of society began in 1981, when I was 18 years old and started training at a Japanese restaurant in Kyoto.

However, he soon fell ill and moved to a small town factory in Kyoto. Town worker

At the site, we read and understand the drawings we received from the customer, process and assemble them and deliver them.

It was a very difficult job at first, but after about 10 years of continuous work, I gained strength.

bottom. After that, in 1993, when I was 30 years old, just around the time my second son was born, I entered middle school.

I joined the Kyoto factory of Mitsubishi Motors on the way. At the Kyoto factory, we entered the production line for the first time.

However, I am not good at making the same product with the same quality in a short period of time.

Sometimes I did. On the other hand, I make use of the experience of the small town factory and make proposals for improvement of the workplace.

What I was doing caught the attention of the chief engineer, and I was assigned to the improvement team.

At that time, the improvement team was full of uncles before retirement age, and it was unusual for a young man in his 30s to join.

That's why I was happy when I was chosen. With this, the experience of a town factory

I can do a job that takes advantage of. However, the main task I was entrusted with was the orientation of the fluorescent lights.

It was a role like a handyman, such as tidying up, repairing workbench and plumbing, so I wanted to do more.

It was also a time when I was fuzzy that I could do it.

After that, I joined JATCO in 2003 through a company merger. Put it in the improvement team here as well

I was working hard at five factories in the Kyoto factory. JATCO's improvement efforts

I was suddenly motivated and devoted myself to my work.

The request was "Make it cheap, with Karakuri" (laughs). In 2004, I came up with the idea of Seesaw *Winner of the Idea Award (Fig.3)" was also created around this time,

It is a work of memories that became the first award-winning work at the Zen Exhibition.



Fig.3 Random Seesaw @2004 Karakuri Kaizen Idea Award

Occupational disease!? How I see things

Perhaps because I've been doing karakuri improvement work for many years, I can't use it for improvement even in my daily life.

I end up looking at things from the point of view of In the old days, we used to take our children to the game center.

and look for hints by looking at the power parts of crane games and other games.

I was. But I don't know if I'm greedy, but from food-related

I often come up with ideas. For example, take your child to Gyoza no Ohsho.

One time, the cooking staff was making fried rice, and the fried rice was on top of the wok.

When I saw it dancing in the air, I thought, "This is it!" I came up with the washer aligner

(Fig.4). Launch the disjointed washers once in the air by vertical movement and lower them

The washers line up in the grooves underneath for fun when dropped. work

In addition to improving productivity, it also shortens production takt and prevents defects.

I was told, "Thanks to this device, I'm bored!"

was also pleased. Adopted in the production line of 6AT (trade name: JF613E) for medium and large FF vehicles

This is an example of a

The other is Genghis Khan hotpot. I was having Genghis Khan with my family and the meat was charred.

Watch the meat evacuate over the holes around the pan to keep it from burning, and the converter how

I came up with the work "bolt feeder (Fig.5)" that temporarily assembles the bolts of the ring at once.

came. This was also used for a long time in the RA5 line.

In everyday life, there are hidden hints for improvement that make work easier.

You see it consciously. It's already an occupational disease (laughs). A child who grew up watching my back

Both the eldest son and the second son are currently working at the Yagi factory, and the eldest son and I were temporarily in the improvement team.

We worked together during the period. It's an assembly line now, but blood can't fight

It may be.



Fig.4 Washer aligner Hints for improvement can be found in Ohsho's fried rice

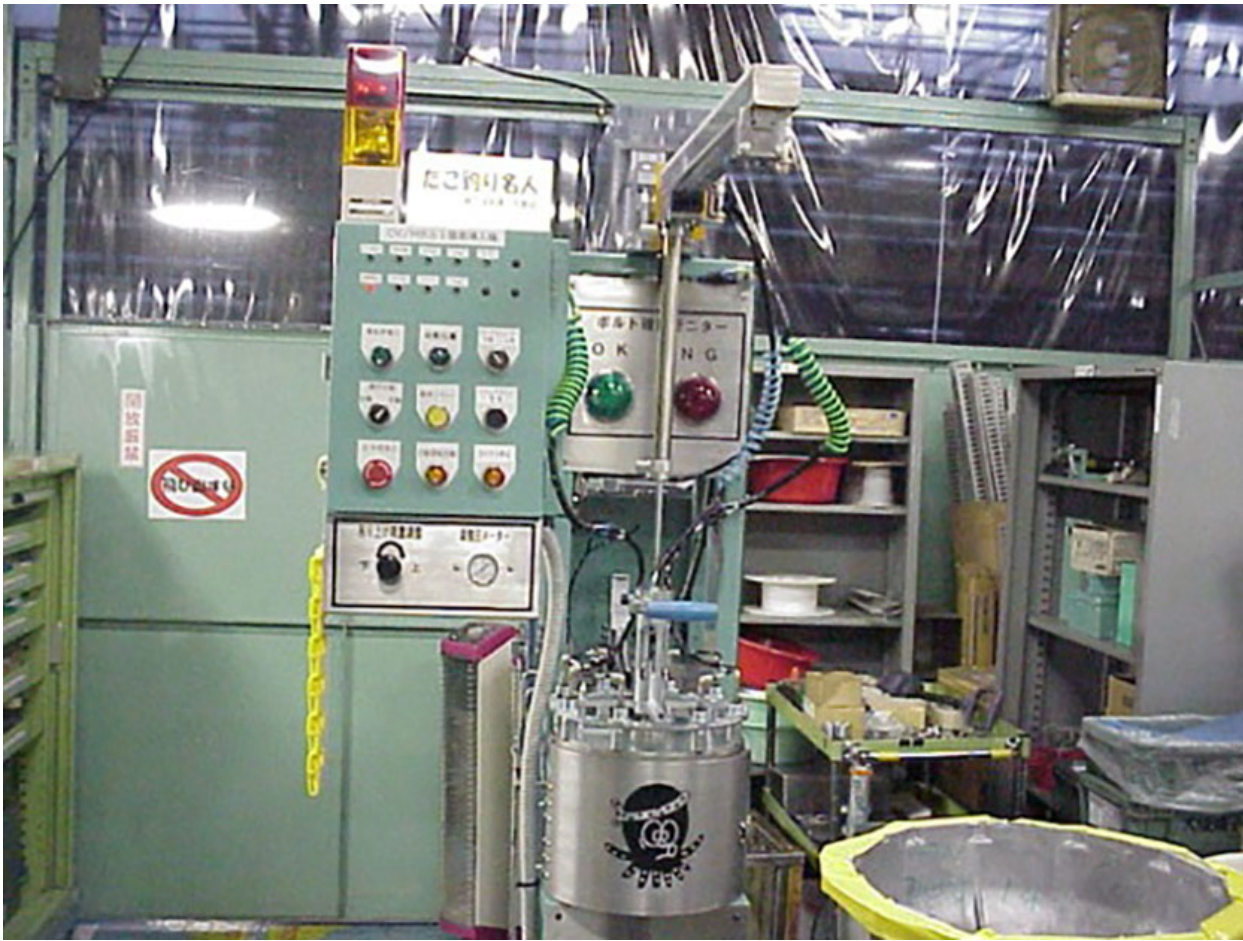


Fig.5 Bolt insertion machine Used for many years on the RA5 line

After 30 years with the support of friends, JATCO Rakuri Kaizen will make even greater strides

I often have a hard time finishing my work. Idea in 2004 in the Yagi district of Kyoto

When I was working on the award-winning work "Kiteni seesaw", it rained heavily when it was nearing completion.

The factory was flooded. A cascade of water pours down on the device, destroying it.

I was heartbroken and gave up. At that time, he helped me with the work

With the desperate cooperation and encouragement of Mr. Takayuki Nakanishi (currently MJ0), we managed to meet the deadline.

I was able to let it go. I really couldn't do anything on my own. During ~

Nishi-san and I have been doing improvement work together for more than 10 years.

It's like.

And now, he is a team member of the Kaizen Group led by Chief Keisuke Horie. in recent years

In the wave of energy saving, each company is focusing on improving karakuri. Toyota region

Not only the company, but also Nissan Motor Co., Ltd. have systematized improvement education, shifted to young people, and

The quality of products has also improved dramatically. So that JATCO does not lose to this,

Chief Horie sums up the Karakuri Improvement Team members who are confident in their skills

In addition, we are vigorously promoting work standardization, which was a little behind other companies.

When Mr. Horie first joined the improvement team, the differences in the nuances of the language made it difficult for him to make improvements.

I felt like I was completely denied by Mr. Horie with a quarrel.

I had a problem. I'm really sorry now

However, he continued to use me without skipping me. Build a relationship of trust with Mr. Horie

Since then, I have been able to talk frankly about anything, and the level of my work has improved.

I think I've stepped up a notch.

Even with "Yes wait!", which won the effort award this time, it took time to adjust the balance of the work,

When it didn't go well, Mr. Horie comforted me by saying, 'There's still time.'

When I thought it was ready, and when I thought it was finally finished, I said, ``I still have time, so I'll move.

Don't you think you're going to do the moving end stopper like a demon!?

I let go of a word. As a result, I won the Effort Award because I persevered until the end.

There is no doubt that I tend to be a little sweet at the end of my work.

Mr. Horie, who controls me very well, is like an older brother that I can rely on even though I am younger.

In addition, Karakuri Kaizen Exhibition 2022 will be held at GKTC (Global Kaizen Technical Center (abbreviation)), as a result of the fact that the friends were able to unite and face it, the

The Yatco booth was bustling and lively like never before. from here

I have a feeling that the Kuri Kaizen Team will be able to catch up and overtake other companies and further improve their level.

is doing!



Friends of the Karakuri Kaizen Team, you can count on us!

*From the left: Chika Tanaka, Daisuke Taminato, Masamichi Kuronaka, Yasuhiro Matsushita, Yasuhiro Yabe, Shuji Yamamoto, Chief Horie

I'm going to turn 60 soon, doing what I love

I can't stop being excited

I will have a milestone once in March. As someone who has been working alone from Yagi, that

When it came to the question of what to do next, he said, "Even if I pay my own rent,

I want to stay (at the time of the consultation, it was a time when temporary workers weren't allowed to leave their families behind)."

I answered without hesitation.

As a lineman, I made the chief cry because of a missing item or an incorrect assembly. ancestor

As I continued to improve, I thought, ``If you leave it to this guy, it will be cheaper and faster than the contractor.

There was even a section chief who complimented me by saying, "What's going on?"

bottom. It has been 30 years since Kaizen work, and I have met many people and helped

I managed to do this.

The other day, we held a workshop called "Let's look for excitement" as part of the purpose penetration activities of the production department.

there was a pu I thought, "Karakuri Kaizen work is really exciting."

rice field. Now is the time to make a prototype of an improved product that I have come up with and actually move it.

But my heart is filled with excitement. I like the work of "Karakuri Kaizen"

So, I think that "my life itself", and I can only thank you for being able to meet such a job.

is not.

Finally, I would like to thank my friends who are excited to make things with me, and help me when things get tough.

Friends who give me, above all, laugh together and feel frustrated when the results come out

Please stay with your friends. I think that if I do that, something good will come of it.

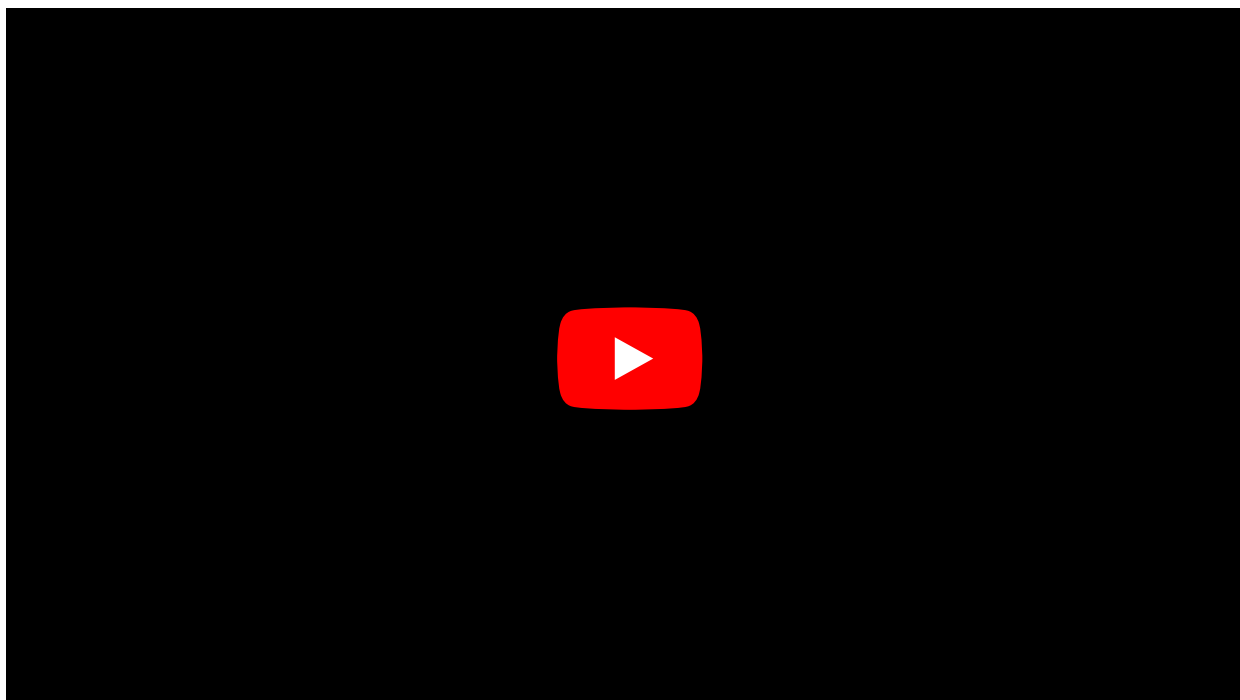


"Karakuri Kaizen is my life" I received a professional comment!

bonus

Here is a video of the "Karakuri Kaizen Idea Exhibition 2022" held in November 2022.

vinegar. Please take a look at the works created by the Karakuri Improvement Team. *Mr. Kuronaka won the award for effort!



Be sure to check out this new article!

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