# We will never forget the Kakegawa Plant (Part 2) Soar into the future, Kakegawa DNA

The Kakegawa Plant, which began production in 1997 and has produced a total of 12.82 million ATs/CVTs for compact cars and light vehicles, closed its doors on July 26, 2024. The strengths of the Kakegawa Plant are not only its quality and ability to make improvements, but also its teamwork and speed, which allows employees to discuss anything with each other. The DNA that we have cultivated will be passed down for the future development of JATCO.



Mr. Oshima, Maintenance Technology Division Mr. Sato, Production Technology Division



Mr. Iwabe, First Quality Assurance Section Mr. Nakamura, Kakegawa Manufacturing Section

## Mr. Oshima, Maintenance Technology Division

Factories have delivery dates based on plans, and since I work in maintenance, I see my job as helping to ensure production is completed by those dates.

Until production ended at the Kakegawa plant, there had been no major downtime

for more than six months. I think this was because the voices of production were able to reach conservation. Even after this is transferred to Fuji Area 1, I want to make sure that our voices are heard and that the line does not stop. When we go to Area 1, we will not only see assembly equipment but also other equipment such as processing equipment, so we would like to improve the skills of each individual.

#### Mr. Iwabe, First Quality Assurance Section

At the Kakegawa Plant, we are a place where everyone can work in solidarity, regardless of department. When I joined the company, the impression was that there were only young people, but I have gained experience and am now able to make good products. Many of the members from back then are still with us, but I think they have all grown since then. We would like to continue to be conscious of improving quality in the future as well, even in Area 1. Thank you very much.

# **Production Technology Division: Mr. Sato**

The Kakegawa Plant was a place where everyone was always facing in the same direction and could work quickly. I would like to utilize the sense of speed that comes from the close proximity of work that I learned at the Kakegawa Plant in Area 1 as well. In relation to the transfer of Area 1 this time, I had to communicate with other departments a lot, so I would like to continue working in a way that allows me to incorporate speed into my schedule.

## Mr. Nakamura from the Kakegawa Manufacturing Division

Those who left the Kakegawa Plant did not do so because they hated the job. With their feelings in mind, we will continue to take pride in absolute safety and quality every day. This can't be just me thinking this. I believe there are still members who share the same feelings, so I hope we can continue to revitalize JATCO even though we are now working in different places. I hope that this will lead to a bright future for JATCO and our company.

Suzuki VP, former Kakegawa Plant Manager (2015-2022)



My deep relationship with the Kakegawa Plant dates back to when I was working in the Assembly Technology Department helping with the launch of the global CVT line. At roughly the same time, the plant underwent organizational changes in 2011 and was transformed into an assembly-only plant in 2012. We were involved during a period of major transformation, from 4-speed ATs to Jatco CVT7 and then to the launch of Jatco CVT-S, from ATs to CVTs.

I am currently living in Mexico, far from Japan, and the only thing I regret when I left for Mexico was the Kakegawa plant shutdown. I regret not being able to be directly involved during this most difficult time.

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who has been involved in production in Kakegawa up until now. We will continue to support you in the future.





We are extremely grateful to everyone at the Kakegawa plant for their tremendous cooperation and for ensuring solid production right up to the end. We will continue to support each other and always keep safety in mind.

The strength of the Kakegawa Plant is that there is a strong desire to achieve goals, and every year new leaders emerge who strive to achieve them. This is supported by excellent on-site capabilities, teamwork in maintenance, quality assurance, manufacturing and technology, and excellent communication skills. I think JATCO has the best ability to make improvements. Production will begin in 11 regions in the future, and we appreciate your continued support.

# <Group photo>



















The Kakegawa plant production closing ceremony was held on July 29th, with approximately 200 people in attendance.



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