

Celebrating 2 years! Get to know the Zama Development Center

The Zama Development Center, a key base for Nissan Motor's electrification strategy that opened for the development of highly competitive electric powertrains, celebrated its second anniversary in October this year.

What kind of place is the Zama Development Center, which will be developing and testing the "X-in-1" electric powertrain for electric vehicles that will be launched on the market next year?

We will have the people from JATCO Engineering's Second Experimental Department introduce it to you!



Saito: Hello everyone. We would like to introduce you to the Zama Development Center, which celebrated its second anniversary on October 1st! Here, we develop and test electric powertrains.



Opening ceremony in October 2022

<Zama Development Center Experiment Site (Facilities)>



【性能試験】単軸ダイナモ試験機(準備)



【性能試験】1軸ダイナモ試験機(試験前確認)



【車両試験】 シャシーダイナモ試験機



【車両試験】 車両整備場(試験前確認)



【車両試験】 車両整備場(部品交換)



【電気試験】 電波暗室試験



【電気試験】 電気信頼性試験



【環境試験】 塩水噴霧試験機



【環境試験】 大型加振機試験機

Headline: e-Powertrain Heritage Collection

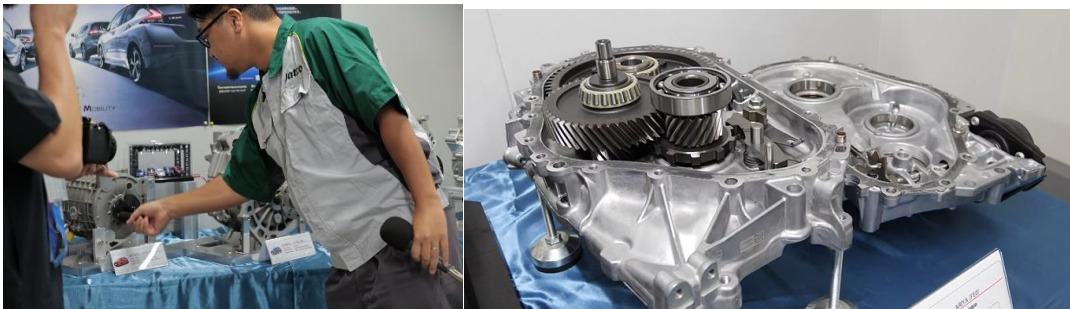
The "e-Powertrain Heritage Collection" will be introduced by Mr. Sekiya and Mr. Koshimochi.



Sekiya: The Zama area was originally Nissan's electric vehicle development base. JATCO will take over development operations from October 2022.



Koshimochi: This exhibit features the e-powertrains, generators, and motors that Nissan has sold to date. One particularly ingenious feature was the fun mechanism that causes a display case of miniature cars to light up when stimulated by induced voltage. There is also a disassembled gearbox installed in the Aria on display.



There will also be an electric powertrain corner. From the left are the first and second generations made by Nissan Motors. I think some of our employees are also riding them. The one on the far right is the X-in-1, which JATCO also helped develop. Since it is not a mass-produced product, we cannot show it to you yet, but we are aiming to bring it to market next year.



<Questions and answers from current members>



Where is Zama located?

Kano: Zama is surrounded by three train stations, but it's in a slightly remote location, taking 20 to 30 minutes to get there. There is a delicious ramen restaurant nearby, as well as a Costco and Aeon Mall, so it's very convenient. While I'm working, US military planes sometimes fly overhead.





What's good about Zama?

Kano: Many of our members in Zama have come from various regions, but they are all friendly and I think the best thing about them is that they can work happily.



Ogawa-san: Because Zama is a new base, it is a workplace where people can express their opinions regardless of age.

How do you feel looking back on the past two years?



Akase: I was seconded to Zama once 10 years ago, and I had connections there from back then, so it was easy for me to come here for the opening. Among these, the shape of electric powertrains has changed considerably since 10 years ago, so I feel the difficulties of conducting experiments and am studying them every day.



Kanno: I have spent the past two years learning how the business works from Nissan Motor Company. In reality, time passes by so quickly that it feels like the period during which I can learn has already ended. I would like to continue to gain experience and improve my level.



Ishikawa: Two years felt very long, or rather, it was two years that I was able to really feel the time. Being constantly with people around me helped me become more and more proficient at my job, so I didn't feel stressed. Everyone walks along with me, if I have problems they will listen, and if someone is having trouble, they all pitch in to help. It's an environment with

great teamwork, so I'm able to spend a fulfilling time.



Was there anything in particular that you struggled with?

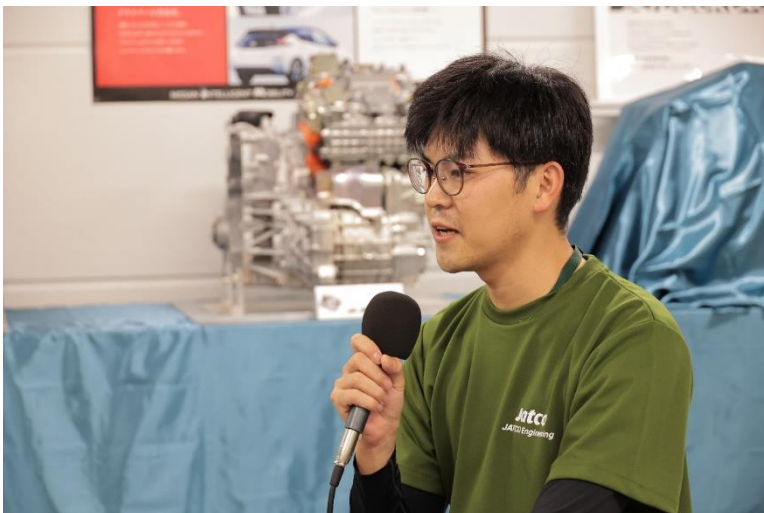
Omura: After coming to Zama, I was put in charge of EMC testing. I started without knowing anything, but the hardest part was absorbing the knowledge and skills and carrying out the work.



Saito: When the Zama plant opened, as a supervisor, I had a lot of trouble creating a safe workplace and ensuring quality. Also, while I was able to meet great friends who helped us bring the team together, we had a lot of difficulties valuing those bonds.



Tanabe: The work in Zama is completely different from the CVT/AT work I had been doing up until then, so it was difficult to learn the job from scratch. In particular, the facilities and measuring instruments used are completely different, so that was the most difficult part. However, I believe that it is thanks to everyone that I have been able to get through the past two years without any injuries, so I will continue to strive to create an injury-free workplace.



Takahashi: Until now I've been involved with engines and transmissions, but as I started working on motors, which I had no knowledge of, I was able to carry out experiments on my own, thanks to the people at Nissan and my reliable seniors. As more young people join the team in the future, I will do my best to be in a position to teach them more. I also hope that anyone who will be involved with electric powertrains in the future will take a look at Zama's development and absorb as much as they can.

In addition, a ceremony to commemorate the second anniversary of the opening of the Zama Development Center was held on October 5th, where participants looked back on the past two years and made declarations of their determination.





I'm sure you're all excited to visit Zama Development Center, the new base for electric powertrains. Find out what the scissors in the photo below means in the November issue of HOT TOPICS!

