TRI opens booth at International Healthcare Products Exhibition
～Nursing-Care Assistance Robot、Body-Pressure Detection Sensor、SR Active Mattress～

Tokai Rubber Industries Ltd. （HQ : Komaki City, Aichi Prefecture; CEO: Yoshiaki Nishimura）will run a booth at 「The 39th International Home Care & Rehabilitation Exhibition 2012」being held at the “Tokyo Big Sight” exhibition center, from 26-Sep-2012 (Wed) until 28-Sep-2012 (Friday). Our company’s booth will, carrying on from last year, display and give live demonstrations of The Nursing-Care Assistance Robot 「RIBA」- which uses our independently developed all-rubber touch-sensor “Smart Rubber (SR) Sensor”; 「Body-Pressure Detection Sensor」 (Product name –“SR soft cushion”）; and, The bedsore preventing 「SR Active Mattress」.

The new robot 「RIBA-Ⅱx」 will be shown, which compared to the 「RIBA-Ⅱ」 that we exhibited last year is much lighter and compacter. The body-pressure detection sensors, which according to monitors’ evaluations so far – are said to be effective for things such as wheelchair cushion selection, we intend to launch in January 2013. The SR Active Mattress now takes blood circulation into account, so is more effective than last year’s model. Also, we newly-developed breath-measuring equipment that uses SR, and are in the process of enabling it to send that information to peoples’ health condition monitors.

Do try TRI’s 「Smart Rubber Technology」! It is a flexible material that contributes to a better life for everyone.

TRI’s booth location will be:  Hall 1, Aisle 3, No.5 (1-03-05).

<Exhibit Goals>
Our company’s R&D Dept., the “New Business Research and Development Laboratories”, continues to develop new rubber-technology and uses for rubber. This includes the development of products which use SR sensors, which will be used to meet the future medical, health, and caregiving etc. needs of society, and we are accelerating our efforts towards their commercialization.

Our exhibition models are prototypes which precede mass production, and we think the input of opinions and impressions of booth visitors will lead to the development of products which better reflect market demands.

<Exhibit piece introductions.>
①  Nursing-Care Assistance Robot *1
The Nursing-Care Assistance Robot is being developed at RTC – (the RIKEN-TRI Collaboration Center for Human-Interactive Robot Research) – founded in collaboration with Japan’s Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (“Riken”). Built-in SR sensors allow the robot to operate according to touch, detecting the person’s bodyweight. This is the RIBA-Ⅱx’s first exhibition, and compared to the RIBA-Ⅱ shown last year, it is much lighter and compacter. (Weight has been reduced by about 25%, and trolley size by about 20%), enabling it to work in smaller care-giving spaces.
② **Body-pressure detection sensor –**(Product Name : "SR Soft Cushion")*2

Can detect Body Pressure Distribution on its large, elastic surface area, without making the person lying on it feel strange. Actual body pressure distribution can be viewed on a computer screen in real time. Correct body-positioning can be verified without relying on experience and perception. To be launched in January 2013.
SR Active Mattress.

With its large surface area being easy to move on, the SR Active Mattress uses soft and highly durable SR sensors, and is being developed jointly by KyuuShuu University and its hospital. Body pressure readings detected by the Smart-rubber sensors installed in the underside of the mattress are continuously relayed back, allowing the mattress to automatically re-distribute the body’s pressure. Because it also takes blood-flow into consideration, it is good for preventing bedsores. This lessons the repositioning work which conventionally is carried out every 2-3 hours. In addition, it is also equipped with high-sensitivity SR sensors, which we are fine-tuning so that the person’s breathing data is sent to a health-condition monitor.

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