

September 27, 2022

**Maryland Investment Seminar in Tokyo:
Governor Hogan Illustrates Benefits of the Investment
Environment in the State**

(United States)

Americas Division

On September 22, JETRO and the State of Maryland, U.S.A., co-hosted the Maryland Investment Seminar in Tokyo. Governor Larry Hogan delivered remarks on the State's latest investment climate, and Hitachi, Ltd. gave a presentation on its railroad business in the United States.

In his keynote address, Governor Hogan stated, "Maryland has a social infrastructure that meets the highest global standard and a well-educated labor force while it leads the world in key industries such as Life Sciences, Cybersecurity, Aerospace, and Defense." He stated that Maryland is currently dedicated to attracting inward investment, saying, "Earlier this month, we launched the [Global Gateway Program](#). It will not only assist foreign companies with start-up costs for office leasing contracts and registration but also with marketing and corporate matchmaking." He added that Maryland offers other incentives, such as tax credits, along with this program. He continued, "Maryland is truly open for business, and we will continue to do everything in our power to do more business with our friends in Japan."



Maryland Governor Larry Hogan at his keynote address (Photo by JETRO)

Benjamin Wu, Special Advisor to the Governor, explained the history of the Japan-Maryland relationship and detailed the investment environment in Maryland. To demonstrate how attractive it is to invest in Maryland, he cited several characteristics of the State, including: the highly skilled workforce in technology, science, and other areas; the State's status in the United States as a hub of world-class R&D; the abundance of fastest-growing enterprises; and the state government's additional plans to boost investments in the international infrastructure. With this statement, he encouraged Japanese companies to expand their businesses in Maryland.

After the speeches by the state government officials, Takuya Yamakawa at the Railroad Business Unit in Hitachi gave his presentation. He explained the history of the company's railroad business in the United States and its plans. The company constructed a railroad car factory in Maryland in March 2022. He specified why Hitachi chose Maryland as an investment destination: The State's logistics convenience and highly skilled labor force; and access to sufficient support from the state government, such as tax credits. He also discussed the company's prospects for future business in the State.

(Yoshihito Ishiguro)

JETRO New York
Rept4@jetro.go.jp