



## **ONE-PAGE INFORMATION - KAIZEN No.51**

Published by S. Yoshida, GTR Institute, Tokyo Japan E-mail: <a href="mailto:gtr-inst@wta.att..ne.jp">gtr-inst@wta.att..ne.jp</a>

## Cell Production System is in Fashion

Nikkei Monozukuri, a new monthly magazine published by Nikkei Shimbun Newspaper to specialize in Monozukuri (Manufacturing skills and spirit), has picked up the cell production system: General speaking, the cell production system is being adopted with tremendous saving and increased productivity. Operators have positive reaction to the cell production system.

Following are some opinion survey results from japanese operators

Question		Answers			
		No	The same	Yes	No response
Better efficient ?	Conveyor Line	22%	34%	36%	8%
	Cell	14%	23%	(56%)	7%
Fewer Defects?	Conveyor Line	38%)	42%	18%	2%
	Cell	27%	33%	36%	4%
Feel more responsibility?	Conveyor Line	19%	23%	53%	5%
	Cell	5%	9%	(81%)	5%
Being worth while?	Conveyor Line	23%	39%	31%	7%
	Cell	11%	22%	(64%)	3%
Feel more physical fatigue?	Conveyor Line	45%	27%	25%	3%
	Cell	50%	27%	20%	3%

Source: Japanese ministry of labor and welfare

When you look at this table, you will be convinced that the cell production system is far more better than the conveyor system

## Thailand and Vietnam-Wonder of Economic Growth

Many people say that China is the factory of the world. But in recent years much attention is directed to Thailand and Vietnam; the two ASEAN countries. Just look at the comparison table of China and ASEAN and you will understand that ASEAN countries as great as China.

	Population	GDP/Capita	Trade Volume
China	1,285 mil	US\$927	US\$509,800mil
ASEAN	525mil	US\$1,154	US\$320,400mil

Economic growth of Thailand and Vietnam is as equally as that at China ---- 7-8% per year. Thailand produces 800,000cars in 2003 and many japanese companies such as Toyota, Canon are investing in manufacturing plants in Thailand and Vietnam.