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Sharing Your Life

Muratec Customer Magazine 2 | 2024 | EN



We would like to thank all of our customers for their continued support and patronage of Muratec products. We are also aware that you have been making great business efforts over a long period of time in the midst of an ever-changing global political and economic situation. For all of this, we would like to express our deepest respect to you.

In such an environment, as I have repeatedly said, one of the important roles we should play is to support our customers better than ever before. The second is to continue to develop and provide machines that can achieve maximum energy and labor-saving effects and produce high-quality products that stand out from the crowd.

In this issue of Sharing Your Life, you will find a preview of our exhibit at ITMA ASIA + CITME 2024, which will take place in October. At the upcoming event, we will mainly be showcasing our new automatic winder, PROCESS CONER Alcone. Alcone made its debut at ITMA 2023 in Milan, Italy, and ITMA ASIA + CITME 2022 in Shanghai, China, both of which were held last year. This will be the first time for us to exhibit Alcone since we began its full-scale production in April of this year. Production of our previous automatic winder, the QPRO series, has been discontinued but it enjoyed many years of popularity with our customers.

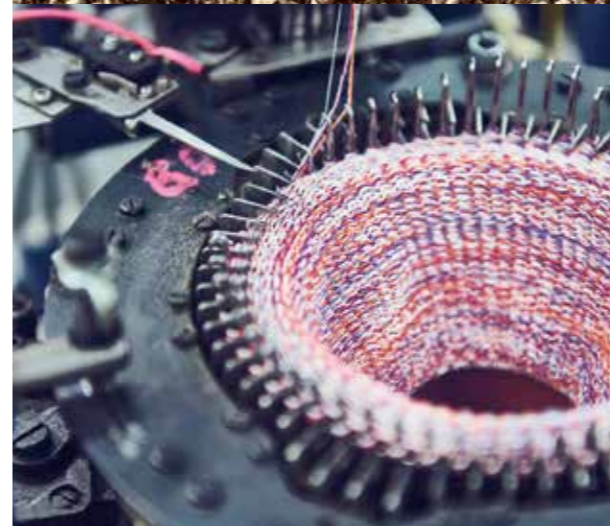
Alcone was developed with a focus on operation with fewer alarms and less labor, in addition to improving on the high production,

high quality and energy saving features inherited from the QPRO series. Last year, it was a little too early to promote the achievements of Alcone at the two major exhibitions because it was still a new model. This time, we would like to present Alcone, which is already in use in many countries, together with its operating records and data that prove the results of its development efforts. Before that, we have included in this issue an interview with Haripriya, an Alcone customer in India. We would appreciate it if you take the time to read it.

We will also exhibit the new cloud-based service of Muratec Smart Support, which has been highly praised for the responsiveness and accuracy of its remote support. In addition, we will display products developed by Murata Parts Sales Ltd. to solve customers' on-site problems, as well as the VORTEX 870 EX spinning machine, whose shipments have increased dramatically in recent years. We will also show the latest VORTEX yarn garment samples and new product proposals using core yarn.

We hope you will visit our booth to see the products we have been continuously developing based on the recognition of our important roles mentioned above. Come and experience our "services and parts support system" and "passion for manufacturing." We look forward to seeing you there.

Tsuranori Nomura
Operating officer,
Sales & Marketing Department of
Textile Machinery Division



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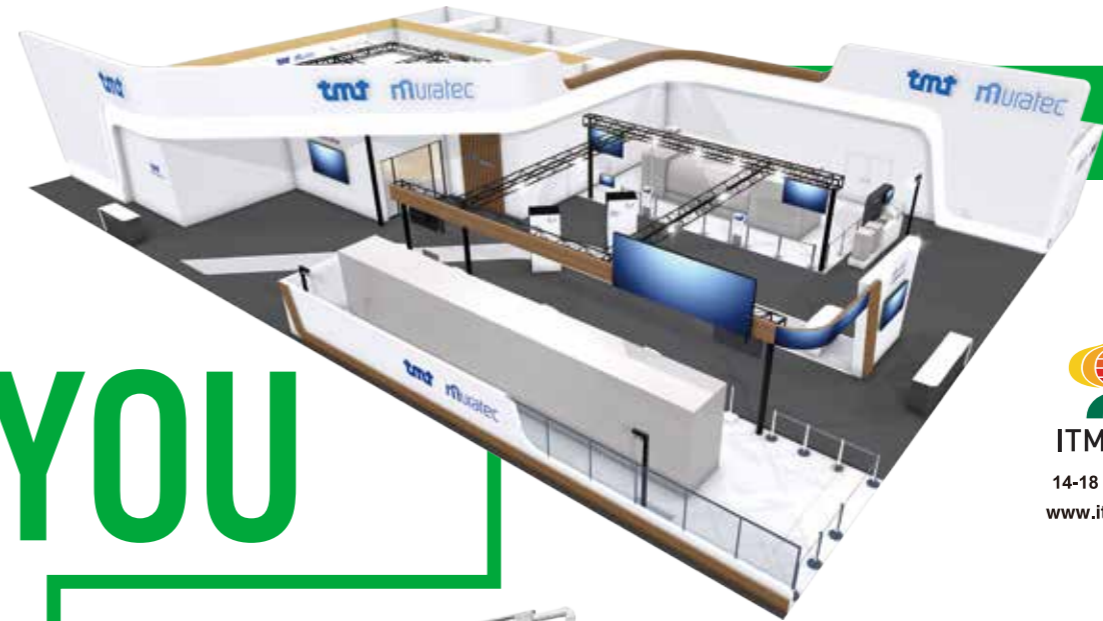
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[Cover Photo] Special thanks to Souki Inc.

ITMA ASIA + CITME 2024 PREVIEW

NEW STANDARDS ARE WAITING FOR YOU



Exhibition Details



ITMA ASIA

14-18 October 2024 Shanghai, China
www.itmaasia.com www.citme.com.cn



Muratec will exhibit at ITMA ASIA+CITME 2024 to be held in Shanghai China from October 14th to 18th 2024. We will be introducing the newest models under a theme of "Right Choice, Bright Future".

THIS IS THE ANSWER

Regardless of the process, region, or industry type, the textile industry is facing a variety of challenges related to sustainability, labor shortages, and response to diversifying consumer needs. To address these challenges, Muratec is combining unprecedented ideas with its long-accumulated expertise and track record to continue to develop new products and solutions.

One example is the VORTEX spinning machine. VORTEX integrates different spinning processes for greater energy efficiency, in turn supporting customers' sustainability initiatives. VORTEX yarn is resistant to pilling thanks to its low hairiness, and can therefore increase products' durability and lifespan. VORTEX can also reduce textile product waste and help minimize any negative impacts on the environment. Elsewhere, by changing the intermediate casing in the Alcone automatic winder to glass fiber reinforced plastic, for example, Muratec is enhancing the energy efficiency of our products while reducing negative environmental impacts across the supply chain. Alcone boasts exceptional ease-of-use which is our solution for reducing dependence on labor for certain tasks, thereby reducing labor shortages. Alcone facilitates intuitive, simple operation reducing training time necessary for the operator. Moreover, our IoT solution, Muratec Smart Support, provides easy-to-understand visuals of operational information. Anyone can see the next task that requires completion, enabling unmanned operational management.

These products and services are just some of the solutions we offer. At ITMA ASIA, we will have solutions readily available to address the challenges directly facing our customers. We look forward to meeting you.

Toshiharu Okamura
Area Sales Manager (China)



1. Automatic Winder "PROCESS CONER Alcone"

Following on from last year, at this year's ITMA ASIA we will demonstrate both drum and arm traverse types on a single stand, showcasing diverse yarn types and devices with each unit. We will also give a presentation that describes exceptional productivity, ease-of-use, and energy efficiency of Alcone. To customers who have yet to see Alcone, we look forward to showing off its various advancements through actual demonstrations. Please come and see its advantages for yourselves.

3. Muratec Smart Support (MSS)

MSS is our state-of-the-art IoT solution and is packed full of our many years of expertise in management systems. Today, more than 2,100 companies are using MSS for smart operational management and stable machinery operation. At this year's booth, we will use MSS to demonstrate the remote operation of VOS, a data management system for automatic winders and VORTEX spinning. We will also showcase various other advanced MSS solutions, such as a proposal for predictive maintenance using information acquired from various sensors.



2. VORTEX 870 EX

Approximately 250 VORTEX partners, spinning companies, and clothing manufacturers worldwide have adopted VORTEX as a means of differentiation. Sustainability is a key consideration when developing future applications. In addition to its functionality, VORTEX yarn also has the potential to contribute to sustainability. With the new Core Color yarn we announced at last year's ITMA ASIA as an example, use of VORTEX can lead to the development of various new sustainable yarns. At the ITMA ASIA booth, to provide visitors with potential development ideas, we will exhibit a range of new fabric and product samples made using various yarn types and counts. Moreover, through a spinning demonstration, we will showcase the machine's outstanding functionality by spinning yarns currently garnering a high level of attention.



4. Genuine Parts

At this year's ITMA ASIA, we will exhibit some maintenance examples that allow customers to use our products over the long-term, as well as peripheral equipment such as sliver analyzers that have been developed using ideas from the frontlines.





We recently installed Alcone for a 51,000 spindle project.

We've been using Muratec winders since we installed the first 20,000 spindles in 2016. We now have 131,000 spindles installed company wide. For our latest project of 51,000 spindles, we chose Alcone based on our market survey and comparison to other available spinning machines.

We are satisfied with Muratec's product and service

We are extremely satisfied with Muratec's products and service. We are also impressed with Muratec's continuous improvement in machine quality, energy efficiency, and usability. Muratec has supported us in every aspect from the beginning with timely service and proper guidance.

Our Partnership and Future

To achieve our vision of 1,000,000 spindles, we are confident that Muratec will deliver high quality and technologically advanced products and exceptional service to keep us competitive in the market. We look forward to our continued partnership and are excited about the possibilities for the future.

Interviewee



Group Chairman
Mr Ramesh Ranipa



Managing Director
Mr Hareh Ranipa



Haripriya Spinning Mill Pvt Ltd
Location: Rajkot, Gujarat, India
Established: 1999
Ring Spinning capacity: 131,000 spindles
(Alcone: 51,000 spindles)
Products: knitting & weaving yarn
(compact / combed / carded with slub,
count range from 20 to 40)

“ We have high expectations for Alcone. ”

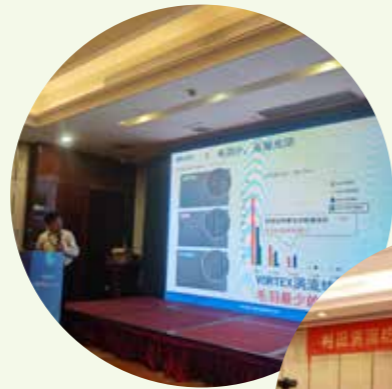


VORTEX NETWORK ⁱⁿ CHINA

VORTEX users are weaving their activities with each other!

Community for the Latest Information on Yarn China Yarn

China Yarn is a distribution event hosted by the China Cotton Spinning Association where various textile related companies representing raw materials, yarns, and fabrics exhibit. Due to the growing interest in VORTEX within the industry, a VORTEX Seminar has been held during the festival for the past several years. The seminar covers not only topics such as the VORTEX market and yarn structure, for those who are not yet familiar with VORTEX, but also the latest yarn trends and recommendations for processing after spinning, which can be useful for VORTEX users. We are actively sending out information to fabric and apparel manufacturers.



From the organizer of China Yarn

“ China Yarn aims to develop the Chinese spinning industry by spreading new spinning technologies and products. We highly value VORTEX, and in cooperation with Muratec, we have held various seminars for more than 10 years so that people in the spinning industry can learn more about VORTEX. This initiative has had a significant impact on weaving, knitting, and other processes, and at the same time has expanded the variety of VORTEX yarns and applications. We expect that Muratec's high-performance products and future research and development, will contribute to the development of the Chinese spinning industry. ”

Mr. WANG GUOGANG, Editor in Chief of China Yarn



The Trend Hub of Man-made Fibers Polyester & Viscose Raw Materials Conference



In China, conferences are held to share information on fiber market trends for raw materials such as polyester and viscose. In these conferences, we consult with raw material manufacturers on fiber development suitable for VORTEX spinning. In addition, Muratec actively shares information on VORTEX in order to lower the barriers to spinning yarn types such as recycled polyester, which is in high demand worldwide but has potential issues in the spinning process. Through information exchange and collaboration with raw material manufacturers, Muratec drives strategies to respond to and meet the needs of a progressively diverse market.

Muratec's VORTEX Solution Team Supports Customer's Business



Aiming to further expand the market for VORTEX, which is still quite new in terms of spun yarn as a whole, Muratec has established a support team dedicated to VORTEX. Our team is very experienced, not only in spinning, but also in fiber preparation and the post-process such as knitting, weaving and dyeing. They also support trials of new materials and solve problems related to yarns and fabrics. Our VORTEX Solution Team provides solid support to customers with the experience and knowledge that has supported VORTEX's market expansion in the field.

From customers

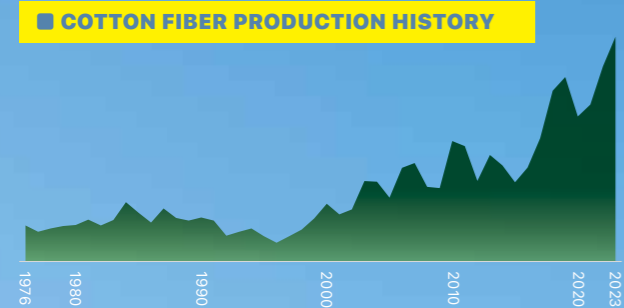
“ The VORTEX Solutions team provides day-to-day operational advice for our plant, which operates more than 3,000 machines. They are also very helpful in responding to problems and working closely with raw material manufacturers. I look forward to the continued strong support of the VORTEX Solutions team in our product development. ”

Mr. WU JUNNIAN, G.M. Suzhou Pure-fiber Textile Technology Co., Ltd.



History of Cotton Cultivation in Brazil

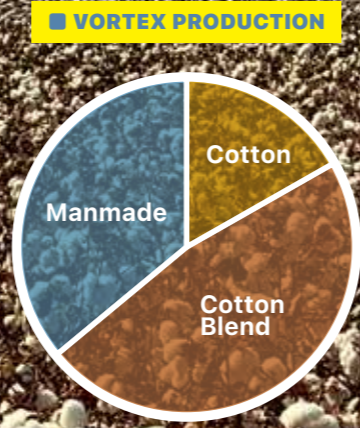
Cotton became one of Brazil's major export crops in the 18th century. Cotton, produced mainly in the northeastern region of Brazil, was exported to Europe, where demand was increasing due to the Industrial Revolution. In recent decades, Brazil has become one of the world's largest cotton producers and exporters. Not only that, but the Cerrado region, especially the states of Mato Grosso and Bahia, are known for their high quality cotton production with an emphasis on sustainable production and environmental friendliness. Brazil's exports of processed cotton (lint) reached approximately 2.7 million tons between August 2023 and July 2024, surpassing the United States to become the largest exporter. At the same time, Brazil's cotton consumption is also high, with cotton making up the majority of the fiber market.



The Past Challenges of VORTEX Spinning with 100% Cotton

The first trial of VORTEX in Brazil was in 1998, spinning 100% Brazilian carded cotton into a Ne 30 for weaving. The difficulty at that time was that we could not get the properties of the cotton fiber. We could get only the dust content of the fiber. Micronaire, fiber length and other fiber details were not available. We requested a sliver count of 35 grains/yard (Ne 0.23). It was not easy to get good quality in a fine sliver. Another difficulty at the beginning, was adjusting the warping and sizing process to the characteristics of the VORTEX yarn.

High absorption, low hairiness and quick drying are characteristics of the yarn. We invited the technical staff from Murata Machinery USA, to help us find the proper setup for weaving VORTEX yarn. The man who visited Brazil from Muratec Japan for this project was Mr. Shigeyama. Now he is working as Product Manager of VORTEX. He worked a couple of months with us to get success, which opened the door for VORTEX business in Brazil. Furthermore, the introduction of the Crown Spinning Nozzle in 2007, which was designed specifically for 100% cotton, had a significant impact on the expansion of the cotton knitwear market in Brazil. Furthermore, the introduction of the Crown Nozzle in 2007, which was compatible with thicker count cotton, had a significant impact on the expansion of the cotton knitwear market in Brazil. Currently, about 20% of VORTEX in Brazil is 100% cotton and more than 40% is blended. Compared to the Asian VORTEX market, the percentage of cotton is high.



Excellent VORTEX Partners in Brazil

SPINNING COMPANY



Industria Textil Maliber is a well-known spinning company in Brazil. They switched from ring spinning to VORTEX and became a pioneer of 100% cotton VORTEX yarns.

KNITWEAR MANUFACTURERS



MALWEE is one of the largest knitwear manufacturers in Brazil. The demand for VORTEX yarn increased in Brazil when 100% combed cotton VORTEX yarn started to be used in the printed knitwear of this MALWEE company.



Let's See 100% Cotton VORTEX at ITMA ASIA!

At ITMA ASIA 2024, we will exhibit T-shirts using VORTEX yarn collaborated by Maliber and Malwee.



BRAZILIAN COTTON MEETS VORTEX



Nara Socks

下靴良茶

Nara Prefecture is known for its socks, with approximately 100 million pairs produced annually. In the past, when rice production was low in this region due to lack of water resources, cotton cultivation and weaving were actively practiced to earn a living. In the early 1600s, as the demand for cotton for clothing increased, so did the production of cotton and the division of labor in the production process.

However, from the late 1800s, the Japanese cotton crop and cotton-processing industries were hit hard by the massive imports of cheap cotton and cotton products. On the other hand, the government's sense of crisis led to the establishment of spinning mills in Nara, which transformed the city from a cotton-growing center to a yarn and cloth producing center.

In the early 1900s, Taijiro Yoshii, who was a local wholesale cotton dealer, purchased a hand-turned sock knitting machine from the USA to create an industry that replaced cotton cultivation. This was one of the first steps toward Nara becoming a major sock manufacturing center in Japan. Sock manufacturing soon spread around the area because it took up little space and required a relatively small capital investment to get started. Around 1950, when synthetic fiber production began to flourish in Japan, Nara also became the first region in Japan to successfully introduce woolly nylon. In addition, knitting machines capable of producing a wide variety of patterns led to the production of patterned socks, and the sock market as a whole grew significantly.

Sock production increased with Japan's rapid economic growth, reaching its peak around 1990. Since then, production has continued to decline due to the influence of inexpensive foreign products, but even today about 60% of domestic socks are produced in Nara Prefecture. In order to stop the decline in production,

the Nara production area has been planting seeds for the future by promoting the branding of Nara socks and launching an e-commerce site "The Pair" to connect consumers and producers, with the aim of increasing the number of fans by giving shape to consumer needs. We look forward to the further progress of these Nara socks.

Souki Inc.

In this Nara production area, there is a company with a unique approach. That is Souki Inc.



Souki, which has been in business for 96 years, is a sock manufacturer that still operates retro knitting machines from the Showa Era. To break away from traditional OEM production, the company has developed several in-house brands such as "Re Loop", "SOUKI SOCKS", and "aiamu" which deal in high-quality socks packed with the skills of expert craftsmen. In addition, the company offers a workshop called "Charicks", where ordinary consumers can try their hand at making socks. The name

"Charicks" is a blend of "chari", a slang term for a bicycle, and "socks". All you have to do is select the yarn color, size, etc., pedal the bicycle connected to the sock knitting machine for about 15 minutes, and your one-of-a-kind socks are ready. Many tourists can be seen pedaling with smiles on their faces to make a totally unique pair of socks. Don't forget to make a reservation before visiting.
Charicks URL: <https://www.souki-knit.jp/project/>

Kakinoha Sushi

Kakinoha sushi, famous in Nara Prefecture, are made by wrapping rice and salted fish in kakinoha (persimmon leaves), which are commonly harvested in this area, and pressing them together. In an era without today's distribution networks and refrigeration technology, kakinoha sushi was the best way to eat fish in Nara, a city without an ocean, because the antibacterial properties of the kakinoha leaves enhanced preservation. Please enjoy the simple taste, which is filled with Nara's nature and history.



Special thanks to Nara Hosiery Industry Cooperative Union, Koryo City Societies of Commerce and Industry



MURATA MACHINERY USA 50th Anniversary Ceremony

26 Jun. 2024

On 26 June, MURATA MACHINERY USA, INC. (MMUSA) held an event to celebrate its 50th anniversary. On the day of the event, Daisuke Murata, President of Murata Machinery Ltd. from Japan, and approximately 250 staff members, as well as retirees who have contributed to MMUSA's development, gathered at MMUSA's headquarters in Charlotte. The planting of a commemorative tree and luncheon were conducted in a friendly atmosphere, with a sense of Muratec's connection that transcended time and distance.

MMUSA was established in 1974 and has expanded its business from textile machinery to communication equipment, Logistics & Automation, machine tools, and clean FA, in line with the economic development of the United States.

It is only because we have been supported by many customers and suppliers for the last 50 years that we were able to reach this milestone. We highly appreciate your continued support.



Baton passing from QPRO to Alcone

28 Mar. 2024

On 28 March, a ceremony was held at the Kaga Plant to mark the end of QPRO production. During the ceremony, the last QPRO screw was tightened by Mr. Masai, General Manager of the Textile Machinery Division, and Mr. Nakagawa, former factory manager. QPRO reached the end of its production and passed the baton to Alcone. All of us at Muratec would like to thank once again our customers and all those involved in QPRO.



Division: Textile Machinery

SaigonTex (Vietnam)

10-13 Apr. 2024

Our new automatic winder "PROCESS CONER Alcone" was exhibited for the first time in Vietnam, and many visitors valued its ease of operation and maintenance. "VORTEX 870 EX" spinning machine equipped with core yarn device and VORTEX fabric samples also attracted visitors' attention. We also exhibited the IoT integrated management system "Muratec Smart Support (MSS)" and maintenance parts. We received multiple inquiries at this exhibition.



IGATEX (Pakistan)

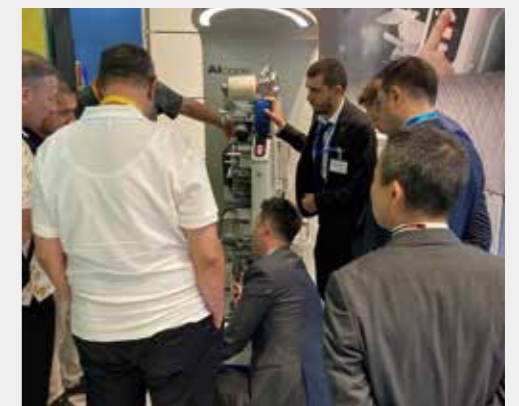
1-4 May 2024

Collaborating with our partner, Spintex, we exhibited our latest model of automatic winder "PROCESS CONER Alcone", VORTEX fabric samples, Muratec Smart Support and recommended machine parts for old and new models. Alcone's productivity and usability attracted attention from many visitors. All attendants wore matching uniforms during IGATEX, and on the second day, we wore traditional Pakistani attire made from VORTEX yarn.

International Textile Machinery Exhibition (Turkey)

4-8 Jun. 2024

At this year's International Textile Machinery Exhibition (ITM), Alcone's actual equipment was exhibited for the first time in Turkey, and its distinctive features, such as ease of operation and maintenance, were promoted. In addition, samples using VORTEX yarn were displayed to showcase its diverse applications and products. At the Muratec Smart Support (MSS) corner, visitors were able to experience actual operation using a touch panel to learn about new functions and the feel of operation, and we presented our predictive maintenance.



Kakigori

刨冰



Kakigori is a cold dessert made by finely shaving ice and pouring sweet syrup or condensed milk over it. Many people enjoy it in restaurants or at home to keep cool during the hot Japanese summer.

Kakigori has a long history and was consumed mainly by the upper class from around the 8th century. In the 19th century, stores specializing in selling ice appeared, and later, with the evolution of ice-making technology, Kakigori gradually spread among the general public. In modern times, it has become a popular summer tradition in Japan, along with the distinctive design of the large "ice" flags that are displayed in front of stores in the summer.

Japanese kakigori is characterized by brightly colored syrups, a wide variety of toppings, and beautiful presentation, and is a great way to enjoy a varied menu according to your taste and the season. Japanese toppings such as green tea and azuki beans are also popular among foreign tourists. Recently, an increasing number of cafes and specialty stores are offering kakigori that is as fluffy and melt-in-your-mouth as powdered snow, and unique menu items that are not only enjoyable to eat but also visually appealing.

We hope you will enjoy our kakigori, which is full of Japanese tradition and modern ingenuity!

“刨冰”是一种将冰块刨成冰花，上面淋上甜甜的糖浆或炼乳等的冰凉甜点。为了清清凉凉地度过日本炎热的夏天，很多人或在店中，或在家中都会吃上一杯刨冰。

刨冰历史悠久，大约起源于8世纪，据说当时主要是上层阶级的人们享用。进入19世纪，市场上出现了冰的专营店，其后随着制冰技术的发展，冰在普通大众之间也逐渐普及开来。到了现代，每到夏季，店铺门口则悬挂起一面外形独特的旗帜，上面写着大大的“冰”字，这也成了日本夏季的一道风景线。

日本刨冰的特点是糖浆色彩鲜艳、配料种类繁多、造型美观，其魅力在于根据个人喜好及季节可品尝不同口味的刨冰。抹茶和红豆等日式配料深受外国游客的喜爱。最近越来越多的咖啡馆和专营店开始注重冰的质感，刨冰犹如雪花一样松软、入口即化，另外还推出了不仅让人吃得过瘾，而且还非常漂亮养眼的特色刨冰。

小小刨冰凝结着日本的传统和现代的匠心，欢迎品尝！