

## Michael Chu

## **Expert on developing business** relationships with Japan and China

www.AsiaBizCo.com

Ten tips for the quick Japanese business trip:

- 1.) Bring cash and/or traveler's checks. Credit cards are only used in international hotels, large department stores and some upscale restaurants. You will need cash for everyday expenses such as subways and taxi and it is difficult to access ATM machines even in large cities.
- 2.) Buy a subway map and learn the routes you will be taking.
- 3.) The heat may be sweltering at times, but always dress professionally.

## **Ten Tips Tor The Quick Japanese Business Trip:**

- 4.) Rent a cell phone because U.S. cell phones don't work in Japan.
- 5.) Since the Japanese usually have a hard time following spoken English, talk slower, use easier vocabulary, wait for response, and confirm understanding. Ask questions & encourage them to express their view
- 6.) Use: Last name + "san" to put them at ease, for example "Satosan."
- 7.) Travel light. Most of the time, you will be going through train stations, hopping on a bus or taxi. The Federal Aviation Administration www.japan-zone.com/ regulation requires carry-on size bags. Luggage with wheels is the best.

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- 8.) Use your wit to break the ice such as making fun of yourself for getting lost (most people do, when they travel to Japan), or other mishaps of your trip.
- 9.) Use body language wisely and render opinions from Japanese company managers after presentations.
- 10.) Learn basic Japanese phrases and sentences because this is one of the easiest ways to show respect to a foreign culture.

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