

News from the Nordic Pavilion at EXPO 2005, Aichi Japan  
 May 5, 2005

**“Ho, ho, ho” - Green Santa visits the Nordic Pavilion**

On the occasion of “Children’s Day” in Japan, the Nordic Pavilion offered a full-day program for the youngest generation at EXPO today. The pavilion hosted a special visit by Green Santa from Denmark, and arranged a children’s program on the outdoor event stages at EXPO in cooperation with the Scandinavian Tourist Board.

The youngest guest at the pavilion could also enjoy Andersen fairytale-reading by pavilion guides, and play with Swedish toys from both Stiga and Brio. A large number of presents from the pavilion shop were given out to lucky pavilion guests throughout the day.



The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the outdoor event at Global Common 4, where Green Santa performed with the EXPO mascots, Morizo and Kikkoro. Green Santa, the Danish goodwill ambassador for the environment, explained to the young audience how global warming is affecting life in his home region in the North- threatening both animals like reindeers and melting the glaciers. The event attracted a large number of guests and media representatives.

The Green Santa project has the aim of introducing Danish environmental policies in Japan, and raising awareness of environmental issues among Japanese youth. Green Santa has already visited Japan the past three years around Christmas time, but this visit is the first one in spring. The occasion is EXPO’s environmental theme, “Nature’s Wisdom”.

The “Golden Week”, has been the busiest so far for the Nordic Pavilion – and for EXPO as a whole. The “Golden Week”, including a number of national holidays, is Japan’s main travel period, and the Nordic Pavilion has already seen a couple of new records during the week. On Tuesday, 18,838 guests visited the pavilion - by far the largest number of guests since the pavilion opened on March 25. Yesterday, the total number of guests since the opening exceeded 300.000.



Today, the Nordic Pavilion was honored by the presence of a very special guest, Mr. Shoichiro Toyoda, Honorary Chairman of the Toyota Motor Corporation and Chairman for the Association of EXPO 2005. Mr. Toyoda kindly paid a visit to the Nordic Pavilion to prepare for the opening



ceremony of the Finnish National Day next week (May 12), where he is the official host and one of the main speakers.

You can find more information about the Nordic Pavilion on our website,

[www.nordicatexpo2005.org](http://www.nordicatexpo2005.org)

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