

(Translation)

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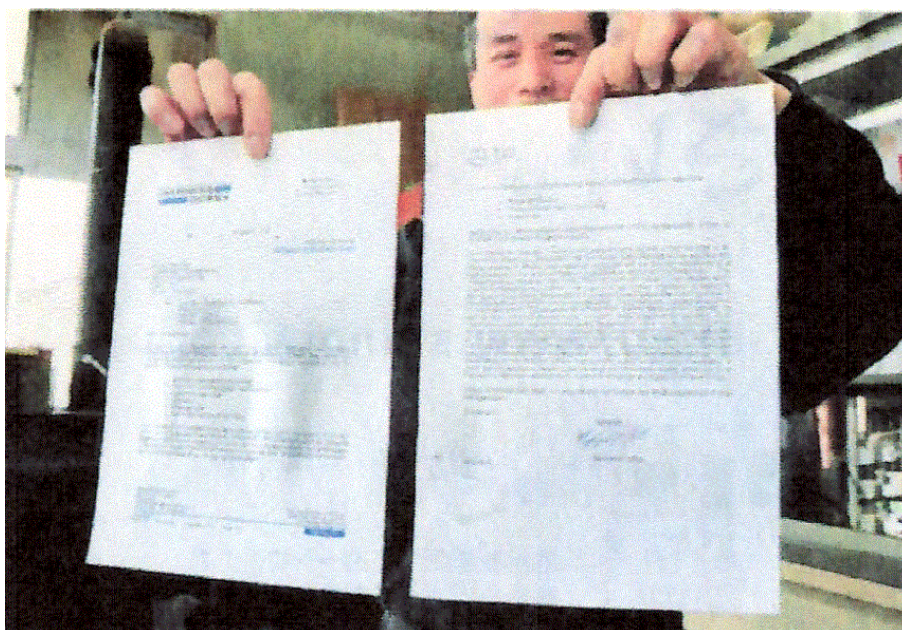
SHINANO MAINICHI NEWSPAPER

A bottle washing apparatus invented by 3rd grade high school students.

## PATENT APPLICATION IN U.S.A.

From Komagane Technical High School

Komanage technical high school (Komagane city, Nagano) provides a subject of “Basic knowledge of industrial property rights) in selectable subjects. Five 3rd grade students in 2014 have invented a bottle washing apparatus. A patent application for the invention has been filed in U.S.A. through U.S. Patent Attorney in January. Japan Patent Office unofficially commented they don't know any patent application for U.S.A. by Japanese high school students. One student who contributed to the invention has commented “a small idea in class has grown as exaggerated affair. He is surprised and delighted in this situation.



Mr. HAYASHI having documents sent from U.S.A. patent attorney

The bottle washing apparatus has been developed in order to prepare for water shortage at disaster. That is, students have firstly invented self-operated type washing apparatus which does not require commercial electricity. This washing apparatus stores rain water in a tank and it is circulated and filtrated by means of electricity generated by solar panel. The filtrated rain water can be reused for watering for plants and washing toilet. The bottle washing apparatus is invented as one variation of the

washing apparatus. In Japan, three patent applications relating to the washing apparatus have been already filed.

Five students are Yuta INOUE, Yuma ISAWA, Tatsunari KITAJIMA, Kazuki FUJIKAWA and Santiago NOGUCHI. Mr. INOUE, currently works at manufacture in Suwa city, looks back as *“We made so many proto types of the washing apparatus in order to overcome the problem”*.

The patent applications in Japan were assisted by the “Children Invention Projects” organized by Mr. Kosaku YAMAZAKI, patent attorney. The project intends to assist children’s invention with free of charge. Above mentioned U.S.A. patent application is recommended by Mr. YAMAZAKI and filed through the local patent attorney in U.S.A.

Mr. Atsushi HAYASHI (49 years old), a teacher in mechanical class who is in charge of industrial property rights, commented that *“We wanted to challenge un-experienced things and develop the invention being technically useful in all over the world such as a beverage bottle relating invention”*.

Examination result in Japan is expected to be provided around July of this year while a result of U.S.A. application is unknown yet. Mr. INOUE also commented as *“The bottle washing apparatus has simple structure, however, I expect acquiring a patent. Further, I also expect this invention being useful for something.”*