Ed Yeaste grew up in the Lexington, Kentucky area and is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, Northern Kentucky University, and Liberty University, with bachelor’s and MBA degrees in Accounting and Operational Business Management.

The early years of Ed’s 33-year career were spent in companies within the public and private equity arena, where he worked as a plant controller, group controller, and division controller previous to joining INOAC 21 years ago. Within his tenure at INOAC he has served as controller, treasurer and Chief Financial Officer of the automotive division, and for the last ten years as INOAC North America’s Chief Financial Officer. Ed has been married for 34 years and he and his wife Ginger have three children and two grandchildren. One of Ed’s greatest joys in life has been to see their children obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees and begin their respective careers as a U.S. Air Force pilot, CPA with a big 4 firm, and U.S. Air Force engineer & program manager. In addition to serving on the board of directors of numerous INOAC joint ventures and subsidiaries, Ed is a CFO Council member & panel presenter for the Original Equipment Supplier Association, CFO Council member of the Association of Financial Professionals, and a long-time member of the AICPA and IMA.

"What's Driving Japanese Investment in the US, and How Will American Companies Be Impacted? Insights from Both Sides of the Pacific"

1:30 pm: Opening Remarks
Anne Golden, Executive Director, JASGC, and Event Moderator Joe Dehner, Attorney, Frost Brown Todd & JASGC Board President

1:40 pm: Keynote Presentation by Kiyoaki Aburaki, Japan Business Federation, Senior Director of Strategic International Initiatives, “Why Invest? Japan’s FDI and Its Meanings to US-Japan”


2:45 pm: Coffee Break & Networking

3:00 pm: Panel Discussion – “Japanese Investment in the Mid-West and Greater Cincinnati: Lessons Learned from Integrating into US Business Culture, Workforce, and Practices.” With distinguished panelists:

Dan Verley, Central Zone Vice President, Canon Solutions America
Frank Smith, Vice President, Makino
Ed Yeaste, Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, INOAC USA, Inc.

Online Q&A: Go to www.menti.com, enter code 12 64 89 (Chamber Wi-Fi network: 3E4th Guest; password: teamwork)

4:30: Wrap Up

4:30-5:30 pm: Cocktail Reception (Reception Area), Catered by Mei Japanese Restaurant
Kiyoaki Aburaki is currently with Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) in Tokyo, where he is Senior Director of Keidanren Strategic International Initiative (KSII), to promoting high-level policy dialogues between Japan and its major partners such as the United States and China, while playing co-directing roles in the Industrial Technology Bureau of the organization. In these capacities, he has directed variety of projects including the “Pacific Vision 21” Roundtable, where top political and business leaders from the U.S. and Japan gathered to show future directions of the bilateral collaboration in the rapidly changing international security and economic environments. Aburaki-san has made great efforts to expand positive interactions between Japanese businesses and key stakeholders inside and outside Japan. Until 2012, Aburaki was based in Washington, D.C. to represent Keidanren and its affiliated think tank, the 21st Century Public Policy Institute (21PPI), while conducting research activities at Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Aburaki obtained a M.S. in Political Science from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1998 and a B.A. in Economics from Keio University in 1989.

Frank Smith is a Vice President at Makino, a leading Japanese manufacturer of milling machines and is a member of the Supervisory Board of RKW SE, a German plastics manufacturer. He has previously served as a Partner at Coopers & Lybrand Group, Corporate Controller at Johnson Controls, Executive VP at Griffon Corporation, and President of RKW North America. Smith holds a BS from the University of Arizona, a Master’s in Taxation from DePaul University, and a JD from Marquette University. He is a retired member of the Michigan and Wisconsin Bars and the American Institute of CPAs.

Seiichiro Akita is Head of Japanese Corporate Banking for MUFG Americas Holding Corporation and MUFG Union Bank, N.A. He is also an Executive Officer of MUFG Bank, Ltd. Since joining the bank in 1989, Mr. Akita has held multiple leadership and executive positions in corporate and investment banking groups in Tokyo and New York. Mr. Akita holds a bachelor’s degree in law from Keio University in Tokyo and he completed business management programs at the Arthur D. Little School of Management and the Carroll Graduate School of Management in Boston.

Dan Verley is Zone Vice President of Sales and Vice President of Zone Operations (Central) Canon Solutions America, an industry leader in enterprise, production and large format printing solutions focused on improving workflow efficiency and document processes in organizations of all sizes and industries. Canon Solutions America is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canon USA, Inc., a $36.1B provider of consumer, business-to-business, and industrial digital imaging solutions to the United States and to Latin America and the Caribbean markets. Over the course of his 30-year career in the business solutions industry, Mr. Verley has held a wide variety of leadership positions in which he has been responsible for P&L growth as well as sales, administrative, supply chain and technical service teams. Mr. Verley holds a B.S. in Economics from the University of Illinois and was a member of the U of I Wrestling Team. In his downtime, he enjoys traveling, boating, wakeboarding, skiing and running.