

Creating New Industries and Revitalizing the Kansai Region of Japan

To Open in November 2014, Hankyu Corporation's GVH #5 Office Space for Start-Ups in Osaka/Umeda District Supports New Business and Fosters a Community of New Business Ventures

Companies that are launching new businesses, or 'start-ups' as they are called, are key to creating new industries and energizing a region's economy. At Hankyu Corporation, we are beginning a new chapter in the support of start-ups that will make the cities of Japan's Kansai region more competitive with their international counterparts and that will transform the Osaka/Umeda district into one of the most competitive and vibrant centers of Japan's economy.

Hankyu Corporation plans to provide four major types of support service, as shown in the table below. The first of these services will begin with the November 2014 opening of GVH #5. Located in the Hankyu Five Annex Building, GVH #5 is members-system office space available to new companies aiming to get operations up and running and eventually create new businesses. GVH #5 will be a place where start-ups gather to create new business models.

GVH #5 marks the first time that a railroad company in the Kansai region has embarked on a start-up incubation venture of this type and scale.

1. Office space provision

- 24-hour-a-day offices for use by GVH #5 members, conveniently located just a 2-minute walk from Hankyu Umeda Station.
- Facilities include wireless LAN and shared copiers, printers, conference rooms, and seminar rooms.

2. Community building

- Get-togethers and seminars aimed at building a community of start-ups and their investor-supporters.
- Sponsorship and support of programs for nurturing start-ups.

3. Business support

- Start-ups can receive advice anytime from experts in accounting, tax, and law.
- Start-ups can be matched with like-minded investors or other business partners.

4. Information source

- Events that include seminars and business plan contests to help start-ups achieve results more quickly.
- GVH #5 members receive special information via a range of media.

Details of GVH #5 Members-System Offices

In its aim of supporting start-ups looking to open up new businesses, GVH #5 provides office space in the form of rental offices and shared working space. Besides this, there are numerous other services geared towards creating a crossroads where members can meet potential business partners.

So that we can best manage these facilities and offer a full range of support services to start-ups, we have two major collaborators: SunBridge Global Ventures Inc., a company with a proven track record in helping start-ups launch their business; and Global Venture Habitat Osaka (GVH Osaka), an incubation facility in Grand Front Osaka launched by SunBridge Global Ventures.

An integral part of the growth process for start-ups is the existence of a conveniently located nerve center where the start-ups can get their own work done while at the same time making new contacts and networks that stimulate and synergize their business. The opening of GVH #5 presents us with a golden opportunity to promote collaboration between start-ups and their support entities—including universities, corporations, specialists, investors, and dedicated start-up support organizations—towards the building of an environment with all the hardware and expertise needed for business success.

Overview of Facilities

Name: GVH #5

Address: 5th Floor and 11th Floor, Hankyu Five Annex Building
1-12 Kakuta-cho, Kita-ku, Osaka

Scale, etc.

Office name	Floor	Floor space	Main equipment/facilities, functions
Sta. G5 (Station G5)	11th floor	Approx. 222 m ²	<u>Office space</u> Work space (for about 24 persons), customizable layout <u>Lounge space</u> Can be used for small meetings, working, or as a break area; sliding walls allow for the partitioning of rooms that can hold about 30 people for seminars or other events <u>Conference room</u> Can be used for confidential meetings <u>Others</u> Reception desk, lockers, photocopying area, others
The Hive	5th floor	Approx. 100 m ²	<u>Private booths</u> Two 3-person booths, one 2-person booth, Two 4-person booths (Note: This is tentative) <u>Conference room</u> Can be used for meetings with visitors <u>Others</u> Break area, photocopying area, others

Eligibility for Membership in GVH #5

Start-ups whose business is compatible with the business areas of Hankyu Corporation (such as public transportation, retail, urban planning, entertainment, communications, and lifestyle services) and that are developing new business models driven by IT and other state-of-the-art technologies. Must be referred to Hankyu Corporation by an organization specializing in the support of start-ups.

Scheduled opening of GVH #5: Late November 2014

Conceptual Layout of GVH #5 Members-System Offices

Sta. G5

Can be used as shared office space and for events where information is shared or provided (11th floor).



The Hive

The office space is set up as private booths (5th floor).



For further information, please email to the below address.

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