

## ***Nisshin Engineering and Matcon host successful 'lean' conference in Japan***

In early December Nisshin Engineering unveiled its new Japanese test facility to 30 executives and engineers from Japan's foremost food manufacturers. At the same time Nisshin and its UK-based associate Matcon took the opportunity to present latest concepts and powder processing technologies to the audience. Dr Yoshiyuki Yamada, president of Nisshin Engineering, opened the proceedings with a paper which included details about MPP, an IT software package for establishing a traceability chain and SPP, a sophisticated project execution package focused on improving the production of foodstuffs in the manufacturing chain.

Later in the day Matcon group managing director Charles Lee gave a presentation introducing his company's philosophy and mission with regard to 'lean manufacturing', which was followed by Matcon group sales director Hans Pettersson putting theory into practice by describing how the company's globally renowned modules for formulating, mixing and packing powders were ideally suited to realise the lean manufacturing concept. Impressive powder demonstrations were hosted in the new test facility by Takashi Okada of Nisshin Engineering, including manual and automatic formulation, IBC mixing and cleaning. The final presentation was made by Hiroshi Sakka of Riken Vitamins, who provided a detailed case-study of a Matcon solution which had been incorporated into a fully automated system installed by Nisshin Engineering at Riken Vitamins in 2006. He described how the system had helped Riken achieve much improved flexibility as well as enhanced overall throughput, whilst employing reduced manpower. [www.matconibc.com](http://www.matconibc.com) and [www.nisshineng.com](http://www.nisshineng.com)



***Delegates are shown Nisshin Engineering's new test facility (Matcon's Charles Lee and Hans Pettersson are in the front row, fourth from left and second from right respectively); the conference (right) attracted leading figures from Japan's food industry***