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**RED EYE**

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In the past 22 years I have worked with or for KinkiSharyo and I have logged more than 1.5 million miles within the United States, Europe and Japan in an effort to make sure we are providing what we paid for to our customers.

During these adventures (sometimes with KSJ people) I came to realize that most Japanese workers do not fully understand just how big the United States is and how far apart the different project locations in the USA really are. On one occasion I got a request from Osaka office to get a part from the VTA test site and drop it off at the VTA FA site. They were thinking that it was across the street...it is 110 miles away. This further made me feel that the size of the United States is not fully understood by most Japanese working for the USA projects.

Kinkisharyo has built Light Rail Vehicles for the USA that cover the whole contiguous country. MBTA Green Line is in Boston and the VTA project is in California while the Sound Transit project is in Washington State. It is hard for most Japanese workers to understand just how far apart these locations really are. If you drive from Tokyo to Osaka it takes about 8 hours. If you drive from Boston, MA. (MBTA) to San Jose, CA. (VTA) it takes **6 days**. If you take that drive you will find that you can stop on the way to the other projects that Kinkisharyo has performed in the United States.

Start in Boston and then head south to the first stop in New Jersey (HB project), then make your way west to Dallas Texas (DART project). Rest for a while then head further west to Phoenix, Arizona (VMR project). Take a shower, because you will be really sweating by now, then head further west to San Jose, California (VTA project). While there go to the beach and then play some golf down at Pebble beach golf resort. Get on California Route 1 and head straight north to Seattle, Washington (Sound Transit Project). Take an umbrella because it always rains there. Watch a baseball game with Ichiro. (Maybe Daisuke...aka DiceK will be playing there from Boston and strike him out).

This will take you about six days in your really nice rental car. On the way you will be able to see a very wide range of topography and life styles that the USA has to offer. From Mountains to Plains with very wide rivers and very deep gorges. If you plan correctly you can see all there is to offer but if you do, it will likely take you 14 to 20 days.

I would like to encourage all Kinkisharyo employees to take such a trip so that they can see where all their hard work and dedication is being put to daily use. You will find it exciting and very rewarding and perhaps you will all understand that your hard work and dedication are on full view for many people to see and to ride upon throughout many metropolitan areas in the United States. Please remember that Mass Transit is very common in Japan and everyone takes for granted than trains are everywhere. That is not the case in the United States and it is a treat for Americans to ride the train, not a requirement. I as QA General Manager appreciate that the workers in KSJ Tokuan do such a nice job and I am proud that that work is on display for many Americans to see and to appreciate. Please keep the good works coming on all future projects and maybe we can get some projects for Alaska and Hawaii...that is a story for another day. You can be assured that Americans judge good work when they see it and that KinkiSharyo has a AAA+ reputation for quality workmanship and is 2<sup>nd</sup> to no one.