



Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

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www.jaxa.jp

Our ref: 11/JAXA/LPE/0119001

24 January 2012

To Scientific community

Subject: The 1st Announcement of Opportunity for HAYABUSA Sample Investigation

Dear Sir / Madam,

We are pleased to inform you of the 1st Announcement of Opportunity for HAYABUSA Sample Investigation (hereinafter referred as 1st HAYABUSA AO) and to invite you to submit research proposals that address the science questions that can be answered by analyzing the particles obtained from the surface of asteroid Itokawa.

HAYABUSA is the sample return project of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) that was launched from Kagoshima Space Center in 2003, touched-down on Itokawa in 2005, and returned to the earth in 2010. JAXA has been engaged in HAYABUSA sample curation activity, namely, collecting and categorizing particles retrieved from the sampler container of HAYABUSA. As a part of achievements of the Initial Analysis, six HAYABUSA research reports were published in "Science" on August 26, 2011: This was the second time that HAYABUSA was featured on the cover page. The HAYABUSA research results were also selected as one of the top 10 science news by the magazine at the end of 2011.

This announcement solicits proposals to be carried out in the period from May 2012. Proposers from all over the world that are capable of handling and analyzing the tiny particles returned from Itokawa are welcome to participate. All proposals will be subject to peer review handled by the Implementation Committee for the 1st HAYABUSA AO. For further information including the documentation for this Announcement, you can visit the following website.

JAXA web;

<http://hayabusao.isas.jaxa.jp/>



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The key milestones for this announcement are:

Announcement of Opportunity	24 January, 2012
Due date for proposals	7 March, 2012 (1500UT)
Completion of review	mid May, 2012

Please be noted that JAXA provided NASA with a part of HAYABUSA samples in accordance with MOU between JAXA and NASA. JAXA expects that NASA will try best effort to utilize the samples to gain scientific achievement. In addition, the Committee for JAXA's AO will make arrangements with the NASA's effort so that systematic support to maximize scientific outputs from HAYABUSA samples as a whole will be realized.

It would be highly appreciated if you could distribute the information to wherever you think appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Junjiro Onoda", is positioned above the typed name.

Junjiro Onoda
Director General of
Institute of Space and Astronautical
Science (ISAS),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yuichi Yamaura", is positioned above the typed name.

Yuichi Yamaura
Associate Executive Director
Lunar and Planetary Exploration
Program Group