

TOBI's uniform, functional and comfortable to wear : TOBIFUKU and JIKATABI !

TOBI was a fireman in Edo period when there were many many fires so, the people's tenement houses were constructed easy to destroy in order to check the spread of the fire... TOBI standing up on the roof of burning house to destroy, very courageous man who gets a lot of attention from women ! Calling them TOBI as like a beautiful kite...

Today in Tokyo and every where of Japan, we can find TOBI, not fireman but, a scaffold constructor = a workman who prepare the work stand on construction site, working at a high place... So we call them " TOBI " also...

TOBI wears the very wide and long pantaloons easy to cut and take off when placed or fired...

TOBI's shoes called JIKA-TABI : "jika" meaning directly, and "tabi", traditional socks, so JIKA-TABI mean the socks to walk directly on ground.

Tabi (Japanese traditional socks) maker, Tokujiro ISHIBASHI invented the rubber-soled tabi very popular among coal mine husband and has quickly spread to a Japanese inside. His company "Nippon Tabi" became the following Asahi Corporation and his younger brother, Shojiro ISHIBASHI established Bridgestone using the knowhow of the rubber manufacturing.



TOBI FUKU

The every photo from MARUGEN web site

In 1970, MARUGEN SAGYOFUKU started as a specialty store of TOBI's uniform, totally hand made in Japan using the Japanese spinning only and dyeing them to original colors !

For the hard work of TOBI, the wear must be functional, strong and comfortable.

President MARUGEN : Mr. Juichi YAMAOKA, and his son, Mr. Tetsuya YAMAOKA, they work hard together in order to spread TOBI FUKU to world wide.

About 20 years ago, Gérard Caron bought the TOBI's uniform, black knickerbockers and black JIKATABI in Tokyo and he wore them for the new year party of Carré Noir Paris. And we said... " Look Gérard, he wears the Jean Paul Gaultier ? " I should think that Gérard Caron was the first French man who wore the TOBI's uniform in Paris !!! Gérard, you are so cool !

Tetsuya says " Jean is originally the work wear and every one loves to wear it now, so why not ? " MARUGEN opened the shop in Paris so, let's go to see and try the TOBI's uniform.

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www.marugentobi.com



JIKATABI

In 1919, MARUGO was founded and started the production of JIKATABI.

In the 71st Tokyo International Gift Show 2011 Spring, MARUGO presented “ ASSABOOTS” casual and modern JIKATABI series, functional and comfortable to walk and run ! The new wave of JIKATABI from Japan to abroad.



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