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## Ricoh's Fourth Story of Special Website Project "Imagine the Year 2036: FORWARD THINKING IGNITE IMAGINATION" Launched How Author Tow Ubukata Imagines the Future

**Tokyo, November 28, 2014** - Ricoh released the fourth story on its serial website project "Imagine the Year 2036: FORWARD THINKING IGNITE IMAGINATION," in which Author Tow Ubukata, known for his historical novel *Tenchi Meisatsu* and the animation film *Ghost in the Shell: Arise*, talks about the future he imagines. The illustrations for the story were created by up-and-coming visual artist YKBX, who provided videographs for the vocaloid opera *THE END*.

This project, which commenced last November, seeks to imagine the year 2036 through free thinking in collaboration with frontline creators who depict the near future in fiction, *manga*/animations, and video games. Ricoh redesigned the project's website in line with the launch of the fourth story to make it even easier to read. Please enjoy the short story about the work styles of the future and a conversation between Mr. Ubukata and a Ricoh researcher.

The two collaborators explore different scenarios and ways in which people will work and communicate with one another in the future. In the dialogue, the artist and a Ricoh researcher discuss the future as they visualize it.



The fourth story of "Imagine the Year 2036: FORWARD THINKING IGNITE IMAGINATION."  
Author Tow Ubukata (left) and a Ricoh researcher (right).



Illustration by visual artist YKBX

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<http://www.ricoh.com/AD2036/index.html>

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Ricoh is a global technology company specializing in office imaging equipment, production print solutions, document management systems and IT services. Headquartered in Tokyo, Ricoh Group operates in about 200 countries and regions. In the financial year ending March 2014, Ricoh Group had worldwide sales of 2,195 billion yen based on the IFRS accounting standard (approx. 21.3 billion USD).

The majority of the company's revenue comes from products, solutions and services that improve the interaction between people and information. Ricoh also produces award-winning digital cameras and specialized industrial products. It is known for the quality of its technology, the exceptional standard of its customer service and sustainability initiatives.

Under its corporate tagline, *imagine. change.* Ricoh helps companies transform the way they work and harness the collective imagination of their employees.

For further information, please visit [www.ricoh.com/about/](http://www.ricoh.com/about/)