



Azuma Kato

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Azuma Kato is a Senior Deputy Director at Civil Aviation Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism (MLIT). He has worked as a strategic consultant at Cisco Systems, a real estate/sovereign credit analyst at Moody's, an investment banker at UBS investment bank, and a government consultant at Ernst & Young.

After working for these private institutions, Mr. Kato joined MLIT in August of 2015. Since then he has been responsible for multiple airport privatization projects which include Takamatsu Airport, Fukaoka Airport, Kumamoto Airport, and Hokkaido's seven airports. Prior to this, Mr. Kato also advised the Civil Aviation Bureau at the Sendai Airport from 2012 and was an advisor to the Kansai Itami Airport, Kobe Airport and the Shizuoka Airport. Mr. Kato works in all facets on the 'sell side' of airport privatization from the beginning to the end. His responsibilities include: project development, financial structuring, seller due diligence, outreach to local government entities, contract negotiations with private entities, selection of private entities, being involved monitoring throughout the process, and so on.

Mr. Kato holds an MBA from Johns Hopkins University.