

2025



Public Interest Incorporated Foundation
Japan Maritime Center

Introduction

The Japan Maritime Center (JMC) was established in April 2007 through the merger of the Nippon Kaiji Foundation and the Nippon Kaiun Shinkokai, both of which were established in 1964. In April 2011, we transitioned from a civil law foundation to a public interest incorporated foundation based on the “Act on Authorization of Public Interest Incorporated Association and Public Interest Incorporated Foundation.”

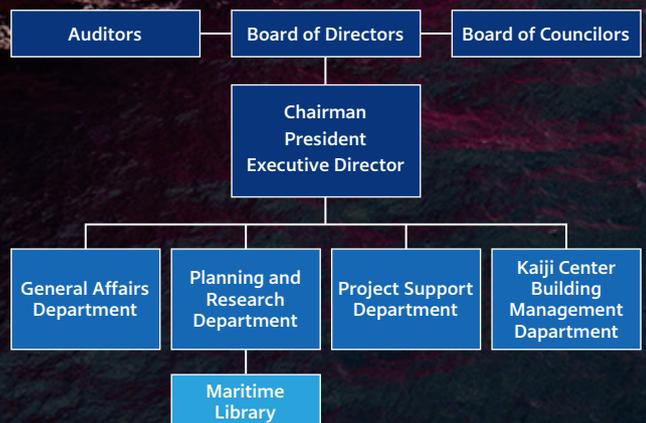
In order to accurately respond to the rapid changes and uncertainties in the international situation and global economy, as well as to various international and technologically innovative issues, the Center conducts activities based on three pillars: various maritime related research and policy proposals, operation of a maritime library, and support for maritime related public interest activities.

Basic Philosophy

- ⊗ As a central think tank for the maritime community, we will contribute to cooperation and collaboration among the maritime industry, government agencies, and research institutions.
- ⊗ To contribute to the development of the maritime industry, which is indispensable to Japan’s economy and society.
- ⊗ To contribute to the promotion of public interest projects as a central institution in the maritime field
- ⊗ Contribute to the realization of a safe and secure maritime society
- ⊗ Contributing to the realization of a maritime society in harmony with the environment
- ⊗ Contributing to the international activities of the maritime community



Organization



The activities of the Center are supported by the Japan Shipowners’ Association and the Japan Federation of Pilots’ Associations.



Message from the Chairman

Japan, as an island country surrounded by sea, relies on maritime transport for more than 99.6% of its imports and exports by volume. The maritime industry, encompassing shipping and shipbuilding, is a pivotal sector and social infrastructure that underpins our economic activities and livelihoods. It also serves at the forefront to promote our economic security.

The global maritime sector is now facing an increasingly unstable and uncertain environment, with a number of challenges requiring it to adapt itself and undergo unprecedented change. Our maritime industry is also required to respond swiftly and appropriately to navigate through such challenges.

The first challenge is the disruption of global supply chain which is closely linked with international shipping. Russia's armed invasion of Ukraine has changed the Black Sea into a war zone area, Houthis have continuously attacked commercial vessels in the Red Sea, and transits through the Panama Canal were temporarily restricted due to drought. These events have exemplified the risks that could severely undermine the safe and stable operation of our merchant fleet.

The second challenge is decarbonization. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is in the final phase to develop the “mid-term” greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures to achieve net-zero GHG emissions by or around 2050. On the other hand, the EU has implemented regional regulations including the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU-ETS), forcing our shipping companies to comply. The changing regulatory landscape is promoting the shipbuilding industry to accelerate its efforts to develop innovative technologies applicable to ships to achieve net-zero GHG emissions.

The third challenge is the fierce international competition revolving the global maritime industry. Efforts to apply innovative technologies are accelerating to achieve net-zero GHG emissions and for the commercialization of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS). Development of new business fields, such as offshore wind power generation, is also progressing. It is becoming more challenging for our maritime industry to properly secure and train the necessary personnel who can duly respond to the needs of these emerging technologies and markets.

In order to address these challenges, the Japan Maritime Center (JMC) held the 33rd Maritime National Forum in February 2024, under the theme “Outlook for a competitive and sustainable maritime industry” where stakeholders came together to share the underlying issues and ideas to tackle them. In December of the same year, the Maritime Industry Committee was newly established in JMC to facilitate discussions among representatives from the maritime industry, government agencies, and research institutes. We will continuously facilitate the discussions that will lead to the development of policy recommendations.

As a central public interest incorporated foundation in the maritime sector, the JMC will actively respond to the changing domestic and international environment. To promote our maritime industry, we will conduct surveys and research using our expertise, work as a platform to enable collaboration among stakeholders from the industry, government and research institutes, provide support for maritime related public interest activities, and operate a maritime library.

In an increasingly unstable international political and economic environment, the JMC will continue to enhance its international activities and further strengthen cooperation and collaboration among the stakeholders within the maritime sector to strengthen its competitiveness and contribute to our economic security. We will also endeavor to raise public awareness on the importance of the maritime industry.

We look forward to working with you for the benefit of our global industry and society.

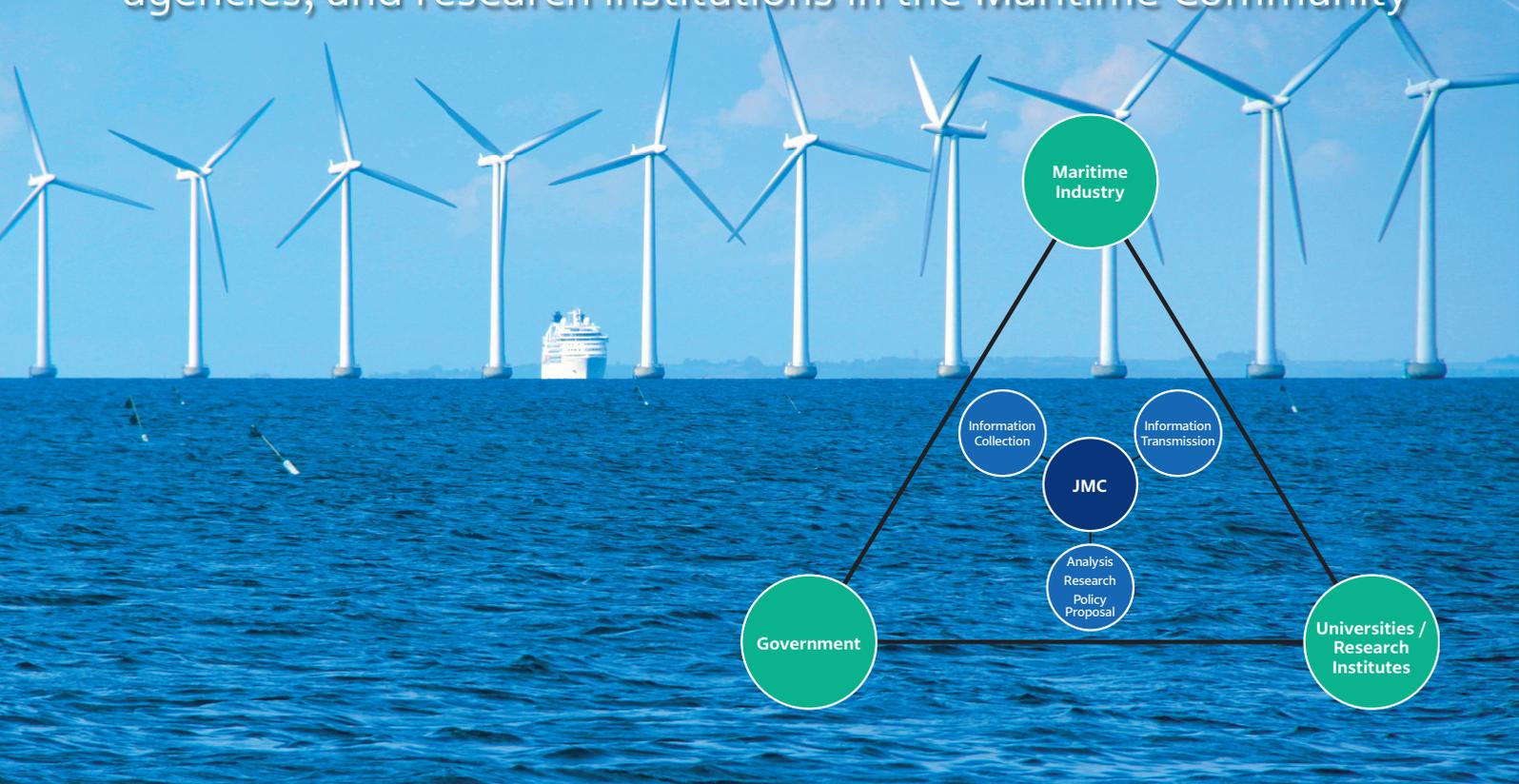


April 2025



Masafumi Shukuri
Chairman, Japan Maritime Center

Platform for collaboration among the industry, government agencies, and research institutions in the Maritime Community



Research Activities through Research Committees

JMC conducts research and study, and makes policy proposals, organizing “Research Group on Shipping Issues,” with the participation of industry, governmental bodies, and academia.

“Research Group on Shipping Issues” has “Board of Research Committees,” which is forum for discussing a basic policy and comprehensive strategy of research and study projects or policy proposals. “Research Group on Shipping Issues” has 5 Standing Committees, in which individual issues are studied and discussed in line with the policy and strategy adopted by the “Board of Research Committees.” In December, we established a new “Maritime Industry Committee”.

Research Group on Shipping Issues

Board of Research Committees

(Chairperson: Keiji Habara,
Research Fellow, The Kobe University)



Research Committees on

- IMO Legal Committee
- International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds
- Issues on Maritime Economy
- Maritime Human Resources Committee
- Issues on Marine Environment
- Maritime Industry Committee

JMC will analyze recent trends in international situation and grasp the needs of the maritime community. JMC is engaged in the following activities in cooperation and collaboration with industry, governmental bodies, and academia, so that Japan may chart a right course and continue to thrive as a maritime country and a marine nation.

- Addressing major challenges facing the maritime industry
 - Strengthening the competitiveness of the maritime industry
 - Decarbonization of international shipping
 - Promotion of maritime innovation and Development of new markets
 - Securing and developing maritime human resources
 - Grasping the trends of maritime clusters and promoting cluster effects through their accumulation
 - Contribution to securing fairness and equitableness of international compensation scheme for damages caused by maritime accidents
 - Japan’s engagement in the formulation of international rules and regulations at the International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (IOPCF) and other organizations
- Responding to changes in the maritime industry environment
 - Contribution to stable international maritime transport and Japan’s economic security
 - Grasping and analyzing trends of domestic and international maritime transport
 - Development of global supply chains centered on East Asia and ASEAN countries



1st Maritime Industry Committee (December 2024)

Attending International Meetings

Cooperation with international organizations and participation in international conferences

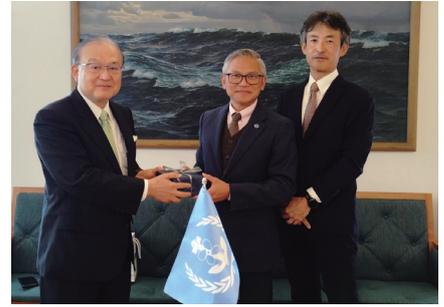
We have held high-level cooperation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (IOPCF), the International Labor Organization (ILO), etc., and participated in meetings of these organizations as members of the Japanese delegation.



Attending MEPC 82
(September 2024, IMO headquarters plenary room)



Visiting IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez
(October 2024, IMO headquarters)



Visiting President of the World Maritime University
Max Mejia (October 2024, World Maritime University)

Collaboration with the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) and the Korea University Maritime Law Center (KUMLC)

JMC has concluded an agreement with the World Maritime University (WMU) in Malmö, Sweden, to conduct joint research and academic exchange to keep ourselves updated with the latest agenda and methodologies as well as to improve our research activities. In 2024, we carried out joint activities with JTTRI, KMI, and KUMLC.

- JMC makes research about maritime transport and logistics abroad and exchange of information and views about them, actively collaborating with universities, think tanks, and research institutes etc. in Japan.
- JMC promotes understanding of younger generation, forging future of Japan, about maritime and shipping policies.



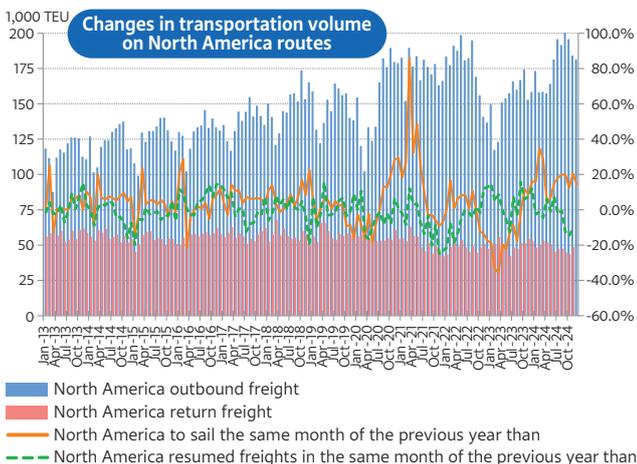
1st Japan-Korea Joint Seminar
(March 2024 in Tokyo)



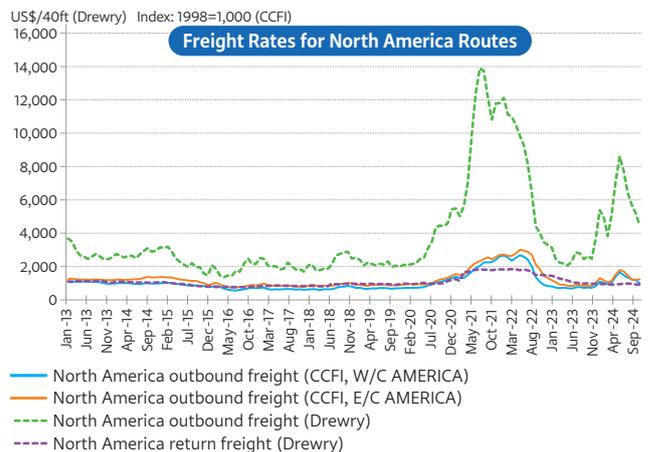
2nd Japan-Korea Joint Seminar
(September 2024 in Busan)

Publication of the import and export statistics Container import and export statistics released

Publication of monthly report on container trade statistics
We collect data and information related to international maritime container trade in major trading routes, including Asia to North America and Asia to Europe routes, and publish monthly reports on key statistics.



- Trends in Containerized Cargo Movement between Japan, Asia and the U.S.
- Trends in Containerized Cargo Movement between Japan, Asia and Europe
- Trends in Japan-China Container Routes and Intra-Asia Container Routes



Information Transmission

Maritime Nation Forum

The Maritime Forum is held once a year to attract public interest and gain wider understanding on the activities of the maritime community by inviting speakers and panelists to discuss outstanding issues.

The 34rd Maritime Nation Forum in Hokkaido 2024
—Towards the Realization of a Zero-Carbon Society: The Challenge of Decarbonization in the Maritime Sector—
(October 2024, venue in Mie Prefecture with online streaming)



The 35th Maritime Nation Forum in Tokyo 2025
—Securing and developing maritime human resources for the digitalization and greening of the maritime industry—
(February 2025, venue in Tokyo with online streaming)



JMC Maritime Seminar

In March 2022, the JMC started to hold a series of JMC Maritime Promotion Seminars on various issues, including research topics covered by the JMC, to share the status quo and explore ideas to address challenges faced by the maritime community.

Part 9. Trends in maritime choke points and its impact on container shipping (May 2024)



Part 10. Some issues with civil liability rules applicable to maritime autonomous surface ships (MASS) (July 2024)



Part 11. Expansion of Supply Chains in East Asia and the Transformation of International Container Ports — Considering the Strategy and Development of Japanese International Container Ports— (September 2024)



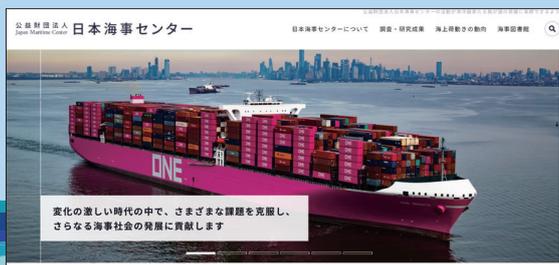
(Only events held in 2024 are listed)

About the Logo

As a core think tank in the maritime community, the Japan Maritime Center is constantly reviewing to improve its activities to contribute to the development of the maritime industry, which is indispensable to Japan's economy and society. Based on this idea, we asked an artist, Ms. Aki Fueda, to visualize our ideas and hopes into a logo. Ms. Fueda explains that "image of waves and sky is expressed in the letters M and C, which comes after the first letter J. The upward slope imprinted in the letter C represents our hope that good fortune will prevail for the betterment of the industry."

Home page <https://www.jpmac.or.jp>

The website provides a variety of maritime-related information in a timely manner. JMC also operates a portal site for maritime human resource development and maritime education.



E-mail Magazine

This monthly newsletter provides information on the research and study activities of the Japan Maritime Center, announcements from the Maritime Library, recommended new books, and lectures on how to look up maritime materials.



✉ Sign up for our e-mail magazine
<http://www.jpmac.or.jp/etc/mail-magazine.html>



JMC supports maritime-related public interest activities that promote cooperation with related organizations based on the needs of society, such as SDGs, global environment, and work style reform.

Subsidized organizations in FY2025

Maritime Law

Japanese Maritime Law Association

Seafarers

Seamen's Employment Center of Japan
Maritime Academy Foundation
The Maritime Human Resource Institute, Japan
The Association for promoting safety and sanitation for Seafarers

Maritime Safety

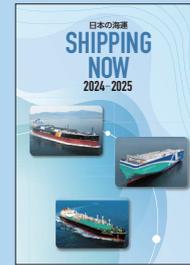
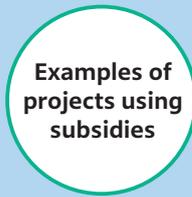
The Japan Association of Marine Safety
Tokyo wan Association for Marine Safety
The Kobe Marine Casualty Prevention Institute
The Seibu Association for Preventing Marine Casualty
The Isewan Marine Safety Association
The Japan Sea Marine Accidents Prevention Association
Setonaikai Maritime Safety Association
Japan Marine Rescue Association
Marine Accident Inquiry and Safety Investigation Association
Japan Coast Guard Association

Maritime Public Relation

Japan Maritime Public Relation Center
Japan Sea Cadet Federation

Pilot

The Maritime Human Resource Institute, Japan



The Marine Emergency Medical-care System



Sailboat workshop



Sea cadets



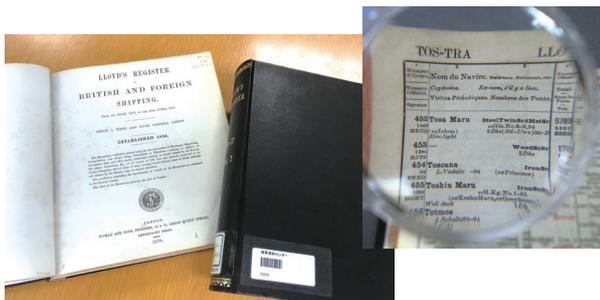
Maritime Library

Maritime Library, established in June 1974, is one of the major maritime libraries in Asia open to the public. JMC administrates the library, upgrading its functions, and enhancing user's convenience.

Main Items in the Collection

JMC collects reference books and key publications on maritime affairs ranging from the mid-19th century to the present.

- Containerisation International (1977-2017)
- Containerisation International Yearbook (1972-2012)
- Fairplay (1984-2018)
- Lloyd's List (1961-)
- Lloyd's Register of Shipping, Register of Ships (1876-)
- Shipping Statistics Yearbook (Bremen 1966-)
- Nihon Senmeiroku (Japan Register of Ships) (1890-1998)



Lloyd's Register

We also send out messages via X (Twitter).



@kajitoshokan



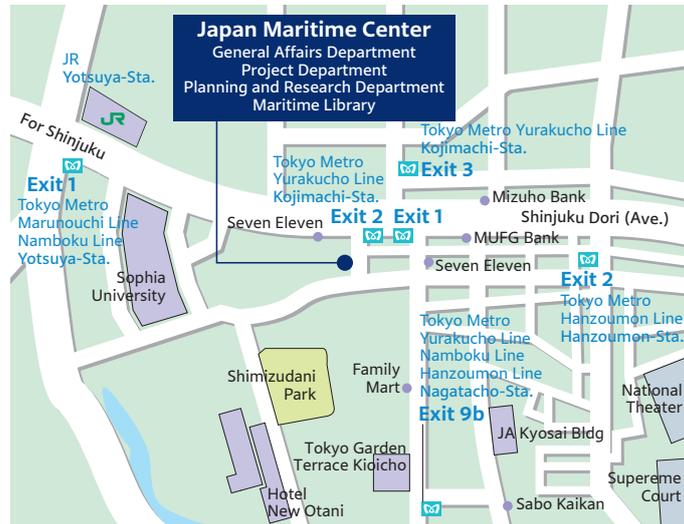
Our library holds themed exhibitions of its collection. (The exhibitions are changed three or four times a year.)



The Library provides an enquiry service by e-mail in English. Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) is also available via JMC's Website.

<https://www.jpmac.or.jp/library/>





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Japan Maritime Center

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