

情報源

JOHOGEN Directory V.8, revised and updated

A guide to printed, electronic and cyber sources of
Japanese information on business, technology & commerce



EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation, Tokyo 2008
EU-Japan Business Series # 8



<http://www.eu-japan.gr.jp>

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The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation was established in 1987, under the joint initiative of the European Commission (DG Enterprise & Industry) and the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). The Centre's core mission is to deliver training and information to managers, engineers and students (both from the EU and Japan). The Centre programmes have successfully trained nearly 2000 participants since 1987.

In the provision of information services, the Centre maintains an EU i (EU info centre) in cooperation with the European Commission. The Centre also acts as a clearing house for Japanese information on science, technology and commerce, aimed at European companies. As a complement to this directory, the Information Service organizes 'EU Info' and 'Johogen' seminars regularly in Tokyo.

Foreword

Dear valued reader,

The 8th edition of the JOHOGEN directory is published 20 years after its creation in the form of a CD-ROM booklet, while the first paperback edition came out in December 1988 under the title of “directory of sources of Japanese information”. We take pride in the fact that the JOHOGEN directory continues to be recognized as a reference guide of access to up-to-date primary and secondary sources of business information about Japan.

The JOHOGEN directory is intended to provide access to a mix of sources, reports and data as input to investment analysis, market entry or expansion plans, which explains the presence of a larger chapter dedicated to “general market sources about Japan” broken down by main market sectors of interest to readers from the EU. A significant number of sources have been tested by our in-house business information services when providing answers to inquiries from European businesspeople.

Since source information and access links undergo ever more frequent updates from their authors, which we do not track in real time, we continue to recommend the reader to compare the search results of the JOHOGEN directory with web-based searches using the de-facto standard search engines available in the public domain, using input keywords from the JOHOGEN directory in English and/or in Japanese language.

The EU-Japan Centre extends its warmest gratitude to the numerous direct (and indirect) contributors who have helped to build and refine the JOHOGEN directory over the last 20 years.

Fabrizio Mura

Tokyo, March 31, 2008

Editorial team of the JOHOGEN Directory 8th edition:

Kumika KONDO, Kanako TAKEDA, Aiko HIGUCHI

List of Abbreviations & Japanese Glossary

List of abbreviations used in the Johogen Directory 8

CIF	Cost Insurance Freight
FOB	Free on Board
FTP	File Transfer Protocol
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IP	Intellectual Property
JETRO	Japan External Trade Organization
JIS	Japan Institute of Standards
JPY	Japanese Yen
JST	Japanese Science and Technology Agency
METI	Ministry of Trade, Economy and Industry
MEXT	Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
MHLW	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NII	National Institute of Informatics
TPM	Total Productive Maintenance
TQM	Total Quality Management
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
USD	United States Dollar
WWW	World Wide Web

Japanese glossary

貿易	ぼうえき	Boeki	trade, commerce
大学	だいがく	Daigaku	university
技術	ぎじゅつ	Gijutsu	technology
白書	はくしょ	Hakusho	white paper
情報	じょうほう	Joho	information
情報源	じょうほうげん	Johogen	source of information
科学	かがく	Kagaku	science
経済	けいざい	Keizai	economy
研究	けんきゅう	Kenkyu	research
企業	きぎょう	Kigyo	company, business
国際	こくさい	Kokusai	international
財務省	ざいむしょう	Zaimusho	Ministry of Finance
年鑑	ねんかん	Nenkan	yearbook
新聞	しんぶん	Shinbun	newspaper
証券	しょうけん	Shoken	securities
商工会議所	しょうこうかいぎじょ	Shokokaigijo	chamber of commerce
出版	しゅっぱん	Shuppan	publication, press
総覧	そうらん	Soran	directory
特許	とっきょ	Tokkyo	patent
投資	とうし	Toshi	investment

Summarized Table of Contents

07 Section I Basic search resources

- Chapter I.1 General market sources about Japan
- Chapter I.2 Macro-economic information
- Chapter I.3 FDI, government structure and public policy
- Chapter I.4 Information about companies and competitors in Japan
- Chapter I.5 Searching for business partners
- Chapter I.6 Information about setting up a business in Japan

52 Section II Diversified resources

- Chapter II.1 Information on product approval, standards, tax and tariffs
- Chapter II.2 Access to finance, investment and other sources of capital
- Chapter II.3 Labour, employment and HR information in Japan
- Chapter II.4 Working with the Japanese language
- Chapter II.5 Access to information about patents, intellectual property and R&D

Table of Contents - Section I

Section I	Basic search resources	
Chapter I.1	General market sources about Japan	
I.1.1	Locating general market and product information	7
I.1.1.1	From industrial associations	7
I.1.1.2	From industry directories	7
I.1.1.3	From market research companies	7
I.1.2	Panorama of information sources by market sector	7
I.1.2.1	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	7
I.1.2.2	Automobile and automotive	7
I.1.2.3	Chemical and petrochemical	7
I.1.2.4	Cosmetics	7
I.1.2.5	Department stores and distribution	7
I.1.2.6	Electronics	7
I.1.2.7	Machinery and energy	7
I.1.2.8	Fashion and textile	7
I.1.2.9	Food and beverage	7
I.1.2.10	Furniture and office equipment	7
I.1.2.11	Information technology - hardware and software	7
I.1.2.12	Leisure and entertainment	7
I.1.2.13	Packaging	7
I.1.2.14	Pharmaceutical, health care, medical and biotechnology	7
Chapter I.2	Macro-economic information	7
I.2.1	Gathering statistics about the Japanese economy and finance	7
I.2.2	Access to reference sources of economic information	7
I.2.2.1	Government organizations and libraries	7
I.2.2.2	Publications, magazines and other web-based sources	7
I.2.3	Other means of collecting economic information	7
Chapter I.3	FDI, public policy and government structure	7
I.3.1	Public policy and information about the government	7
I.3.2	Information about FDI from governmental organizations	7
I.3.3	Other sources about business, policy and the Japanese government	7
Chapter I.4	Information about companies and competitors in Japan	7
I.4.1	Looking for corporate information	7
I.4.2	Access to corporate intelligence	7
I.4.2.1	Financial information and credit rating	7
I.4.2.2	Company organizations, managers' structure & employee info	7
I.4.2.3	Foreign affiliates in Japan	7
I.4.2.4	Overseas activities of Japanese companies	7
Chapter I.5	Searching for business partners	
I.5.1	Where to look for suppliers, customers and other partners	7
I.5.2	Locating trade fairs and exhibitions in Japan	7
Chapter I.6	Information about setting up a business in Japan	7

Table of Contents - Section II

Section II	Diversified resources	7
Chapter II.1	Information on product approval, standards, tax and tariffs	7
Chapter II.2	Access to finance, investment and other sources of capital	7
Chapter II.3	Labour, employment and HR information about Japan	7
Chapter II.4	Working with the Japanese language	7
	II.4.1 Web-based dictionaries, language translation and learning tools	7
	II.4.2 Other practical tools and sources of information about the Japanese language	7
Chapter II.5	Access to information about patents, intellectual property and R&D	7
	II.5.1 Key organizations in the patent industry	7
	II.5.2 Locating private patent information suppliers	7
	II.5.3 Science and technology information from the Japanese government	7
	II.5.4 Collecting corporate R&D information	7
	II.5.5 Other sources of Japanese scientific information	7

Section I – Basic search sources

Chapter I.1 General Market sources about Japan

List of contents by name

Auto parts market directory 2005
 Automotive yearbook 2005, 75th edition
 Biotechnology and bio-industry related publications by the JBA
 Cosmetics in Japan 2005
 Cosmetics & toiletries and household products marketing news in Japan
 Department stores survey yearbook 2005
 Directory of economic and industrial organizations
 Directory of Japanese associations, 21st Edition “zenkoku kakushu dantai meikan”
 Electronics industry directory 2005
 EDMC Handbook of Energy & Economic Statistics in Japan 2005
 Fine chemical yearbook 2006 by CMC
 Fish industry, culture, processing, export & import, circulation and consumption data 2005
 Fluid power systems and components directory 2006
 Food distribution directory Japan 2006
 Food service almanac (Japan) 2005
 Furniture industry yearbook 2006
 Furniture and household goods - marketing guidebook for imported goods 2004
 Guide to medical device registration in Japan and others publications on pharmaceuticals and cosmetics
 Information and Communications in Japan 2005
 Info watch news on IT and telecom
 Innovative new packaging in Japan - monthly bulletin
 IT services industry in Japan 2005 published by JISA
 Japan chemical directory 2006
 Japan chemical week
 Japan IT industry and technology news
 Japan packaging machine guide 2004
 Japanese distribution handbook 2005
 Leisure and entertainment industry reports
 Machinery tools import statistics in Japan
 Marketing and consultation services from the Fuji Keizai group
 Market research resources directory, “bijinesu chosa shiryō soran” 2006
 Marketing Data-Bank (MDB) market and consumer information services
 Medical science & industry information services from the International Medical Information Center (IMIC)
 METI’s hyperlinks to trade and manufacturers’ association
 Nikkei Electronics Asia - on-line news about the electronic industry in Asia
 Petrochemical press
 Pharma Japan 2003 handbook
 PharmaNext Japan
 Preliminary statistical reports on agriculture, forestry and fisheries from the ministry of agriculture, forestry and fisheries (MAFF)
 Retail Japan 2003
 Semiconductor factory handbook 2006
 Textile trade statistics by the JTIA
 Yano databank market research

I.1.1 Locating general market and product information

I.1.1.1 From industrial associations

METI's hyperlinks to trade and manufacturers' associations

Web-based, free of charge - English
<http://www.meti.go.jp/english/network/index.html>
Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (METI) 経済産業省

METI's page on "related websites" provides a list of industrial associations and other bodies of the Japanese government. The link to METI-related organisations is an important portal for accessing the homepages of Japanese trade and manufacturers associations.

Directory of Economic and Industrial Organisations "Shoko Keizai Dantai Meibo"

Hardcopy, about 320 pp, 5,000 JPY, last revised in April 2002 - Japanese and English
Tel (03-3283-7769)
The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry 東京商工会議所

This directory is the good bilingual source of information on economic and industrial organisations in Japan. The classification by service and industry allows the user to quickly identify the relevant association. The directory also indicates manufacturers and commerce associations for each industry.

The directory also lists Japanese chambers of commerce, foreign trade associations, trade promotion organisations, trade fair associations, international commercial arbitration associations, government inspection organisations, civil inspection associations, overseas industrial & technical cooperation associations, foreign chambers of commerce and industry in Japan as well as foreign trade promotion organizations in Japan.

Directory of Japanese associations, -22nd Edition "Zenkoku kakushu dantai meikan 06"

Hardcopy, B5, 4 volumes, 168,000 JPY, latest version 2006, 2001 version in our library - mostly Japanese
Tel (03 3341 4804)
Shiva Co., Ltd. (株) シバ

The most comprehensive directory on Japanese associations. Has information on 60,000 government related, economic and industrial associations including political, civil, educational, etc. The information covered for each association consists of over 15 fields: name of the association (in English and Japanese), acronym, association's address, telephone and fax number, year of establishment, relevant ministry relation, activity outline, list of publications, bankers, budget, number of members, list, name and functions of the administrators, composition of the secretariat of the association, list of regional delegations (including addresses and telephone numbers), related organisations and affiliation.

I.1.1.2 From industry directories

Market research resources directory - “Bijinesu chosa shiryō soran” 2007

Hardcopy, A4, 500pp, 26,250 JPY(for MDB member 18,375 JPY), available in our library - Japanese
Order: http://www.b-repo.com/detail/1040_06.html
Japan Management Association Research Institute, Inc. (JMAR) 日本能率協会総合研究所

This complete directory features a summary of over 5,000 business market surveys and marketing materials. For each industry it introduces research materials covering market size, industry trends, prospects, company market share, technological trends, main players development, etc. This is an annual summary of all statistical data surveys, market surveys, reports, yearbooks, issued by ministries and agencies, trade and industrial associations, private research organisations, other private companies.

To apply for membership at MDB, check their homepage:
<https://www2.mdb-net.com/aboutmdb/moreinfo.html>

I.1.1.3 From market research companies

Marketing Data Bank (MDB) - market and consumer information services

Japanese

More information from the website (in Japanese: <http://www.jmar.co.jp/MDB> and in English: http://www.jmar.co.jp/jmar_e/jmar/)

Japan Management Association Research Institute, Inc. (JMAR) (株) 日本能率協会総合研究所

MDB is part of the JMA Research Institute Inc. (JMAR), which is set up within the Japan Management Association (JMA), the largest Japanese consulting organisation, with more than 1,200 consultants. MDB can provide consulting services together with other units within JMA (i.e. JMA Consulting and JMA Systems) in various areas such as new product and new business development, management strategy, sales planning as well as survey planning.

MDB's membership fee structure is the following:

- Corporate members only.
- Registration fee (first year only).
- Annual fee or information service fee.

Services included in the Information Service Fee cover almost everything and represent a kind of lump sum for the information request fees, use of the reading room, copy of the Marketing Yearbook and Keyword Index Yearbook, Monthly Marketing Reports, Company Credit Reports, etc. Minor fees for facsimile transmission and copies (real cost) are invoiced separately.

Established in 1969, MDB is the largest "request on demand" information service provider in Japan. It offers its subscribers access to over 100,000 documents collected from over 3,000 organisations. MDB gathers statistics, research reports, directories, newsletters, newspapers and magazines, from the government, private research firms, financial organisations, publishers, industry associations, research institutes, newspaper companies, individual companies, and MDB's original data collections.

Requests for information are made by phone, fax or from MDB's reading room, which is a resource library open to all MDB members. MDB staff will check its in-house sources and send the requested information back within 2-3 hours in 50% of the cases. If the information is not available in-house, MDB's staff will check with the relevant industrial association or other organisation from its extensive network of 3,000 specialised organisations.

The EU-Japan Centre for industrial cooperation is a member of MDB since 1987. MDB's staff includes experts in all areas of information collection, and has established an original reference system that allows an efficient management of its information resources.

Resource materials provided:

- Market information: market size, manufacturers, shares, industry trends, rankings
- Directories: companies, industry associations, wholesalers, retailers
- Economic information: micro- and macro-economic indexes, economic forecasts
- Management information: cases studies, management indexes, wages, labour.
- Company information: company overviews, company trends
- Product information: demand forecasts, distribution channels, new product development
- Consumer information: consumer trends and opinions
- Science and technology information, patent information
- Statistic and social information: population, income, leisure.

Yano Databank Market Research

Japanese and English

More information from the website (<http://www.yanoresearch.com/>)

Yano Research Institute Ltd. (株) 矢野経済研究所

Yano Research Institute Ltd. (YRI) was established in 1958, and is one of the most renowned, full service market research companies in Japan. It employs 200 researchers and has offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka, Kyoto, Seoul, and New York, and affiliate offices in China and Taiwan. YRI specialises in industrial research and field surveys covering all major industries in Japan.

Major industries covered recent research reports:

- General / All industries
- Information Communication Technology
- Electronics / Optics
- Energy / Natural resources
- Automobile
- Industrial Technology
- Food / Beverage
- Apparel / Jewelry / Cosmetics
- Sports / Entertainment / Amusement
- Healthcare / Medical
- Retail / Wholesale
- Housing / Real estate
- Chemicals / Paper
- Materials
- B2B Services
- Consumer Services
- Consumer Durables
- Consumer Nondurables
- Other industries

Marketing Reports are market research studies that YRI designs, compiles, and publishes. A report contains the market size, share, structure, details of major players, and the market trends, and forecast of the subject in question. YRI annually release more than 200 titles. While most are written in Japanese, translation services are available for a fee. For a complete list of report titles, please visit the Website: http://www.yanoresearch.com/market_reports/newMr.php
Some English publication is available: http://www.yanoresearch.com/market_reports/listEnglishMr.php

Periodicals are published on a monthly and bi-monthly basis in order to provide up-to-date business information on various aspects. A translation service is available on request at an additional fee.

Marketing and consultation services

Japanese

More from the Webpage at <http://www.fuji-keizai.co.jp>

Fuji Keizai Co., Ltd. (株) 富士経済

Established in 1962, Fuji Keizai Group, is one of Japan's largest and most prominent research and consultancy companies specialising in market & industry information. It has around 350 full time researchers and analysts. Since its foundation in 1962, Fuji Keizai has accumulated a vast amount of research information on virtually every type of economic activity within the Japanese market. It publishes 20 new titles every month and provides a broad spectrum of customised services as corporate, industry and new products studies. Fuji Keizai supplies both overseas and domestic clients. Marketing Reports published by Fuji Keizai cover on regular basis: 1) Food & Food related services; 2) Healthcare; 3) Medical equipments / products; 4) Cosmetics & Toiletries; 5) Genome & Medical; 6) Information technology, Networking, Software; 7) Electronics devices, components; 8) Control technology, Industrial machinery; 9) Automobile & Distribution; 10) Environment, Environmental improvement technology/system; 11) Energy; 12) Construction, House/Facilities; 13) Chemical plastics; 14) Others

The market research services supplied by Fuji Keizai include:

Database service;

1. Marketing Report; Bi-monthly or monthly analysis of current themes; 14 categories of issues; Indispensable marketing data from managers;
2. Marketing Annual Report for members; Deals all activities, consumption or capital goods. Trend analysis of basic data such as market share, logistics, sales/customer service, innovations, players;
3. Customized Marketing Report; Customized for the purposed from the clients. Detailed requests reflect on the report.
4. Multi-client Report; Topic information and trend analysis of basic data and market by the specialists. The topic/theme changes regularly.

I.1.2 Panorama of information sources by market sector

I.1.2.1 Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Preliminary statistical reports on agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Web-based PDF, free of charge, updated 2003-2004 - English
Start from <http://www.maff.go.jp/esokuhou/index.html>
Ministry of agriculture, forestry and fisheries (MAFF) 農林水産省

The comprehensive source features statistics that cover the following areas - based on surveys conducted by the MAFF:

- Area & Production (Rice, Wheat, Pulses)
- Area & Production (Vegetables, Fruits)
- Farm Management
- Agricultural Structure
- Production output Value & Production indices
- Livestock
- Forestry
- Fishery
- Wholesale market information

Specific annual reports from 2002 to 2006 are also available from MAFF's main page in English at <http://www.maff.go.jp/eindex.html>

I.1.2.2 Automobile and automotive

Autoparts market information 2006

Hardcopy, B5, 160 pp, 2,500 JPY - Japanese
order on-line from <http://www.jidoshashinbun.co.jp/info/my.html>
Nikkan Jidosha Shimbunsha (株) 日刊自動車新聞社

Published by Nihon Jidosha Shinbunsha. The same publisher also provides the following titles: Car Doc, Mobi21 (monthly magazine), Import Car Guidebook, Automobile Yearbook, Automotive Machine and Tool Guide.

This directory features the following contents:

- Trends in the aftermarket sector;
- Navigation systems and audio;
- Exterior parts;
- Customization;
- Electrical components
- Parts and components for trucks
- Maintenance and repair parts
- Oils and chemicals.

Automobile yearbook - 2007-2008

Hardcopy, B5, 2 vol, 9,450 JPY - Japanese
Order on-line from
Nikkan Jidosha Shinbun (株) 日刊自動車新聞社

This Automobile Yearbook represents the most comprehensive resource on the Japanese automotive industry and its supply chain. This company is the publisher of the daily "Nikkan Jidosha Shimbun".

Other publications include: the Tokyo Motor Show Guide 2007.

I.1.2.3 Chemical and petrochemical

Japan chemical week

Web-based (Highlights) + newspaper, weekly, 8-12 pp., - English
4-week free subscription online Subscribe from <http://www.jcw-online.com/subscription.html>
The Chemical Daily Co., Ltd (株) 化学工業日報社

Japan chemical week is a weekly newspaper specializing in the chemical and its related industries in Japan and Asia. High-quality articles combine the technical depth and commercial insights in a timely fashion. They cover promising sectors - electronics, life science and novel materials - and R&D activities as well as basic chemicals. Two pages each are dedicated to coverage of the Asia/Pacific region and Pharmaceuticals / biotechnology.

Japan chemical directory 2007

Hardcopy, annual, B5, 800 pp, 28,350 JPY - English
Order by fax (03 3663 7275) or check for more details from <http://www.chemicaldaily.co.jp/>
The Chemical Daily Co., Ltd. (株) 化学工業日報社

A comprehensive survey listing Japanese enterprises, foreign-capital companies, associations and groups in the Japanese chemical industry and its related fields.

The book contains information categorized in the following sections: Manufacturers; Equipment; Traders; Other Chemical & Allied Companies; Associations; Other Organizations; Appendix: Asian Chemical Firms (Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand).

Petrochemical press

paperback magazines, fee-based - Japanese
Order by fax (03-5833-8841) and check for all publications at <http://www.sekiyukagaku.co.jp/books.htm>
Sekiyu Kagaku Shinbun-sha (株) 石油化学新聞社

Publishes a number of weekly and daily magazines related to the oil, petrochemical and gas business:

- The petrochemical press
- The propane butane news

Petrochemical Press has the largest circulation in LP gas industry in Japan and is a good information source for LP gas importers, wholesalers, retailers, equipment manufacturers, etc.

I.1.2.4 Cosmetics

Yearbook of fine chemical 2008

Hardcopy, yearly (B5, 511pp, 70,350 JPY) - Japanese
 Order on-line through <http://www.cmcbooks.co.jp>
 CMC Publishing Co., Ltd. (株) シーエムシー出版

CMC publishes the yearbook of fine chemicals 2008 and proposes an extensive list of specific market reports available at http://www.cmcbooks.co.jp/index_market.php

CMC is the leading publisher of i-magazines, encyclopedias, yearbooks, and books, in biotechnology, nanotechnology, new materials, new substances, electronics, fine chemicals, energy, agri-food industry, earth and environment, etc. CMC also has various overseas English language publications dealing with chemicals, fine chemicals and pharmaceuticals. Check out <http://www.cmcbooks.co.jp> for information about the publications (Japanese website).

Cosmetics & toiletries and household products marketing news in Japan

Paperback + CD-ROM, monthly around 40 pp, 795 USD / year - English
 order by fax (03 3899 9968), website: <http://www.prcjapan.com/cosmeandhouse.html>
 Pacific Research Consulting パシフィック・リサーチ・コンサルティング

This comprehensive English language report covers new product introductions to the Japanese market and also provides a great deal of marketing news and data. The publication includes such topics as bath products, cosmetics, deodorants & foot care, depilatories, hair products, household products, men's toiletries, OTC pharmaceuticals, perfume, shampoo & paper, skin care, toilet soap, toothpaste, oral hygiene and pet products. Since 1979.

English Monthly Bulletin

“Cosmetics & Toiletries and Household Products Marketing News in Japan”

Published: Monthly
 Price: US\$795/Year (Incl. Air Mail Postage)
 CD-ROM (w/Color Photos)

This report is composed of the following categories, Topics, Marketing Strategies, Statistical Data, Industry Report, Company Report, Hit Products, New Product, Joint Ventures and Technical/Business Agreement with Foreign Enterprises.

Japan is a fiercely competitive market and, as a consequence, new products development activity in Japan is continuous and highly innovative. The Japanese have been at the forefront of new idea development particularly in the household cleaning products field. There is much to learn by observing the Japanese market place and, short of physically being in the market, the best way of accomplishing this is by subscribing to Cosmetics & Toiletries and Household Products Marketing News in Japan. It is amply illustrated, published twelve times annually, and written in English.

Cosmetics in Japan 2007

Hardcopy, B5, 360 pp 9,450 JPY, yearly publication - Japanese
 Inquire by e-mail at letter@syogyo.jp
 Shukan Shogyo Publishing Co. Ltd. (SSP) (株) 週刊粧業

An updated, useful reference for accessing the cosmetics market in Japan. For more information about the contents, check the Japanese page at <http://www.syogyo.jp/cosmetic.htm>

I.1.2.5 Department stores and distribution

Department stores survey yearbook 2007

B5, Annual, released in September, 38,000 JPY - Japanese order by e-mail (mail@stores.co.jp)
STORES. Co., Ltd. (株) シーエムシー出版

Also Department News (weekly) and Stores Report (monthly) are available. For more information about the contents of this survey, check the Japanese contents online at: <http://www.stores.co.jp/>

If you order by e-mail, make sure to mention the title of this book as 2007 年度版百貨店調査年鑑 (2007 nendoban hyakkatenchosa nenkan)

Retail Japan 2003

Hardcopy, 500pp, available in our library - English
Available only as a PDF send by email. Order by e-mail to sales@japanconsuming.com
Japan Consuming

Although slightly out of date, this is the best reference guidebook, which provides a comprehensive roadmap to retailing in Japan. Over 500 pages, 22 different merchandise sectors and more than 2,000 companies indexed. More details about the contents are available from the English page at http://www.japanconsuming.com/?page_id=1055

Japanese distribution handbook 2006

Hardcopy, A4, 400pp, 84,000 JPY (book only), 105,000 JPY (book + CD-Rom) - Japanese
Order by fax (03 3494 2455) or by e-mail at pu001@dei.or.jp
The Distribution Economics Institute of Japan (財) 流通経済研究所

The latest edition is the 2006 comprehensive directory with 6 sections:

1. A detailed description of the main distribution channels in Japan
2. Latest trends changes in the distribution, sector by sector.
3. Enhanced statistical information (goes back 5 years in 84 companies)
4. Chart of Performance comparison among companies on major indicators
5. Updated information (until September 2006) of 48 companies
6. A CD-ROM version for computer search capability.

The Distribution Economics Institute of Japan was established in 1963 as a voluntary group. In 1966, under the guidance of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (now Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry), DEIJ was transformed into a nonprofit research organization.

I.1.2.6 Electronics

Electronics industry directory 2007

Hardcopy, B5, 524 pp, 27,300 JPY - Japanese
Order by fax (03-3445-6101) or online: <http://www.dempa.com/books/form.html>
Dempa Publications, Inc. (株) 電波新聞社

Provides a complete list of statistics on industry trends by products (focusing on various consumer goods as well as industrial goods), covers also export statistics and analyses of new business development.

Semiconductor factory handbook 2008

Hardcopy, A4, 150pp, 4,200 JPY, updated yearly - Japanese
fax or order on-line at: <http://www.sangyo-times.co.jp>
Sangyo Times, Inc. (株) 産業タイムズ社

One of the many market yearbooks provided by Sangyo Times on the Japanese semiconductor industry and market. Other directories are available in Japanese from the homepage of Sangyo Times: <http://www.sangyo-times.co.jp>

Japan IT industry and technology news

Free web-based news service - English
check from the website at <http://www.diginfo.tv>
Digitized Information, Inc. (有) デジタイズド・インフォメーション

Provides exclusive day-to-day coverage of the Japanese technology events and industry events. News stories are created in English and made available in easy-to-read format on the website. Categories of interest in IT/electronics sector include:

- IT
- Computer Hardware
- Consumer Electronics
- Electronics
- Materials/Chemicals
- Nanotechnology
- Semiconductor
- Wireless

Nikkei Electronics Asia - on-line news about the electronic industry in Asia

Web-based html, subscription - English, Japanese
Check at <http://techon.nikkeibp.co.jp/NEA/>
Nikkei Business Publications, Inc. (株) 日系BP

Nikkei Electronics Asia is a leading on-line magazine on-line with regularly updated news clippings on technology, industry and business available in English.

I.1.2.7 Machinery and energy

Fluid power systems and components directory 2008

Hardcopy, annual, B5, 400 pp, 28,350 JPY - Japanese
 Order by fax (03 3264 0728) or email: fluid2008@jkn.co.jp
 The Heavy and Chemical Industries New Agency (株)重化学工業通信社

Jukagaku Kogyo Tsushinsha (the Heavy and Chemical Industries News Agency) also publishes “The Japanese Oil Industry Review” and the “Asian Oil industry review” as well as a number market reports and fee-based magazines in the following business segments:

1. industrial equipment and industrial machinery;
2. industrial chemistry;
3. petroleum chemistry;
4. electrical and electronic engineering.

Jukagaku Kogyo Tsushinsha has a good list of links to Japanese companies and industrial associations available from <http://www.jkn.co.jp/ours/linkpage.htm>

Machinery tools import statistics in Japan

Web-based, free of charge - Japanese, English
 More information from (<http://www.jmtia.gr.jp/english/data/index.html>)
 Japan Machine Tools Importers' Association (JMTIA) 日本工作機械輸入協会

JMTIA is non-profit organization, which was established in April 1955.

The statistics of imported machinery (annual/semi-annual by country and by type of machine, and monthly by type of machine) are presented to Japanese importers and foreign exporters as statistical data on imported machinery. The amount and quantity of all machinery imported to Japan in certain years are classified according to the HS product code and shown in rankings of the top 35 countries. The table simultaneously shows the share of each nation in the market for each imported piece of machinery. The data are searchable by product or manufacturer.

JMIA also provides a list of Japanese machinery importers, classified alphabetically, available from the web.

EDMC handbook of energy & economic statistics in Japan 2007

Hardcopy, A6, 360pp, 2520 JPY - English
 Order form: http://eneken.ieej.or.jp/whatsnew_op/hanbai/EDMC2007.pdf
 Order by fax 03-5547-0223
 The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) (財) 日本エネルギー経済研究所

IEEJ also publishes a number of regular economic reports on the market and business in the Japanese energy sector. IEEJ provides a comprehensive list of statistics of energy-related product prices (domestic and overseas information).

More publications from IEEJ are available from <http://eneken.ieej.or.jp/publication/index.html>

IEEJ also has a comprehensive list of links to energy-related governmental organizations at <http://eneken.ieej.or.jp/en/links/index.html>

I.1.2.8 Fashion and textile

Textile trade statistics

Web-based excel and pdf formats, free of charge - Japanese
Access from the website (<http://www.jtia.or.jp/toukei/toukei.htm>)
Japan Textile Importers Association (JTIA) 日本繊維輸入組合

The Japan Textile Importers Association (JTIA) provides the following data:

- Statistical graphs of apparel market and imports;
- Import statistics of the ten major textile importers in the world;
- Statistics on trades of 1 Textile 2 Apparel.

JTIA also publishes the “The Japanese Apparel Market and Imports 2007”, a comprehensive guide that covers major economic indicators: Ratio of clothing consumption expenditures to total household consumption; Scale of household consumption of apparel (estimate); Estimated market scale of apparel; Market share of imports (estimate); Apparel imports; Comparison among outer wear, intermediate wear, produced domestically and imported wear; Distribution channels of imported wear; Characteristics of the Japanese market; Import system; Customs tariff; Import statistics of apparel; Import statistics of apparel; Import statistics of apparel, by material; Major retail outlet sales statistics bulletin (clothing).

I.1.2.9 Food and beverage

Food distribution directory in Japan 2008

Every two years, hardcopy + CD-ROM, B5, 2065 pp, 30,450 JPY - Japanese
Until 2006, it was published as the Food Company Directory (2005). The information was divided in two;
Food Distribution directory in Japan for wholesalers and Food Maker directory for manufacturers.
It contains the information of 3,978 food related wholesalers and distribution companies.
Order online in Japanese from <http://www.nissyoku.co.jp/koudoku/teiki/teiki.htm>
Japan Food Journal Co., Ltd. (株) 日本食糧新聞社

The CD-ROM allows the user to perform a full-text search. Japan Food Journal Co., Ltd. also publishes:

- the food industry business guide in Japan 2007 “Shokuryo Nenkan”; (annual, book + CD-ROM, B5, 2 volumes, 27,300 JPY)
- the food company directory 2005; (book + CR-ROM, B5, 2,923pp, 31,500 JPY)
- the food trends in 2006~2007; (book, A4, 2 volumes, 699pp, 24,150 JPY)
- the food maker directory 2007; (every two years, book + CD-ROM, B5, 2,000pp, 30,450 JPY)

Japan Food Journal Co., Ltd. also publishes a number of specialized newspapers and newsletters related to the food and beverage industry in Japan (for more details, see <http://www.nissyoku.co.jp/annai/shinbun/shinbun.htm>).

Food service almanac (Japan) 2005

A4, 1 Volume 388 pp, 6,300 JPY - Japanese
Order online from <http://www.shibatashoten.co.jp/bookstore/book/000594.html>
Shibata Shoten (株) 柴田書店

A complete list covering the main companies (295 companies) in the food service industry.

I.1.2.10 Furniture and office equipment

Furniture industry yearbook 2006

B5, 864 pp, 21 000 JPY - Japanese
Order from <http://www.kagu-news.com/otoiawase.html> or email: info@kagu-news.com
Kagu Shimbunsha Co., Ltd. (株) 家具新聞社

Furniture news condensed in a book, published for 18,900 JPY per year (9,450 JPY per half year), in 48,000 copies (70,000 for the special edition). Readers are: furniture makers, retail stores, homecenters, department stores, mail-order sales companies, general contractors, etc.

Also publishes the 2008 Industrial Furniture Handbook and 2007 Furniture Interior guide (check the page in Japanese <http://www.kagu-news.com/syuppanbutu.html> for more details)

Furniture and household goods - marketing guidebook for imported goods 2004

Hardcopy, A4, 140 pp, 2,625 JPY - English
Order online from <http://books.jetro.go.jp/cgi-bin/bookdata/db.cgi?cmd=dp&num=369&dp=detail2.html>
Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) (独) 日本貿易振興機構

Concise market summaries covering a wide range of product areas across the Furniture and Household goods categories including: carpets and curtains; bedding (futons); home textiles; furniture; household electrical appliances; lighting fixtures; telephone sets; batteries; cookware; cutlery, etc..

1.1.2.11 Information technology - hardware and software

Information & communications in Japan 2007

Paperback, A5, 156pp, 5,250 JPY - English, available in our library
 Fax order form available from the web at http://www.icr.co.jp/publications/faxform_e.html
 Order by fax 03-3633-7490 or by email (books@icr.co.jp);
 More information: http://www.icr.co.jp/publications/howtoget_e.html
 InfoCom Research, Inc. (ICR) (株) 情報通信総合研究所

This complete document, first edited in March 1998 by InfoCom Research, Inc. (ICR) contains telecommunications business trends, internet trends, e-commerce trends, as well as updates on government policy and definition of the regulatory framework. Since its foundation in June 1985, the ICR has been amassing data and know-how through its various operations, including specialized research in the fields of information and communication, consulting, marketing activities relating to information and communication, and conducting regional IT studies and making proposals in connection therewith.

IT services industry in Japan 2007

Annual, PDF, 81pp, 5000 JPY - English, Japanese
 Order by credit card (check procedure at: http://www.jisa.or.jp/english/statistics/jisa_an2007.html)
 Japan Information Technology Service Industry Association (JISA) (社) 情報サービス産業協会

With over 550 corporate members from the IT industry, JISA supplies the IT services industry survey in Japan which includes the following contents:

1. Current status of the IT Service industry in Japan
2. User Corporations
3. IT Business Trends
4. Trade and Regulatory Trends
5. Overview of Information Policy

JISA also offers the METI monthly survey on IT services in Japan for free (available in PDF version from the following page <http://www.jisa.or.jp/english/index.html>)

Info watch news on vertical markets

Web-based, html, fee-based - English, Japanese, Korean, Chinese and French
 More information from the websites: <http://www.gii.co.jp>; <http://www.the-infoshop.com>;
<http://www.giikorea.co.kr>; <http://www.giichinese.com.cn>; <http://www.giichinese.com.tw>;
<http://www.etudes-marche.com>
 Global Information, Inc. (株) グローバルインフォメーション

One stop shop of vertical market intelligence from over 250 world's leading market research firms.

Internet governance task force

Public access - English, Japanese
 More information from <http://igtf.jp/e/>
 Internet Governance Task Force of Japan (IGTF-J) インターネットガバナンス・タスクフォース

The main objective of IGTF-J is to engage in the activities of the Working Group on Internet Governance WSIS Geneva process called for and to achieve safe and trusted global framework of Internet operation and application through maintaining and further developing the private sector-led management. Symposium and Forum are held regularly.

I.1.2.12 Leisure and entertainment

Leisure industry, real-estate, senior business market reports

paperback, fee-based - Japanese

More information: <http://www.sogo-unicom.co.jp/data/book/index.html>

SOGO - UNICOM Co., Ltd. 総合ユニコム (株)

Publications from SOGO UNICOM include:

- Leisure & Service industry statistical research file 2007 (Hardcopy A4, 634pp, 52,500 JPY)
- The Leisure land and Recreational park directory 2007 (Hardcopy, A4, 428 pp, 73,500 JPY)
- The Pachinko Industrial yearbook 2007 (Hardcopy A4, 360 pp, 37,800 JPY)
- The Players of Real-estate finance 2007 (Hardcopy B5, 534pp, 19,950 JPY)
- The Senior Life & Business data (Hardcopy A4, 380pp + CD-ROM, 69,300 JPY) etc.

I.1.2.13 Packaging

Innovative new packaging in Japan - monthly bulletin

Paperback, monthly around 40 pp, 695 USD / year (airmail included) - English order by fax (03 3899 9953), website: <http://www.prcjapan.com/packaging.html>
Pacific Research Consulting パシフィックリサーチ・コンサルティング

Japan's Only Monthly Publication in English-Language - the Latest News and New Products and Technology information including Automatic Identification Technology in Japan's Packaging Industry - will help innovate your packaging business.

English Monthly Bulletin
"Innovative New Packaging in Japan"

Published: Monthly
Price: US\$795/Year (Incl. Air Mail Postage)
CD-ROM (w/Color Photos)

This report provides current news and patent information on the packaging industry in Japan. The first half of the report covers current awareness news on the packaging industry; the second half covers packaging-related patents filed and published in Japan during the previous month. Since 1997.

First Section Focuses on the following:

- New Technology
- Package and Materials
- Machines & Systems
- Seals & Labels/Package Printing
- Environment-Recycling of Packaging Materials
- Paper & Corrugated Cardboard Boxes
- News on Users of Packaging Materials (encompassing items such as food & drink, cosmetics, toiletries, household products, stationery, drugs and other packaged goods) and Distribution Systems of Goods and Services
- Industry News covering the latest on companies and the market place

Second Section Focuses on "Patent Information" for the following:

- Food and Drink
- Cosmetics and Toiletries
- Household Products
- Packaging Materials
- Packaging Containers
- Packaging Related Additives such as preservatives, coolants and de-oxidation agents

Japan packaging machine guide 2006

Hardcopy +CD-ROM, A4, 850pp, 6,000 JPY - English, Japanese
Purchase by e-mail (sales@jpmma.or.jp) or fax (03 6222 2280)
Japan Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Association (JPMA) (社) 日本包装機械工業会

Lists over 800 different types of packaging equipments. JPMA also publishes statistics on trade and production of packaging equipment within Japan (in Japanese, B5, 60 pp, 5,000 JPY).

Online databases:

Japan's Packaging Machines Manufacturers in English: <http://www.jpmma.or.jp/kikai/maker-eng.htm>
Japan's Packaging Machines: http://www.jpmma.or.jp/kikai/machine_menu-eng.htm

JPMA is the organizer of the "Japan Pack" international packaging machinery show (for more details, check the English page from http://www.japanpack.jp/english/e_idx.htm)

I.1.2.14 Pharmaceutical, health care, medical and biotechnology

Pharma Japan

English

Order from the website: http://www.pharma-japan.com/pha/3order_enq/order_enq.html

ORIOX Japan Ltd. (株) オリオックス

It keeps up-to-date with timely access to English-language information on the broad spectrum of changes and developments with the Japanese drug industry.

PharmaNext

Monthly, A4, about 100pp, 11,300 per year - Japanese

Order from website: <http://www.jiho.co.jp/shop/goods/goods.asp?goods=22512>

Jiho, Inc. (株) じほう

PharmaNext Japan covers the trends and moves in Japanese pharmaceutical industry and pharmaceutical regulatory aspects as well as the medical device industry.

In addition to the above newsletter, Jiho publishes several periodicals in Japanese, such as:

- Nikkan Yakugyo (Pharmaceuticals Daily),
- Japan Medicine (three times a week),
- Monthly Chozai-to-Joho (Dispensing and Information),
- Monthly PharmTech Japan,
- Monthly Gekkan Yakuji,
- Hands-on (quarterly),
- Chudoku Kenkyu (quarterly),
- Medifax (early morning from Monday to Friday),
- The Medical& Test Journal (three times a month)

Guide to medical device registration in Japan - 7th edition

Paperback, Last published in 2004 (7th Edition), A4, 422pp, 12,600 JPY - English

Order from <http://www.yakuji.co.jp/e/publications/index.html>

Yakuji Nippo, Ltd. (株) 薬事日報社

Contents include:

1. Regulations for Manufacture (Import) of Medical Devices
2. Requirements for Application for Approval to Manufacture (Import) Medical Devices and Data
3. Investigation by Designated Investigation Organizations
4. Transfer of Manufacturing (Import) Approval
5. Application for Manufacturing Approval by Foreigners
6. Application for License to Manufacture (Import and Retail) Medical Devices
7. Clinical Trials
8. Handling of Specially Designated Medical Devices
9. Reexamination and Reevaluation
10. Faults of Medical Devices and Safety Measures
11. Procedures for Exporting Medical Devices

Yakuji Nippo, Ltd. also publishes:

- Pharmaceutical Administration in Japan 2007 (paperbound, B5, 364pp)
 - The Japanese Pharmacopoeia, 15th Edition (hardbound, A4, 1820pp)
 - Japanese Standards for Herbal Medicines (hardback, A5, 361pp)
- and more other publications available from <http://www.yakuji.co.jp/e/publications/>

Pharma Japan 2003 handbook

Hardcopy, B5, 512 pp, 16,800 JPY - English
Purchase on-line from (<http://www.jiho.co.jp/shop/goods/goods.asp>)
Jiho, Inc. (株) じほう

Last published presentation of the Japanese pharmaceuticals market, the second largest in the world. This handbook is widely used in the pharmaceuticals industry in Japan. Other publications from Jiho include:

- "The Japanese Pharmaceutical Codex"
- "Pharmaceutical Affairs Law, Enforcement Ordinance and Enforcement Regulations"
- "Drug Approval and Licensing in Japan"

Biotechnology and bio-industry related publications

Hardcopy and PDF, fee-based - mostly Japanese
Check the list from: <http://www.jba.or.jp/publish/english/index.html>
Japan Bioindustries Associations (JBA) (財) バイオインダストリー協会

Publications include: 1) JBA yearbook 2005 (JBA activity report); 2) University research and bio-industry in Japan; 3) The biotechnology policy of the OECD and Japan; 4) Approach to genome analysis; 5) About the safety of gene manipulation; 6) Statistics in the bio-venture industry (English version available).

Publications prices vary between 1,000 JPY to 25,000 JPY.

Medical science & industry information services

Web-based, membership-based - Japanese
Access through the web (<http://www.imic.or.jp/index.html>)
International Medical Information Center (IMIC) (財) 国際医学情報センター

This center provides information retrieval services, search and copy as well as translation services related to medical science and industry in Japan.

IMIC also publishes a newsletter on medical safety (monthly, fee-based) and maintains an information Q&A board on cancer. IMIC is a non-profit organisation developed from the information section of the Faculty of Medicine, Keio University in 1972, with a staff of 53.

Chapter I.2 Macro-economic information

List of contents by name

Financial statements statistics of corporations by industry FY2003

Internet portal for economic information - Mizuho research and links

Japan 2005 - an international comparison

Japan foreign trade statistics - J trade search service

JTASS trade statistics download from the Japan Tariff Association

Japan foreign trade statistics - J trade search service

Research reports from the Development Bank of Japan

Statistics about Japan from the Japan Statistical Association

Statistics reports on the Japanese economy by the research and statistics department of METI

NRI news release

Statistical handbook of Japan 2005

Statistics library and macroeconomic data on Japan

TANKAN - statistical survey of business trends in Japan

I.2.1 Gathering statistics about the Japanese economy and finance

TANKAN - short-term economic survey of enterprises in Japan

Web-based, pdf file, free of charge - English and Japanese

Access from <http://www.boj.or.jp/en/theme/research/stat/tk/index.htm>

Bank of Japan 日本銀行

The TANKAN is a quarterly survey conducted in March, June, September, and December with the purpose to provide an accurate picture of business trends of enterprises in Japan, thereby contributing to the appropriate implementation of monetary policy.

The bank announces the release dates for the next six months surveys in advance at the end of March, June, September, and December.

The TANKAN covers approximately 22210,000 private enterprises (excluding financial institutions) in Japan with at least 20 million JPY in capital, based on the Ministry of International Affairs and Communications' "Establishment and Enterprise Census of Japan" (conducted in June 2004).

The bank reviews the sample enterprises (adding, excluding, and changing industry or size classification) when the "Establishment and Enterprise Census of Japan" is conducted every 2 or 3 years.

The survey classifies manufacturing industries into 16 categories) and non-manufacturing industries into 14 categories as shown below:

Manufacturing industries include: 1) Textiles; 2) Lumber and wood products; 3) Pulp and paper; 4) Chemicals; 5) Petroleum and coal products; 6) Ceramics stone and clay; 7) Iron and steel; 8) Nonferrous metals; 9) Food and beverages; 10) Processed metals; 11) Industrial machinery; 12) Electrical machinery; 13) Shipbuilding, Heavy machinery & Other transportation machinery; 14) Motor vehicles; 15) Precision machinery; 16) Other manufacturing

Non-manufacturing industries include: 1) Construction; 2) Real estate; 3) Wholesaling; 4) Retailing; 5) Transportation; 6) Communications; 7) Information services; 8) Other information and communication; 9) Electric and gas utilities; 10) Services for businesses; 11) Services for individuals; 12) Restaurants and accommodations; 13) Leasing; 14) Mining.

Japan foreign trade statistics - J trade search service

Web-based, 2,000 JPY/month, - English, Japanese
Access through the web (<http://www.kanzei.or.jp/english/index.html>)
Japan Tariff Association (財) 日本関税協会

Japan's foreign trade statistics are announced by the Ministry of Finance on a monthly basis. J trade is an advanced search engine for trade statistics, extremely convenient for finding desired statistics data on Japan's foreign trade. The statistical data is also available from the Japan Tariff Association in magnetic media and can also be obtained through fax transmission and photocopy service.

Financial statements statistics of corporations by industry FY2007 (last edition) + Quarterly publications

Web-based, pdf or excel, free of charge, quarterly and yearly data available - English
Browse at <http://www.mof.go.jp/english/e1c002.htm>
Ministry of Finance, Policy Research Institute (PRI) 財務省 財務総合政策研究所

The statistics reports are published by the Policy Research Institute (PRI). The yearly reports cover 10 areas, classified by industrial sector:

1. Sales;
2. Ordinary Profits;
3. Ratio of ordinary profits to sales;
4. Investment in plant and equipment;
5. Increases in inventories and ratio of inventories to sales;
6. Corporate finance (all industries);
7. Ratio of net worth

The PRI also produces a Monthly Finance Review. The material is published for public information of the Ministry of Finance, Japan and covers 3 parts:

1. Feature Article;
2. Information from Ministry of Finance (e.g. monthly balance of payments, official reserve assets and foreign trade. On demand, outline of the budget and outline of the tax reform);
3. A calendar of economic events.

Appendices consist of Current Business Conditions by the Cabinet Office and statistical information announced by the other Ministries and Agencies of the Japanese government.

The Information Systems Department is responsible for collecting and analyzing basic information related to fiscal, monetary and other economic affairs.

JTASS trade statistics

Floppy disk + regular web downloads, subscriber-based (5,000+ JPY) - English and Japanese
 Order form available at (<http://www.kanzei.or.jp/english/index.html>)
 Japan Tariff Association (財) 日本関税協会

Trade statistics data can be provided for a minimum fee by the Japan Tariff Association on disk, around the 28th of each month. The search can be tailored monthly to the user's own specifications.

Technical specifications: delivery by floppy disk or CD-ROM. Regular updates can be downloaded from the web from one single, self-extracting, compressed file.

The basic monthly charge for data access is 5,000 JPY. An additional fee is charged by section: Export or Import average 2,500 JPY, by chapter Export or Import average 3,500 JPY.

Business machine, IT and portal site of economic, business, statistics

Public access- Japanese, and some link pages - English
 Start from <http://www.jbmia.or.jp/english/index.htm>
 Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMIA)
 (社) ビジネス機械・情報システム産業協会

Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMIA) is to support the development of business machine and information system industries in order to contribute to the development of the Japanese economy and the improvement of office work efficiency through the promotion and the rationalization of production, trade, distribution and utilization of business machines and information systems.

Wide range of activities related to business machine and information system industries, such as;

- Investigation, research and information offering
- Promotion of efficiency
- Planning and promotion of standardization
- Promotion for international relationship and cooperation
- Promotion of environment, safety and quality activities
- Public relations
- Other activities required to achieve the purposes of the Association

The portal site of economy (business) statistic

Public access - Japanese and some link pages - English
 Start from <http://www.lib.hit-u.ac.jp/service/guide-j/keizai.html>
 Hitotsubashi University Library 一橋大学附属図書館

Introduction to data resources for Japan

Web-based, public access - English
 Start from http://hcl.harvard.edu/research/guides/data_japan/part2.html
 Harvard College Library

The date, information, and statistics are linked in the webpages.

I.2.2. Access to reference sources of economic information

I.2.2.1 Government organizations and libraries

Statistics reports on the Japanese economy

Web-based text reports, public access, weekly updated - English and Japanese

Check the website (<http://www.meti.go.jp/english/statistics/index.html>)

Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (METI), Research and Statistics Department, Administrative Division
経済産業省 経済産業政策局調査統計部

The Research and Statistics Department of METI and its Agency of Natural Resource and Energy edit industry-specific statistics and yearbooks, with the help of its various divisions and statistics research offices. Most of these publications can be purchased through the Government Publications Service Center.

Some abstracts are available in English and they are generally prepared by METI for presentations by their officials to a foreign audience. Users from a governmental organization may try to inquire with the relevant section within METI to know if an abstract exists in English for certain document.

Additional information on data or publications presented can be obtained by writing to the relevant section within METI or by consulting their home page. Contact of the public relations and international affairs office.

Tel: 03-3501-1643 Fax: 03-3501-7769 URL <http://www.meti.go.jp/statistics/index.html>

* For Monthly Industrial Statistics, contact the Economic Analysis Office

Tel: 03-3501-1644 Fax: 03-3501-7775

* For Indices of Industrial Production, Producer's Shipments and Producer's Inventory; Indices of Tertiary Industry Activities contact the Office of Current Survey for Mining and Manufacturing Tel: 03-3501-1645 Fax: 03-3501-5832.

* For statistics on the following areas, contact the Industrial Statistics Office

Tel: 03-3501-1093 Fax: 03-3501-5836:

Iron and Steel Statistics

Chemical Statistics

Ceramic, Stone and Clay Products Statistics

Plastics and Rubber Products Statistics

Machinery Statistics

Textile Statistics

Paper and Pulp Statistics

Miscellaneous Goods Statistics

Non-Ferrous Metal and Processed Metal Statistics

Current Survey of Non-Ferrous Metal Supply and Demand

Current Survey of Coal Supply and Demand

Current Survey of Energy Consumption in Commerce and Manufacturing

Current Survey of Petroleum Product Supply and Demand

* For the following information, contact the Enterprise Statistics Office

Tel: 03-3501-1831 Fax: 03-3580-6320:

Current Survey of Commerce

Current Survey of Selected Services Industries

Census of Manufacture

Census of Commerce

Survey of Selected Services Industries

Structural Survey of Energy Consumption in Commerce and Manufacturing

* To gain access to the following documents, contact the Statistics Planning and Analysis Division

Tel: 03-3501-6648 Fax: 03-3501-7775:

Quarterly Survey of Business Activities

Basic Survey of Business Structure and Activities

Basic Trend Survey of Overseas Business Activities

Survey of Trends in Business Activities of Foreign Affiliates

Basic Survey on Commercial and Manufacturing Structure and Activities

* To request access to the following, contact the Agency for Natural Resource and Energy Electricity and Gas Industry Department Gas Market Division Tel: 03-3501-2963 Fax: 03-3580-8541:

Input - Output Table

Japan, US, EU, Asia Input - Output Tables

Analysis of Industrial Activities

* For information about the following, contact the Mining Division

Tel: 03-3501-9918 Fax: 03-3580-8440:

Gas Industry Handbook

Statistics library and macroeconomic data on Japan

Web access, free of charge - English and Japanese

Access to the English page from <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/index.htm>

Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications 総務省 統計局

A very useful and comprehensive online repository with ample amount of macroeconomic data about Japan. The site offers representative statistics published by the government with an on-line service offering 4 sections:

- Macroeconomic statistics by segment of interest;
- List of economic indicators;
- Statistics methodology and FAQ;
- Regular updates with the latest surveys and publications.

Statistical handbook of Japan 2007

Web-based pdf file, annual, free of charge - English

More from <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/index.htm>

Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications 総務省 統計局

Statistical Handbook of Japan (SHJ) is designed to provide a clear and coherent overview of present-day Japan through statistics. It provided statistical tables, charts, maps, and photographs to portray conditions in modern-day Japan from a variety of perspectives, including demographics, economic and social trends, and culture. Most of the comments and statistical data for this purpose have been drawn from principal statistical publications available from government and other leading sources. SHJ is published annually in August or September. Beginning with the 2007 edition, it became possible to load each image of statistical table, chart and map of Japan.

Contents consist of 17 chapters: Land and Climate; Population; Economy; Finance; Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; Manufacturing and Construction; Energy; Science and Technology/Information and Communication; Transport; Commerce; Trade, International Balance of Payments, and International Cooperation; Labor; Household Finances and Prices; Environment and Life; Social Security, Health Care, and Public Hygiene; Education and Culture; and Government System.

I.2.2.2 Publications, magazines and other web-based sources

Research reports from the Development Bank of Japan

Web-based PDF or Hardcopy, free of charge - English, Japanese
Download from <http://www.dbj.go.jp/english/public/index.html>
Development Bank of Japan 日本政策投資銀行

The Development Bank of Japan (DBJ) is a government financial institution whose primary mission is to promote sustainable development of the Japanese economy while ensuring a high standard of living and the encouragement of regional-based development through the supply of long term funds, etc. As part of its activities, the DBJ publishes research reports covering a wide variety of current topics ranging from macro-economic issues to specific industry reports.

Publications include:

- Research reports on various topics
- Industrial Financial Indicators
- Annual reports.

Recent research reports available from the web include:

- DO M&A Improve Corporate Financial Performance in Japan?;
- Survey on Planned Capital Spending for Fiscal Years 2005,2006 and 2007 (Conducted in June 2006);
- Policies to Restore International Competitiveness of Japanese Semiconductor Industry.

Internet portal for economic information - Mizuho research and links

Web based, public access, regularly updated - English
Access from <http://www.mizuho-sc.com/english/ebond/index.html>
Mizuho Securities Co., Ltd. みずほ証券

One of the most comprehensive starting points when searching for economic, financial, political and legal information about Japan across the world wide web.

NRI news release

Web-based, regular updates, public domain - English
Access from <http://www.nri.co.jp/english/news/index.html>
Nomura Research Institute, Ltd. (NRI) - Knowledge Solutions Division
(株)野村総合研究所 ナレッジソリューション事業本部

The NRI news release is published on the web in order to present the result of some of NRI's recent research on issues important to Japan and the world - in English language.

Nomura Research Institute, Ltd. is Japan's largest and most comprehensive private-sector research institution. It offers a wide range of services, including economic and capital market research, business management and strategy consulting, and social systems consulting. The company is also one of the Japan's leading suppliers of systems consulting, integration and operation services.

I.2.3 Other means of collecting economic information

Japan 2007 - an international comparison

Paper 9.5 x 19 cm format, about 120pp, available in our library - English
 Purchase from a government publication office in Japan. More from
 (<http://www.kkc.or.jp/english/activities/index.html>)
 Keizai Koho Center (Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs) (財) 経済広報センター

A handy data book on Japanese social and economic statistics published by the Keizai Koho Center (the KKC). This publication includes six appendixes, which list general information about Japan, a brief chronology of Japanese history, a few maps of Japan with major cities, etc. Shows a comparison with all major industrialised countries. Edited and published by Keizai Koho Center. The book features the following contents:

1. Population and Area
2. National Economy and Financial Situation
3. Tax and public finances
4. International Balance of Payments and FOREX
5. Industries
6. Visible Trade (Commodity Trade)
7. Invisible Trade and ODA (Service Trade, etc.)
8. Raw Materials, Energy and Environment
9. Employment, Wages, Prices and Household Economy
10. Life, Culture and Others
11. Reference

The KKC is an independent, nonprofit organization supported by industrial organizations and individual Japanese and foreign-affiliated firms. Having started out with the mission to span gaps in understanding between the business and other sectors of society, we today have expanded our aims.

The KKC gathers information at all levels of Japanese society and shares that information with the world. The KKC strives to close gaps in perception between Japan and other countries and between the business community and society at large.

The 2006 version of this booklet (700KB) is available as a pdf document online from
<http://www.kkc.or.jp/english/activities/publications/aic2006.pdf>

Statistics about Japan

Web-based - Japanese and English
 More information from the website (<http://www.jstat.or.jp>)
 Japan Statistical Association (財) 日本統計協会

Japan Statistical Association (JSA) was established as a non-profit organization to lend itself to the progress of statistics in Japan in 1878. Its functions and main activities are as follows:

1. Statistical data dissemination;
2. Enlightenment on statistical knowledge and techniques;
3. Research on statistical theories and techniques;
4. International statistical cooperation;
5. Support for statistical censuses and surveys.

Data are also provided on floppy disks, CD-ROM etc.

New Publications: Japan Statistical Yearbook 2005; Statistical Handbook of Japan 2004; Annual Report on the Family Income and Expenditure Survey, 2003; Annual Report on the Consumer Price Index, 2003; Annual Report on the Labour Force Survey, 2003; Social Indicators 2004; 2000 Population Census of Japan / Population of Densely Inhabited

Chapter I.3 FDI, government structure and public policy

I.3.1 Public policy and information about the government

Japan's tax policy

Web-based, updated regularly, free of charge - English and Japanese
<http://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax/tax.htm>
 Ministry of Finance (MOF) 財務省

This website is part of the official location of the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the body in charge of the country's fiscal policy. Public users have access to the tax reform papers and the material issued by the tax commission. The MOF also provides a detailed explanation about the Japanese taxation system through the link entitled "FY2007 Tax Reform (Main Points), PDF (see <http://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax/tax2007/tax2007a.pdf>).

Policy information from the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan

Web-based, public access - English and Japanese
 Start from <http://www.cao.go.jp/index-e.html>
 Cabinet Office, Government of Japan 内閣府

The Government of Japan offers a substantial list of public policies included in the following areas (available to the general public):

- Economic and Fiscal Policy;
- Regulatory Reform;
- Science and Technology Policy;
- Innovation 25;
- Policies on Cohesive Society;
- Gender Equality;
- Quality-of-Life Policy;
- Food Safety;
- Economic and Social Research Institute;
- International Peace Cooperation;
- Policy Proposal by Scientists
- Other Information

Readers are recommended to complete their search on policy papers by consulting the relevant ministries' homepages and/or publications.

Japanese politics online portal

Web based, public access - English
 More information from the website (<http://www.mizuho-sc.com/english/ebond/politics.html>)
 Mizuho Securities Co., Ltd. みずほ証券 (株)

An important source of basic information about Japanese politics that includes links to descriptions of the political system as well as an English translation of the Japanese constitution.

Other links: Level of Japanese Government (OECD) (PDF); Government officials (CLA report); Links to Government ministries & agencies.

The Antimonopoly act maintain fair and free competition in a market

Web-based, public access - Japanese, English
Start from <http://www.jftc.go.jp/e-page/index.html>
Japan Fair Trade Commission 公正取引委員会

The Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) is unique in that it performs its duties as independent administrative commission without being directed or supervised by other organs. Its organizational unit known as General Secretariat takes charge of clerical affairs of the JFTC with regard to investigation and supervision of those cases involving the Antimonopoly Act.

Translations of laws and regulations (in compliance with standard bilingual dictionary)

Web-based, public access - English, Japanese
Start from <http://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/hourei/data2.html>
Cabinet Secretariat 内閣官房

Only the original Japanese texts of the laws and regulations have legal effect, and the translations are to be used solely as reference material to aid in the understanding of Japanese laws and regulations.

1.3.2 Information about FDI from governmental organizations

Foreign direct investment policy

Web-based, portal, public access - English and Japanese
 Start from http://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/index_FDI_into_Japan.html
 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) 経済産業省

The recently launched FDI policy in Japan is described in details through METI's website under the following headlines: 1) explanation of the "Invest Japan" one-stop consultation service for foreign businesses; 2) Four Areas Most Active in Attracting FDI; 3) link to the homepage of the Japan Investment Council (<http://www.investment-japan.net/>); 4) reference material; 5) statistical data related to FDI; 6) Japanese Investment Environment (link to JETRO's website "Invest Japan"; and 7) link to JETRO's homepage; Cabinet Office; Office to Trade and Investment Ombudsman (OTO);

METI also published the 2007 White Paper on International Economy and Trade (start from <http://www.meti.go.jp/english/report/data/gIT2007maine.html>) as well as the 2005 White Paper on Small and Medium Enterprises in Japan: http://www.chusho.meti.go.jp/pamflet/hakusyo/h17/download/2005hakusho_eng.pdf

Japan's prefectures' support to FDI - 2004 version

CD-ROM booklet, free of charge - English
 Request a copy by e-mail at eujapan@eu-japan.gr.jp
 EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation 日欧産業協力センター

This CD-ROM is a first attempt at providing access to comparable and verifiable data about the investment incentives offered by Japanese prefectures to interested foreign businesspeople. The guide provides a list of relevant contact points, which prospective investors can reach in order to follow up when necessary. The CD-ROM is structured in the following way:

- Preliminary reflections;
- A look ahead - Japan's economy in FY 2005;
- Map of Japanese prefectures;
- Part I: FDI's most favourable zones;
- Part II: Prefectures of the Kanto and Kansai regions;
- Annex - list of contacts and homepage addresses.

Investment in Japan - Manufacturing Imports and Investment Promotion

Public access - Japanese
 More information from <http://www.mipro.or.jp/investment/index.html>
 Manufacturing Imports and Investment Promotion Organization (MIPRO)
 (財) 対日貿易投資交流促進協会 (ミプロ)

Manufacturing Imports and Investment Promotion Organization (MIPRO) incorporates with related organizations and supports foreign enterprises who come to Japan and foreign enterprises in regions (Japan) as secondary investment.

- FDI Seminars
- FDI business forums
- FDI consultation
- Consultation for foreigners who set up business
- Supporting network

I.3.3 Other sources about business, policy and the Japanese government

White papers

Web-based list of links, public access - Japanese (English under construction)
 Check at <http://www.npb.go.jp/ja/books/whitepaper/index.html>
 White papers can be bought through usual bookstores or at Japan Official Gazette, Inc. (Zenkanpo) and its service stations.
 National Printing Bureau (NPB) (独) 国立印刷局

The site features over 50 White papers edited by various bodies of the government and published by the National Printing Bureau (NPB). The Japanese homepage has 2 useful links: 1) to the white papers published by the NPB and 2) a list of summarized white papers versions of older white papers (edited for web browsers).

EBC report on the Japanese business environment

Annual, paperback, A4 - English and Japanese
 Contact the EBC by telephone for a copy (03 3263 6222)
 European Business Council (EBC) 欧州ビジネス協会

The European Business Council (EBC) is the trade policy arm of the eighteen European National Chamber of Commerce and Business Associations in Japan. First established in 1972, the EBC works to improve the trade and investment environment for European companies in Japan. The EBC currently represents over 3,000 local European companies and individuals who are members of the EBC through their respective national chamber of commerce. Some 350 of these companies participate directly in one or more of the EBC's 29 industry committees, whose work covers a wide variety of economic sectors.

The EBC works closely with the Delegation of the European Commission in Japan, the national European Embassies, and other business organisations to co-ordinate policy proposals and make suggestions to the Japanese Government on how to create an open environment for trade and investment in Japan. Some of the major EBC activities include:

- Identifying obstacles European companies face doing business in Japan and lobbying the Japanese Government for changes in government policy.
- Providing information to the European Commission and EU member nations on the Japanese business environment.
- Participating in Government commissions such as the former Ministry of International Trade and Industry's Import Board.
- Commenting on proposed legislation through the Japanese Government's Public Comment Procedure.
- Publishing policy proposals in EBC reports such as its annual white paper, which in the year 2006 was entitled "New Leadership - Renewed Reform: The EBC Report on the Japanese Business Environment 2006". Participating in high-level business forums such as the EU-Japan Business Dialogue Roundtable.

Business confidence survey quarterly

Web-based, updated twice a year, pdf, free of charge - English
 Access the surveys from <http://www.fcc.or.jp/fcij/bcs.html>
 Foreign Chambers in Japan (FCIJ) 在日外国商工会議所

The Foreign Chambers in Japan (FCIJ) conducted the first Business Confidence survey in April 2002, based on a format developed by the Finnish Chamber of Commerce in Japan (FCCJ). This survey, conducted twice a year, and rapidly becoming a barometer of foreign business in Japan.

FCIJ Business Confidence Survey Report - Fall 2007 (2.6Mb):

http://www.fcc.or.jp/fcij/pdf/fcij_survey0710.pdf

Participating organizations included the ACCJ (American Chamber), ANZCCJ (Australia-New Zealand Chamber), ABC (Austria Business Council), BCCJ (British), BLCCJ (Belgian-Luxembourg), CCCJ (Canadian), CCIFJ (French), DCCJ (Danish), DIHKJ (German), FCCJ (Finnish), ICCJ (Italian), NCCJ (Dutch), SCCJ (Swedish) and SCCIJ (Swiss).

The Foreign Chambers in Japan (FCIJ) is an informal organization comprised of foreign chambers of commerce and business groups in Japan mainly for the purpose of information exchange and enhancement of the activities of the component organizations.

List of government publications “Seifu Kankoubutsutou Sougou Mokuroku”

Paper A5, 496 pp, 560 JPY - Japanese; <http://www.gov-book.or.jp/contents/book/save/107110199.html>
 Search at their service stations and on the web:
 Japanese: <http://www.gov-book.or.jp/asp/Book/BookList/?op=CP>
 English: <http://www.gov-book.or.jp/asp/EngPub/EngBookList/?op=1>
 To order from overseas, contact by email: overseas@gov-book.or.jp
 All Japan Official Gazette, Inc. 全国官報販売協同組合

A directory that contains indication of governmental publications (some bilingual), covering governmental surveys, annual reports, economic surveys, statistics, governmental guidelines, etc. Publications are very conveniently classified under each Ministry's name. It also contains other sections on the publications of the Bank of Japan, a list of monthly statistics bulletins available from government agencies, and a list of White Papers translated into English (including those available directly, free of charge, from ministries)

The All Japan Official Gazette, Inc., Agency is managing the Government Publications Service Centers, with its 48 publications Service Stations which are spread out around Japan (located in main bookstores) where many of the governmental publications are available. The Government Publications Service Centers distribute almost all publications issued by the Japanese government bureaus and offices, ministers and councils, and related organizations. It carries also other publications related to Japanese industry and issued by private publishers. The fastest way to check for the availability of a governmental publication is to consult the Agency's web site from <http://www.gov-book.or.jp>.

RIETI's database and statistical information on the Japanese economy

Database files CD-ROM, Fee-based on demand - Japanese
More information from the web at <http://www.chosakai.or.jp/center/index.html>
Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI)
(財) 経済産業調査会—経済統計情報センター

The Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI) is a non-profit organisation established by METI to provide METI-related information to the public. RIETI holds subscriber-based databases on statistical information about the Japanese economy and industrial production.

Databases include Kogyo Tokei Hyo (Production Statistics); Shogyo Tokei Hyo (Mercantile Statistics); Sangyo Renkan Hyo (Industrial Statistics); Kokogyo Kanren Kakushu Shisu (Mining and Industrial Statistics) and Sekiyuto Shohikozo Tokei.

Bilingual professionals network

Public access - English, Japanese
More Information from <http://vitaljapan.com/e/index.htm>
Vital Japan バイタル・ジャパン

Vital Japan is a non-profit Tokyo-based bilingual professionals group dedicated to providing a forum for members to meet and discuss business and public policy issues in English. Monthly discussion meetings and networking receptions are the core activities.

Portal site to the world of Japan

Public access - English, Japanese and Chinese
Start from <http://www.jinjapan.org/>
Japan Information Network, Inc (JIN) ジャパン・インフォメーション・ネットワーク (株)

Japan Information Network, Inc (JIN) has been introducing Japan's politics, economy, society and culture, and enhancing overseas understanding of Japan.

Chapter I.4 Information about companies and competitors in Japan

I.4.1 Looking for company information

Japan corporate quarterly handbook (1st section and 2nd section)

2 volumes about 2x4, 800 JPY, quarterly - Japanese and partly English
Inquire at (sales@toyokeizai.co.jp) or at (jpt@jptco.co.jp) for sales agencies in the EU
Toyo Keizai Inc. (株) 東洋経済新報社

Provides updated financial data of companies listed on the first and second sections of the Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya stock exchanges. The first volume covers the information on all of Japan's leading companies listed on the first section of the above three stock exchanges. The second volume shows the latest data on over 900 second-tier companies listed on the above stock exchanges as well as 76 of local markets.

Both sections cover the following information of each company: Features & outlook; Business results for the past 5 years and future prospects; Equipment or service provided and sales breakdown; Total sales, assets and stockholders' equity; facility investments; R&D expenditure; capital changes; trends of stock prices shown by graph; major stockholders & foreign ownership; number and average age of employees; etc. Listings are grouped into 60 industry categories and within these companies are listed by their Japanese security code number at the stock exchanges. A list of government offices and public corporations is given at the end of each section.

PDF file service of Japan company handbook (JCH)

PDF files provided by CD-R, quarterly service (January, April, July, November)
Annual fee = 2 million JPY (excluding consumption tax) - Japanese and partly English
Inquire at database@toyokeizai.co.jp
Toyo Keizai Inc. (株) 東洋経済新報社

This is a PDF file service of Japan Company Handbook (JCH). JCH mainly provides the latest financial information for all of the Japanese corporations listed on the first section and the second section of Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya stock exchanges and it covers the following information of each company; Characteristics & Outlook; Business results for the past 5 years and future prospects; Equipment or service provided and Sales breakdown; Stock Prices & Stock Price Chart; Major shareholders & Foreign ownership; Capital changes.; Total assets & Shareholders' equity; Capital spending; R&D expenditure; Depreciation & Amortization; Number and average age of employees.

Also JCH follows up the latest financial information all the Japanese corporations listed on Local markets (Sapporo and Fukuoka stock exchanges), Jaedaq, "Mothers" and "Hercules".

This service will provide one PDF file for each company for users printed in JCH with the indexes.

Corporate financial information from Tokyo Shoko Research (TSR)

Custom reports on demand - Japanese
 More information from the website (<http://www.tsr-net.co.jp>)
 Tokyo Shoko Research, Ltd. (TSR) (株) 東京商工リサーチ

Tokyo Shoko Research, Ltd. (TSR) was established in the 19th century (1892) as the first credit reporting agency in Japan. The TSR business information and its database has been an indispensable part of the social infrastructure in Japan.

The TSR report is a set of comprehensive credit information collected through interview and investigation by the professional reporters in 86 branch offices throughout Japan. (English translation is also made available upon request.) Also, TSR provides business information collected by the own professional reporters through various media to meet customers' needs.

TSR report in English is made available upon request. Other available services; Database services, Internet services, Business failure news, RISK score, Marketing services, Publication ("Tosho shinyo-Roku")

Nikkei Telecom 21 - Japan news & retrieval service for corporate information

Web-based search engine, subscriber-based - Japanese
 More from <http://telecom21.nikkei.co.jp/nt21/service/>
 Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc. (Nikkei), Electronic Media Bureau (株) 日本経済新聞社

Nikkei Telecom 21 contains information on companies listed on Japan's stock exchanges.

The service provides: 1) Information on the company's business activity, major shareholders, sales breakdown, etc.
 2) Financial statements for Japanese listed companies.

Portal site for company information

Web-based, public access - Japanese
 More information from http://www.jcib.co.jp/ir/new_ir_gaiyou.html
 Japan Company Information Bank Co. (JCIB) 日本企業情報 (株)

- Providing company information to the consumers and investors through internet
- Publishing books about company information
- Education related to economical activities
- Network building for support activity in disasters
- Business related to providing company information

Portal site for company information

Web-based, public access - Japanese, English
 Start from <http://www.jcci.or.jp/home-e.html>
 The Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) 日本商工会議所

The first Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan was established in March, 1878 in Tokyo has changed to the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) in 1922. Today, nearly all of Japan's major cities have a chamber of commerce. The 517 (as of April 2007) Chambers of Commerce form a large-scale nationwide organization boasting 1.43 million members (as of March 2006). Chambers in Japan are designated as corporations with special status. They are created and operated under a special government law called the Chambers of Commerce and Industry Law. Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry have the following characteristics:

- They are regional, with one chamber for each city.
- They are composed of large and small companies in every industry.
- They are public, non-profit, and non-political.
- They are international, having the same structure as chambers in other countries.

I.4.2 Access to corporate intelligence

I.4.2.1 Financial information and credit rating

Corporate credit research (CCR) from Teikoku Databank (TDB)

Custom reports on demand or searchable through online databases - Japanese and some English
Start from <http://www.tdb.co.jp/english/>
Teikoku Databank, Ltd. (TDB) (株) 帝国データバンク

The CCR service provides details of the financial and operating status on Japanese companies and International companies. This service is produced in Japanese and English, targeted to Japanese and international clients. The CCR profile description covers about 80 information elements needed for company diagnosis. Information from Teikoku's databases can be provided in the form of summary sheets or cards, address labels or digital storage media (tapes, floppy disks, MO, CD-ROM), according to the users' requirements.

The following fields are provided:

1. Corporate Profile
2. Business Registration, Executives, Major Shareholders
3. Employees and Facilities
4. President
5. Affiliation and History
6. Performance
7. Suppliers and Customers
8. Banks
9. Financial Health, Bad Debts
10. Current Conditions and Potential
11. Statement of Accounts
12. Land Deeds

Corporate database service from Teikoku Databank (TDB)

Custom reports on demand or searchable through online databases - Japanese and some English
Start from <http://www.tdb.co.jp/english/>
Teikoku Databank, Ltd. (TDB) (株) 帝国データバンク

TDB's corporate information database COSMOS contains accurate and reliable corporate information. TDB extract necessary data to fit into the one's plan. The data is provided with a disk (CR-R, CMT, etc) or in the form of hardcopy such as address tags for direct mail.

COSMOS1 - Corporate Profile Database
COSMOS2 - Corporate Financial Database
C-Tree - Consolidated Companies Database

Independent credit rating service by Mikuni

Web based, subscription-based hardcopy reports (630,000 JPY per year) - English and Japanese
 More information from (<http://www.mikuni-rating.co.jp/>)
 Mikuni & Co., Ltd. (株) 三國事務所

Mikuni provides an independent view of corporate credit risk. Bond ratings are based on publicly available sources. Mikuni's credit ratings cover over 1,400 Japanese corporations in 92 different industries and 3,000 bond issues (as of March 2005). Mikuni's credit ratings cover:

1) bonds, mortgaged long-term debt, unsecured long-term debt, and unsecured short-term notes issued by industrial, utilities, and financial institutions represented as follows:

- Japanese firms (residents) with outstanding bond issues except for privately-placed domestic bonds.
- Leading companies in the industry to make comparison among the firms easier.
- All regional banks and second-tier regional banks of which shares are listed with or without outstanding bonds. In case of banks most senior debt, subordinate debt and short-term notes are rated.

2) Corporate bonds rated include those issued not only in the domestic market but abroad; straight, convertible and with-warrants bonds; and corporate bonds backed by letter of credit of banks. Privately-placed bonds issued in the overseas markets and traded in the secondary market are also rated, but privately-placed bonds etc. issued in the domestic market that are not traded in the secondary market are excluded. Mikuni's credit ratings do not rate asset-backed securities.

3) No rating has been assigned, when the issuer has not registered their securities reports, or Yukashoken Hokokusho, with the FAS, or when the issuer has not disclosed financial statements for more than four fiscal years. It is not for reasons related to the credit quality of the issuer, but because of a lack of essential data on the issuer for analytical purpose.

4) After ratings are downgraded to the DDD rating category, ratings on the issuer and their bonds are not to be assigned, because those issuer's capacity to service indebtedness could not be evaluated by the methods of financial analysis.

The website also has a section on capital markets in Japan and bankruptcy history at:
<http://www.mikuni-rating.co.jp/eng/ennews/efault/encompany.html>

Credit rating service from the Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR)

Web-based, electronic, some public access - English and Japanese
 More information form <http://www.jcr.co.jp/english/>
 Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (株) 日本格付研究所

The Japan Credit Rating Agency was established in 1985 by leading institutional investors, including major insurance companies and banks, to meet a need for thorough and impartial analysis of bond issuers and reliable credit ratings. JCR's activities include:

- Rating of long and short-term debts, including medium-term note programs and asset-backed securities;
- Research on domestic and foreign financial markets and on industry trends;
- Research on foreign political and economic conditions;
- Publication and information service relating to ratings and research activities.

JCR provides daily updates of JCR ratings on the web site, both in English and Japanese.

Other services include publications in English, "JCR Ratings", a monthly on subscription base (21,000 JPY/per year).

1.4.2.2 Company organizations, managers' structure and employee information

Listed company organization charts, "Soshikizu Keitouzu Binran Zenjokaisha-ban" 2007

Hardcopy or CR-ROM, B5, 2 volumes 71,400 JPY - Japanese
Order on-line (<http://www.d-vision.ne.jp/contact/order.html>)
Diamond Inc. (株) ダイヤモンド社

A useful tool for understanding how Japanese competitors are organized in departments for product or new business development. Can also be of help in identifying the proper department for commercial contacts.

This 2007 edition provides the organization charts of over 3870 companies listed in Japan including those listed in JASDAQ, with a list of all branches and addresses with contact numbers.

More information about the books is available from <http://www.diamond.co.jp/bandn/data/pub/bookbinran.html>

Company executives' information - all listed companies, "Kaisha Shokuin-roku" 2007

CD-ROM, 65,100 JPY annually - Japanese
Order on-line: <http://www.d-vision.ne.jp/contact/order.html>
Diamond Inc. (株) ダイヤモンド社

Diamond publishes a CD-ROM of information on Japanese company executives, ranging from the level of Yakuin (director) to Bucho and Kacho (division and department managers). The CD-ROM in Japanese includes 3870 companies listed in the first section of the TSE as well as JASDAQ, Mothers and other markets.

The CD-ROM does not contain private information, such as private address and telephone numbers.
More information: <http://www.diamond.co.jp/bandn/data/pub/booksyoku.html>

Genealogical chart of Major Japanese corporations, "Honpo shuyo kigyo keifuzushu"

Hardcopy, 6 volumes and index, A4 - Japanese
<http://www.rieb.kobe-u.ac.jp/liaison/introduction/publication.html>
Contact the RIEB Liaison Center in order to purchase a copy (center@rieb.kobe-u.ac.jp)
RIEB Liaison Center 神戸大学経済経営研究所 附属政策研究リエゾンセンター

This book is edited by Yagura & Ikushima, Documentation Center for Business Analysis, Research Institute for Economics and Business Administration, Kobe University, publ. by Yushodo Press Co., Ltd. Out of print, but can be consulted at major libraries in Japan, i.e. National Diet Library.

The book contains detail of past company names and mergers, concerning firms listed on the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. This is an excellent aid to doing any historical research on Japanese firms, especially those no longer existing under their original names.

The works named "honpo shuyokigyo keifuzu-shu" (Vol. 1 - Vol. 7) have been originally printed by the Documentation Center for Business Analysis, but they are "hibaihin", not for general use. The above-mentioned book is the reprint of Vol. 1 - Vol. 6. There is a most recent one of 1993 (Vol. 7), concerning Firms listed on the First Section of the Osaka and Nagoya Stock Exchanges. You may try to inquire with the Centre if you are yourself a non-profit and educational organisation to the address below. Source: RIEB Liaison Center, Kobe University

More information: <http://www.rieb.kobe-u.ac.jp/liaison/cdal/usersinfo.html>

I.4.2.3 Foreign affiliates in Japan

Directory of foreign affiliated companies in Japan, "Gaishikei kigyo soran" 2007

Paperback, annual, B5, 17,850 JPY, released in July - Japanese
 CD-ROM, annual, 132,300 JPY, released in May - Japanese (Order by fax with the following form:
<http://www.toyokeizai.co.jp/db/gaishi/pdf/2007gaishicdrom.pdf>)
 More information from <http://www.toyokeizai.co.jp/data/databank/gaishikei/>
 Toyo Keizai Inc. (株) 東洋経済新報社

This comprehensive directory lists basic information on roughly 3,300 foreign-capital affiliated companies in Japan. Items cover: establishment date; number of shareholders; incorporated capital; percentage of foreign ownership (including the names of shareholders); regional branches; factories and laboratory locations if any; sales breakdown and equipment; services offered; main customers and suppliers names; main banks; list of directors; number of employees (including how many foreigners); recruitment level per year (male, female employees); export and import rate; sales performance; net profit and dividends for the last five years and outlines and features of the foreign mother company. The listing is grouped over 50 industry categories. The directory lists five indexes: by Japanese name, industry, nationality of the company, English name and name of the parent company.

Directory of companies based in Japan

Paperback, bi-annually, 3,150 JPY (domestic); 80,00 USD (overseas) - English and Japanese
 Order by Fax (03 3237 8945)
 Japan Yellow pages, Ltd. ジャパンイエローページ (株)

From 2008 Japan Yellow Pages will concentrate on supplying information via a new and expanded website format. Publication of the familiar twice-yearly directory has been suspended.

More information: <http://yellowpage-jp.com/>

The Japan Yellow Pages provides a complete, multi-reference directory of companies, services and officials agencies based in Japan, divided in three parts:

- Government & Associations Section: embassies, the Japanese government, associations
- Consumer Section: classified by services
- Business Section: classified by products

Each contact is fully described: URL, email, tel. fax.

The directory also includes practical information such as useful Telephones Numbers, Zip codes, Schedule for Trade Fairs & Exhibitions.

I.4.2.4 Overseas activities of Japanese companies

“Kaigai shinshutsu kigyō soran (Japanese overseas investment)”, a complete listing by country 2007

By Company, Softcover, annual, B5, 19,950 JPY, released in May - Japanese
By Country, Softcover, annual, B5, 19,950 JPY, released in April - Japanese
Order on-line from (<http://www.toyokeizai.co.jp/>)
Toyo Keizai Inc., (株) 東洋経済新報社

This publication covers approximately 21,226 firms all over the world that are either wholly or partially capitalised by Japanese firms. Overseas firms (with more than 10% of shares held by Japanese firms or overseas affiliates of Japanese firms), are listed by region and country in alphabetical order of the investing Japanese firm. Toyo Keizai's Database department carries out a massive questionnaire research operation every year in which approx. 6,000 Japanese firms are contacted.

Each entry will include information on the Japanese and local investor, holding ratios; name of overseas affiliate, address, phone number; capital stock, number of employees (number dispatched from Japanese firm), sales, gross assets, annual production value, business results (even, black or red), main business line. The directory also lists historical data of Japanese overseas investment by country and year and sales ranking of Japanese overseas affiliates.

Directory of Japanese addresses in Europe 2007

PDF Document (Adobe Acrobat 8) or Excel Document, 49,90 Euro - English
order by fax (+49 731 731 68095) or e-mail (japaninfo@t-online.de)
Japaninfo Verlag

The most accurate information source on the Japanese presence in Europe (34 Countries, 5,000 Addresses) each entry covers the branch name, main products, addresses, telephone, telex, fax, factories, R&D labs, groups, homepages and sometimes e-mail. Edited and published by Japaninfo Verlag

Chapter I.5 Searching for business partners in Japan

I.5.1 Where to look for suppliers, customers and other partners

Import-export companies in Tokyo area - database from the Tokyo Trade and Industry Association

Web-based, search engine, public access - Japanese, English
from the website (<http://www.tokyo-trade-center.or.jp>)

Database information: http://www.tokyo-trade-center.or.jp/en/business_information/index.html

Tokyo Metropolitan Small Business Center (財) 東京都中小企業振興社—国際化支援室

Tokyo Metropolitan Small Business Promotion Agency provides information on export and import companies and related organizations mainly in Tokyo through the internet from the Database.

- Introduce suitable companies from the Database and some other database to the inquires wishing to export or import with Japanese companies
- Put the inquires on “Trade Inquiry” in the website (1 year period)
- Trade Consultation Service is available

More details: http://www.tokyo-trade-center.or.jp/en/business_information/index.html

Tokyo web trade service (TWTS) - database from the Tokyo Trade and Industry Association

Web-based, search engine, public access - Japanese, English
from website (<http://www.tokyo-trade-center.or.jp>)

Database information: http://www.tokyo-trade-center.or.jp/ttc/mediation/jsp/search/top/top_en.jsp

Tokyo Metropolitan Small Business Center (財) 東京都中小企業振興社—国際化支援室

It allows to search inquires from Japan and import, and to register the products and company information. It is a global Buy and Sell Exchange marketplace.

Portal site for international business opportunities

Web-based, public access - English, Japanese

Start from <http://www.cin.or.jp/trade/menu.htm>

Chambers Information Network (CIN) 日本商工会議所

CIN, a unique business database to promote international trade, provides both Japanese companies and foreign companies with new trade opportunities.

“Standard Trade Index of Japan” - data of Japanese companies seeking foreign partners.

I.5.2 Locating trade fairs and exhibitions in Japan

JMA convention international trade fairs in Japan

Web-based - English and Japanese

Start on-line from (<http://www.jma.or.jp/CONVENTION/en/>)

Japan Management Association (JMA), Convention Division (独) 日本貿易振興機構

Exhibiting at trade fairs in Japan is basically the fastest way to attract and showcase your product/service to potential customers.

The first page of JMA's website offers an updated list of international trade fairs with details.

JMA Convention is part of the Japan Management Association. Every Year JMA organizes some twenty trade fairs, such as HCJ (Hoteres Japan, Caterex Japan, Japan Food Service Equipment Show), Foodex Japan, TECHNO-FRONTIER (Motortech Japan, Motion Engineering Japan, Board Computer Japan, Power Supply Japan, Energy Saving & Eco-Saving, EMC Japan, Thermal Engineering, Automobile Electronic Components, Personal Area Network Technology, Global Manufacturing Parts and Devices Show), Japan Home & Building Show, School Facilities Fair, HOSPEX Japan, Inchem Tokyo, InterMaintech, NDE Tokyo, IHE Japan, and Logistech Tokyo.

J-Messe trade fair search database

Web-based, public domain - English and Japanese

Access from <http://www.jetro.go.jp/matching/j-messe/>

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) (独) 日本貿易振興機構

This Internet-based database covers trade fairs designed for specific products and industries held on a regular basis in Japan and overseas.

The index of trade fairs is classified by industry, date and location. Information concerning trade fairs such as the organizer, exhibits, frequency, admission fee and agents in Japan is presented in a convenient format.

Business exhibitions' database in Japan

Web based search engine, public access - English
Search the database from (<http://www.reedexpo.com>)
Reed Exhibitions Japan Ltd. リードエグジビションジャパン(株)

Reed Exhibition Japan is a part of Reed Exhibition Companies (REC), the world's leading international organizer of trade and public shows. 36 International Trade Shows per year.

These exhibition cover high-tech markets segments, like Fine Process Technology Japan (on LCD, Plasma Display), Design Engineering & Manufacturing Solutions Expo & Conferences, Data Warehouse EXPO, ELECTROTEST Japan, Embedded Systems Expo & Conference, Finetech Japan: Fine process Technology Japan, INTERNEPCON Japan, INTERPHEX Japan, Industrial Virtual Reality Show & Conference, Interconnection Technology Japan, Mechanical Components & Materials Technology Expo, Mechanical Components & Materials Technology Expo Kansai, Software Development Expo & Conference, etc. Also wider coverage exhibitions like the Tokyo International Book, or the International Jewellery Tokyo, Electronic Book & Multimedia Fair, International Optical Fair Tokyo, International Stationary & Office Products Fair Tokyo, etc.

Exhibition Schedule: http://web.reedexpo.co.jp/reed_hp/ec_index.html

World trade directory

Web-based search engine - English and Japanese
More from (<http://www.ktpc.or.jp/wtd/wtden/index.htm>)
IDEC (Yokohama Industrial Development Corporation)

The web-based database was set up to allow overseas companies to search for prospective Japanese firms in exporting products to Japan, importing Japanese products, or seeking technical collaboration with Japanese firms.

The database contains a list of companies based in Yokohama City & Kanagawa Prefecture.

The directory can be searched by: 1) international Trade; 2) Keyword search; 3) Company name search. Many of the Japanese firms are already engaged in business with overseas companies and the rest are actively seeking foreign partners.

Chapter I.6 Information about setting up a business in Japan

JETRO's Invest Japan Business Support Centres (IBSC)

English

Consult JETRO's homepage for information:

<http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/investmentservices/ibsc/>

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) (独) 日本貿易振興機構

The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) has set up the IBSC with the aim to provide comprehensive and practical assistance to foreign companies in their initial stage of business development in Japan. There are currently 6 IBSCs set up respectively in Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Nagoya, Kobe and Fukuoka. Each IBSC is designed to provide assistance to the business development of foreign companies considering to enter the Japanese market - the provision of services includes:

- Office facilities
- Advisor's desks/Help desks
- Business library
- Meeting and exhibition space

Consult JETRO's homepage for more information about how to make best use of IBSC's services.

Laws and regulations for setting up a business in Japan

Web-base service, public access - English

Start from (http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/setting_up/)

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) (独) 日本貿易振興機構

This detailed service includes information about the following procedures available for any foreign business interested in setting up an office in Japan:

- Incorporating your business;
- Visas and status of residence;
- Taxes in Japan;
- Human resource management;
- Trademark and design protection systems

M&A consulting

Public access - Japanese, English, Chinese

Start from <http://www.global-c.biz/english/>

Supporting the SMEs which are interested in M&A, and doing business in/with Japan

Global-C Corporation グローバル・シー (有)

Global-C helps foreign companies which are interested in M&A activities in Japan. Other than M&A Consulting, Global-C supports both Japanese companies and foreign companies like "International Business Support", "Import Service", "Export Service", "Translation", "Management Consulting" and so on.

Section II - Diversified resources

Chapter II.1 Information on product approval, standards, tax and tariffs

Japan Industrial Standards (JIS) handbook series

Hardcopy, yearbooks by industrial activity - English and Japanese
 Order by fax (03 3583 0462)
 Japan Standards Association (JSA) (財) 日本規格協会

The JIS handbook series in Japanese include over 60 volumes and provides a smaller number of volumes in English language. Publications in English include

1. Quality Control - 2002 JPY 14,700;
2. Heat Treatment - 2006 JPY 32,550;
3. Metal Surface Treatment 2007 JPY 25,200; 4) Safety of Machinery - 2005 JPY 21,000;
5. Ferrous Materials & Metallurgy I - 2007 JPY 29,400;
6. Ferrous Materials & Metallurgy II - 2007 JPY 29,400;
7. Non-Ferrous Metals & Metallurgy - 2007 JPY 26,250;
8. Fasteners & Screw Threads - 2007 JPY 26,250;
9. Machine Elements 2007 JPY 34,650;
10. Piping - 2007 JPY 33,600;
11. JIS YEARBOOK - 2007 JPY 7,350

JSA is non-profit organization (over 15,000 member companies), established to promote standardization in the industry by publishing JIS Standard sheets.

A more detailed look at the JIS webpage will provide the user with a search to all JIS publications in English and Japanese.
 List of JIS handbooks: <http://www.webstore.jsa.or.jp/webstore/Top/indexEn.jsp>

Japan standards and regulations' information service

Web-based PDF documents, public domain, no charge - English
 Search from <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/market/regulations/>
 Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) (独) 日本貿易振興機構

Publications in English include:

- Specifications, Standards and Testing Methods for Foodstuffs, Implements, Containers and Packing, Toys, Detergents Jun. 2006 (145pp);
- Handbook for Agricultural and Fishery Products Import Regulations Dec. 2005 (175pp);
- Food Sanitation Law Apr. 2006 (145pp);
- Specifications and Standards for Foods, Food Additives, etc. Under The Food Sanitation Law Mar. 2007 (153pp);
- Guide to the JAS System for Agricultural and Forest Products Mar.2007 (95pp);
- Handbook for Consumer Products Import Regulations Mar.2006 (364pp) ;
- Handbook for Industrial Product Import Regulations Mar. 2006 (306pp);
- The Overview of Plant Quarantine in Japan Apr.2003 (47pp);
- Electrical Appliance and Material Safety Law of Japan Mar. 2002;
- Outline of Animal Quarantine in Japan May 2003 (22pp)

Customs tariff schedules of Japan 2007

Hardcopy, A4, 1,060 pp. 25,200 JPY - English and Japanese, available in our library
 Order by fax from abroad (+81 (0)3 3453 8091) or purchase to OCS : http://www.ocs.co.jp/en/index_en.html
 Order from domestic: <http://publications.wcoomd.org/index.php?osCsid=908eedc9db47e0fe810d2ecefdfdc5ba>
 Japan Tariff Association (財) 日本関税協会

The Customs Tariff Schedules of JAPAN based on the HS (the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System). The book is inserted in the import declaration so that it can look over the description to mention to sort freight, a list of statistical code number and a tariff rate (General rates, WTO rates, the Preferential rates, the Temporary rates), a unit. And, the law name is indicated about the law which affects each list of articles. All the imported freight is classified in accordance with the contents of this book, and it taxes it in Japan.

Other publication information related regulation, import and export are available from the homepage of JTA at <http://www.kanzei.or.jp/english/index.html>

Guide to Japanese taxes

Web-based PDF report, 12 pages, public access - English
 from Guide to Japanese Taxes and Certified Public Tax Accounts (PDF)
http://www.tokyozeirishikai.or.jp/pdf/tcpa_eng.pdf
 Tokyo Certified Public Tax Accountants' Association 東京税理士会

The Tokyo Certified Public Tax Accountants' Association Introduction English Pamphlet (PDF-14p.)
http://www.tokyozeirishikai.or.jp/pdf/f_eng.pdf

This is a short and concise introductory guide to the basics of tax obligations for individuals and corporations. The document includes the following topics:

1. Organization of Tax Administration (Structure of national tax, Structure of local tax, Self-assessment system and role of certified public tax accountants, Tax examination and the relief system)
2. System of Certified Public Tax Accountants (Services provided by certified public tax accountants, Certified public tax accountants as tax experts, Association of certified public tax accountants)
3. Major Taxes in Japan
4. Taxes on Individuals (Taxes on individual's income, Other taxes on individuals, Estimated tax prepayment, Method of tax payment)
5. Taxes on Corporations (Taxes on corporate income, Other taxes on corporations, Interim return, Taxes on properties, Taxes on transactions)
6. Other Systems (Amended return, Request for correction, Administrative appeal)
7. Outlines of Taxation of Income Tax For Non-Residents

Japanese industrial standards & Japanese standards

Web-based, public access - Japanese, English
 Start from <http://www.jisc.go.jp/eng/index.html>
 Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) 日本工業標準調査会

JISC consist of many national committees and plays central role in standardization activities in Japan. The task of JISC is establishment and maintenance of JIS, administration of accreditation and certification, participation and contribution in international standardization activities, and development of measurement standards and technical infrastructure for standardization.

Chapter II.2 Access to finance, investment and other sources of capital

Finance programs and loans services from the DBJ

Consult the web at http://www.dbj.go.jp/english/project_loan/index.html- English and Japanese
Development Bank of Japan 日本政策投資銀行

The Development Bank of Japan (DBJ) offers financing and project assistance to foreign companies interested in investing in Japan. The “project and loans” service covers the follow areas:

- Project finance and private finance initiative (PFI);
- Foreign direct investment and M&A;
- Venture business;

The DBJ has already successfully provided funding assistance to a number of European companies in Japan. The role of the DBJ is to provide long-term financing and other policy-based schemes to qualified projects as a supplement and inducement to the lending and other services provided by ordinary financial institutions. By doing so, the DBJ promotes the vitalization and sustainable development of the economy and society; the realization of an enhanced quality of life; and the creation of self-reliant regions.

DBJ's homepage also features a useful list of links (in English) to important institutions in the Japanese finance and investment industry available from: <http://www.dbj.go.jp/english/links/index.html>

Best practices in finance and management for SMEs

Web-based case studies, public access - English and Japanese
Consult the website at: http://www.chusho.meti.go.jp/sme_english/bestpractice/bestpractice.htm
Small and Medium Enterprise Agency 中小企業庁

The Small and Medium Enterprises Agency is affiliated to the METI with the aim of providing services for the implementation of the government policies of the SME basic plan in Japan.

The “best practice” platform will give information in the following relevant sections in English:

1. SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research);
2. SME/Venture Business Support Center;
3. Entrepreneurship Workshop;
4. Start-Up Loan Program;
5. Dissemination of Managerial Improvement Know-how;
6. Finance related measures:
 - Arrangement for Guaranteed Letter Bonds
 - Arrangement for Guaranteed Trade-Receiveable-Backed Loans

The same website provides a fully detailed explanation of the government's “Outline of Japan's SME Policies”.
White Paper: 2007 White Paper on Small and Medium Enterprises in Japan (pdf5, 411KB)
http://www.chusho.meti.go.jp/sme_english/whitepaper/whitepaper.html

Directory of venture capital firms in Japan

Web-based, database, public access - English
Start from <http://www.irasia.com/venture/jp/index.htm>
Irasia.com, Ltd. (Investor Relations Asia)

Irasia is the internet platform for companies in the Aisa Pacific to communicate effectively with the global investment and business community. An online directory that includes the name of the firm, postal address, telephone and fax number.

Chapter II.3 Labor, employment and HR information in Japan

The Labor situation in Japan and analysis 2006/2007

Web-based, PDF format, public access - English

Consult from <http://www.jil.go.jp/english/laj.html>

The Japan Institute of Labour Policy and Training (独) 日本労働政策研究・研修機構

http://www.jil.go.jp/english/laborinfo/library/documents/Labor2006_2007.pdf

This complete document gives a thorough introduction to Japan's overall labor situation, including the labor economy, the labor market, human resources management (HRM), labor relations, labor laws and administrations as well as the social security system.

The document is split in the following chapters:

- Japanese Economy and Labor Situation
- Human Resource Management
- Labor-Management Relations
- Labor Administration and Registration
- Social Security System
- Appendix (International Comparisons)

JIL also produces a number of labour statistical surveys as well as main labour economic indicators statistics. JIL also publishes a periodical "Japan Labor Bulletin", on industrial relations, labour economy and labour administration in Japan, the issues are download from the website as pdf; <http://www.jil.go.jp/bulletin/>. Many other books, and periodicals are also available in English.

JIL has a library with over 19,000 items and research reports. A number databases related to labour statistics and reports are also available from JIL's homepage.

Application Procedures for Foreigners Working in Japan

Web-based, public access - English and Japanese

More from http://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) 外務省

This official site from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs offers detailed practical information about visa application procedures for foreigners who intend to work in Japan.

Agency work law in Japan

Web-based public access, pdf., 32pp - Japanese and English

More from <http://www.jassa.jp/english/worklaw.html>

The Japan Staffing Service Association (JASSA) 日本人材派遣協会

This site points to the English translation of the law on the employment of dispatch workers in Japan. The site also offers some basic statistics on the temporary workforce staffing in Japan.

For a more detailed statistical analysis of the Japanese labour workforce, users are recommended to access the "White Paper on the Labour Economy 2006 (Summary)" (English version, PDF - 17pp.) offered by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (see http://www.jil.go.jp/english/documents/06_chapter1.pdf).

Chapter II.4 Working with the Japanese Language

II.4.1 Web-based dictionaries, language translation and learning tools

Jim Breen's WWWJDIC Japanese-English Server

Web-based dictionary Japanese - English, with translation of words in Japanese Web pages, German and French options - English and Japanese
More from (<http://www.csse.monash.edu.au/~jwb/wwwjdic.html>)
Monash University, Clayton School of Information Technology

Jim Breen's WWWJDIC Server is useful on-line Japanese-English Dictionary, which can be accessed by users with Japanese display capabilities on their web browser.

Users can enter the URL of a webpage for a translation of the Japanese words in it. The translation is relatively fast, as the service is hosted across 5 continents.

Other powerful features of the Japanese-English dictionary are:

- Translation of Words in Japanese Text;
- Search for Words in the Dictionary;
- Find Kanji in the Database (12,156 kanji supported);
- Find Kanji (popular, fast Multi Radical Method);
- Handwritten Interface;
- Graphic Interface (for users without Japanese displays);
- Mobile / Cell phone options, e.g. JE Keitai EJ Keitai;
- Text Translation

This server was developed by Jim Breen to enable direct WWW access to the dictionary files he has compiled.

Rikai.com English Japanese online dictionary by Todd Rudick

Web-based active pages, public access - English and Japanese
Start from <http://www.rikai.com/perl/Home.pl>
Rikai.com English Japanese online dictionary

This website offers a user-friendly interface that allows users to decode the pronunciation of kanjis simply by copy/pasting the Japanese source. (original text or the hyperlink of a website in Japanese) into the Rikai interface. Users will have access the katakana readings of each kanjis by scrolling the mouse over the processed text.

The website also offers the following interesting applications:

- Flashcards for learning Kanjis;
- Kanji Map;
- PalmOS goodies.

Kanji Gold learning software

Freeware downloadable from the web, public access - English
More from (<http://web.uvic.ca/kanji-gold/>)
University of Victoria

Kanji Gold is a flexible MS Windows(TM) flash card program for learning Japanese Kanjis. This is the latest release of the freeware (GNU) program. Users can load the complete program in one file which is a self executing install file that will place the program and its supporting files on the users hard disk.

The Kanji Gold computer program was written by Dr. Denton Hewgill, a mathematics professor by trade, who has an interest in the Japanese martial arts, Kendo and Iaido.

The kanji data bases used in Kanji Gold came from the Japanese word processor JWP written by Stephen Chung. His package contains files from Jim Breen and other sources. The help section of the Kanji Gold program gives complete details on the sources of the databases. Note that the files contain more restrictions than in the GNU license.

II.4.2 Other practical tools and sources of information about the Japanese language

Japanese language learning tools on the web

Web-based, list of links, public access - English
 Start from <http://www.sabotenweb.com/bookmarks/language.html>
 Japanese language learning tools on the Web

This resource accumulator has a useful number links to Japanese language learning tools suitable for a large variety of learning levels (from total beginners to advanced learners). Some of the tools offered include:

- Japanese-English, English-Japanese dictionaries
- Kanji, Kana help
- On-line Japanese tutoring
- Survival Japanese
- Let's chat
- Reference materials on-line
- "Short-cut" (translation) sites
- Teach your children some Japanese and about Asia!
- Japanese language proficiency test info
- Japanese class offered online, class homepage
- Other learning sites
- For speakers of other language than English

LogoVista PRO 2007 English-Japanese/ Japanese-English translation tools

Software, CD-ROM, 84,000 JPY / download, 60,480 JPY for standard edition - Japanese version
 More information from <http://www.logovista.co.jp/english/index.html>
 LogoVista Corporation ログヴィスタ (株)

"LogoVista PRO" offers English-Japanese/Japanese-English translation engines and a range of multi-functional translation tools for PC users. The latest version, "LogoVista PRO 2007" provides a translation environment for professional users, with its new sophisticated customization tools and comprehensive translation dictionary. Contains 5,670,000 words.

The user interface for LogoVista PRO is Japanese and is best recommended for people who already have a good experience of working with a Japanese PC environment.

Directory of translators

Web-based public access - English, Japanese, and others (see Source Description)
 Start from (<http://www.jat.org/>)
 Japan Association of Translators (JAT) 日本翻訳者協会

This site offers a comprehensive open directory of professional translators who can be contacted for further services - it is a useful resource if you are looking for specialized translation services within Japan as well as abroad.

Source / target languages also include Chinese, Dutch, English, French, Germany, Hebrew, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Portuguese, Romania, Spanish, and Swedish. Visit the website for more details.

Online machine translation and translation resources

Web-based portal, public access - Japanese
Access from (<http://www.coolinx.net/lv1-9-6.html>)
Coolinx web portal

A useful and practical resource concentrator of E/J J/E translation tools (some of them directly available from the web) including: Excite: @nifty Global gate; Logovista, etc.

Internet Japanese language test

Web-based, public access - English, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Portuguese
Start from <http://momo.jpf.go.jp/sushi/>
The Japan Foundation (独) 国際交流基金

The site is run by the Japan Foundation. The test called "Sushi" is for free.

Chapter II.5 Access to information about patents, intellectual property and R&D

II.5.1 Key organizations in the patent industry

How to get a patent in Japan

Web-based document, public access - English
 Start from http://www.jpo.go.jp/tetuzuki_e/index.htm
 Japanese Patent Office (JPO) 特許庁

This official website provides a detailed outline of the right obtainment procedures in English language, including information about the examination guidelines for patent and utility models in Japan. Users may also wish to consult the more general pages:

- Outline of the Industrial Property Right System;
- Overview of Industrial Property Rights;
- Ten Japanese Great Inventors.

The main roles of the Japan Patent Office include; 1) granting adequate rights for patents, 2) drafting plans for IP policies, 3) international exchange and cooperation, 4) review of the IP system, and 5) dissemination of information on IP.

Database of patent licensing

Web page, database, public access (cookie enabled) - English
 More info from the web (<http://www.inpit.go.jp/english/index.html>)
 National Center for Industrial Property Information & Training (INPIT) (独) 工業所有権情報・研修館

In October 2004, the National Center for Industrial Property Information changed its name to the National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training and started providing “information dissemination services” and “human resources development services”.

The National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training (INPIT) - through the Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL) (http://www.ipdl.inpit.go.jp/homepg_e.ipdl) - offers public access to IP Gazettes of the Japan Patent Office (JPO) free of charge through the Internet. The home page features the following services:

Patent & Utility Model

- Patent & Utility Model Gazette DB
- Patent & Utility Model Concordance
- FI/F-term Search
- PAJ
- Patent Map Guidance

Trademark

- Japanese Trademark Database
- Japanese Figure Trademarks
- Japanese Well-Known Trademarks
- List of Goods and Services

Design

- Design Gazette DB

Database Contents

- Patent & Utility Model Gazette DB
- Patent & Utility Model Concordance
- FI/F-term Search
- PAJ
- Design Gazette DB
- Japanese Trademark Database
- Japanese Figure Trademarks

II.5.2 Locating private patent information suppliers

Internet service for Japanese Patents JP-NET / JP-NETe

Books and web-based search tools - Japanese and English
 More information from (<http://www.jpds.co.jp/english/index.html>)
 Japan Patent Data Service Co., Ltd. (JPDS) 日本パテントデータサービス (株)

JPDS's line of business is to provide patent, utility model, design and trademark information to the Japanese market.

1. JP-NET web-based Search System
 - Japanese patents (1983 afterwards), utility models (1986 afterwards), designs (2000 afterwards), trademarks (2000 afterwards) and file history data (1950 afterwards) made available in Japanese language
 - US patents (2001 afterwards) made available in English language
 2. JP-NETe web-based Search System
 - Japanese unexamined patents made available in English language, dating back to 1989
- Providing various kinds of intellectual property rights information, especially focusing on Japanese patents, utility models, designs and trademarks for more than 20 years in Japanese market and recently adding US data. All of these data are made available through JP-NET.
 - In 2007 a new web-based search system, JP-NETe, has released to the public for the purpose of providing Japanese unexamined patents by English language for overseas patents examiners, searchers, librarians and patent experts outside Japan through JP-NETe.
 - Full texts, bibliographic data, abstracts, drawings, file history data (examination, registration, trial data), cited and citation data, etc. are made available through above search system, JP-NET and JP-NETe
 - Use fee (Fixed rate)
 - JP-NET: JPY 8,000 / month - IID, JPY 96,000 / year - IID
 - JP-NETe: (please contact JPDS for more information)

Other services:

- CD-ROM Service
- Trademark Search Service by AcantiQ
- Selective Dissemination of Information Service
- Quick Copy Service
- Foreign Patent Order Service
- Search Service
- Translation Service
- Apparatus

Bilingual Professionals Network

Public access - Japanese
 More Information from <http://www.bsa.or.jp/index.html>
 Business Software Alliance (BSA) ビジネス ソフトウェア アライアンス

It is a non-profit organization for contributing the business software industry in more than 80 countries.

Patent translation service

Translate into various languages, public access - Japanese, English
More information from <http://www.joho-translation.com/english/index.html>
Joho Corp. (株) JOHO

Joho Corp. will translate documents in these categories: correspondence, public service information. Legal agreements, corporate brochures and literature, scientific articles, patent applications, technical drawings, manuals, research papers, presentations, regulatory documents, product specifications, etc.

Patent database

Web-based, public access - Japanese, English
Start from http://www.ipdl.inpit.go.jp/homepg_e.ipdl
Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL) 特許電子図書館

The Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL) offers the public access to IP Gazettes of the JPO (Japan Patent Office) free of charge through the Internet.

- Patent & Utility Model
- Design
- Trademark
- Database Contents

Patents in the world and patent offices in the world

Web-based, public access - Japanese and some link pages - English and other languages
Start from <http://www.246.ne.jp/~yasuon/>
Nishigaki International Patent Office 西垣国際特許事務所

IT patent

Web-based, public access and member access - Japanese
Members can receive the variety of service and information
Start from <http://www.it-patent.jp/>
Japan IT Patent Association 日本IT特許組合

Japan IT Patent Association is supporting to create, protect, and utilize intellectual property of the Independent IT corporations.

II.5.3 Science and technology information from the Japanese government

2006 White Paper on Science and Technology

Web-based, 442 pp PDF files, public access - Japanese and English
Start from http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/hakusho/hakusho.htm#ekyoiku
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) 文部科学省

The White Paper on Science and Technology 2006 is translated from the Japanese language original published by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

The 2005 White Paper edition is available in Japanese from the homepage of MEXT is available in English at: <http://www.mext.go.jp/english/news/2007/03/07022214.htm>

Statistics and trends in R&D

Web-based, annual, - English More from <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbok/c08cont.htm>
Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications 総務省統計局

The first part of Chapter 8 of the Statistical Handbook of Japan 2007 summarize the current state of R&D activities, trends, spending in Japan, and thereby provides basic data for the development of science and technology. The chapter covers three main sections:

1. Science and Technology;
2. Patents;
3. Information and Communication (Diffusion of the Internet, Progress of Communication Technologies, Telephone and Postal Services).

Data on science and technology from Survey of Research and Development

Web-based, annual - English and Japanese
More from <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/kagaku/index.htm>
Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications 総務省統計局

The Survey is designed to provide basic information on science and technology in Japan. Data on R&D expenditures and trade are reported for the fiscal year beginning April 1 and ending on March 31 next year, whereas personnel and capital are surveyed as of March 31, or the last date of each expenditure survey period.

Databases of R&D activities in Japan

Web-based, html database search, public access - English

Start from (<http://www.jst.go.jp/EN/index.html>)

Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) (独) 科学技術振興機構

JST develops and maintains the following databases of information about R&D in Japan:

- ReaD (Directory Database of Research and Development Activities) is an English database service that serves to promote cooperation among industry, academia, and government. ReaD provides scientific information on research institutes, researchers, research projects, and research resources in Japan. The database offers information on research institutions including national institutes, government-affiliated organisations, municipal institutes, public service corporations, individual researchers, research themes, and research resources with information on R&D activities in Japan.
- J-EAST (English Articles of Science and Technology) is a database that gives bibliographic records of the latest research results in Japan. J-EAST contains English citations and abstracts for documents published in Japan covering all fields of science, technology, and medicine. Sources include about 3,000 journals and serials, conference proceedings, technical reports. The database is updated monthly. Links to full-text is available for 172,914 records (as of March, 2007). Copy of full-text is charged depending on the publication.
- J-STORE is a list of patents that describes the research results from universities, national research institutes, JST and from other institutions, whose inventions can be licensed for applications in the private sector. Information provided by this system is opened to the public free of charge.
- J-STAGE is the abbreviation for Japan Science and Technology Information Aggregator, Electronic. J-STAGE is developed by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) in order to maintain and develop Japan's science and technology research at an international level, by providing computerized bulletins of academic societies and research papers that have currently appeared on paper by user organizations and release them to the appearance on the Internet. Computerized documents can be accessed from anywhere in the world with this system. This project also links up with the National Institute of Informatics (formerly the Ministry of Education National Center for Science Information Systems (NACSIS)).
- JREC-IN is Japan Research Career Information Network. It aims at proving informational support to expand the researchers' career path by collecting and providing information on job openings and job-seeking members. It provides free information, collected and processed as a database via the internet. The person needs to register to subscribe.
- BIRD is Institute of Bioinformatics Research and Development. It provides genome sequence database, protein 3D structure database, gene expression profile database, molecular interaction database, etc.
- NikkajiWeb is Japan Chemical Substance Dictionary Web service, an organic compound dictionary database. The source is prepared by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). It is a charge-fee basis on the internet. The total number of items contained is about 24 million (as of December 2006). It stored the Japanese name, English name, law regulation number, CAS registry number and chemical structure information, etc.

II.5.4 Collecting corporate R&D information

Nikkei Science

Magazine, monthly, 15,372 JPY per year (12 numbers) - Japanese
 More from (<http://www.nikkei-science.com/>)
 Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc. (Nikkei) (株) 日本経済新聞社

A well-known business oriented scientific newsmagazine in Japanese language, which is the Japanese translation of the Scientific American.

Information about Japanese high-tech

Consultancy-based - English
 Start from the website (<http://www.egisjapan.com/>)
 EGIS K.K. (株) エジス

Publishes industry-specific newsletters that monitor Japanese technologies in telecommunication, optoelectronics, microelectronics, mechatronics, information technology and new materials. Core competencies include networks, with a strong emphasis on telecommunications, mobile and broadband Internet catered to clients in the industrial and service corporations, network operators, administrations (regulators) and local governments.

R&D in the Semiconductor industry

Web-based portal - English and Japanese
 Start from <http://www.semiconductor.com>
 Semiconductor Insights (SI) セミコンダクターインサイツ

Semiconductor Insights provides in-depth technical and patent analyses of integrated circuits and structures. The SI website offers detailed information updates of the latest products, processes and technologies developed in Asia and the USA.

High-tech developments in Japan

- English
 More form (<http://www.eurotechnology.com>)
 Eurotechnology Japan K.K. (株) ユーロテクノロジー・ジャパン

The Eurotechnology web site provides introductory information about the development of high technologies in Japan. Eurotechnology Japan KK plans, supports and implements international high-tech business projects in the areas of electronics, optoelectronics, mobile and telecommunications, internet, and software.

Main Services:

- Professional consulting services for industrial companies and governments, Mergers & Acquisitions, due diligence
- Technology analysis, research and technology advisory services for financial institutions, funds and investment banks
- Market research on Japan's technology, mobile and telecommunications markets. (wide range of market research)

II.5.5 Other sources of Japanese scientific information

Science and innovation in Japan

Web-based, public access - English
 More from the website (http://www.uknow.or.jp/be_e/science/)
 British Embassy, Science and Technology Section 英国大使館科学技術部

The Embassy regularly prepares reports on many aspects of Japanese science and innovation policy, and the latest developments in industrial R&D. Monthly newsletter (pdf) and other science & innovation related news / information from the UK and Japan are available from here. The monthly newsletter is a compilation of summaries from the Japanese specialist press.

Japanese science and technology overview page Japan's science and technology initiatives from Science Links Japan

Japan's S & T Overview, 24pp, pdf: http://sciencelinks.jp/images/stoverview_en.pdf
 - English
 Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) (独) 科学技術振興機構

JST's mission is to promote science and technology in Japan by conducting a broad range of activities, including the following:

- Promotion of consistent research and development from basic research to commercialization with particular emphasis on the creation of new technological seeds
- Upgrading the infrastructure for the promotion of science and technology, including dissemination of scientific and technological information.

Scientific information from Tulips - University of Tsukuba Library

Web-based portal + search engine, public access - English and Japanese
https://www.tulips.tsukuba.ac.jp/portal/index_eng.php
 University of Tsukuba Library 筑波大学 図書館

The University of Tsukuba Library (Tulips) is a disseminator of scientific information inside and outside of the University. The website features documentary information on the library holdings (English and Japanese), accessible from the web (OPAC). It also contains a list of subscribed database (Web of Science, FirstSearch, or CiNii etc.) and e-journals (inside the campus only),

“Library activities” include rare books collection providing a number of high-quality images such as a picture scroll of tales and old maps of Japan. The Tsukuba Repository (Tulips-R) is collecting, preserving, and disseminating the intellectual output of the University such as research journal articles, theses and university bulletins. Other features include links to other site and a guide to the University Library.

The University is located in the heart of Tsukuba City, Ibaraki prefecture, Japan's largest science city, with a concentration of more than 1,000 laboratories from university, public and private sector, industrial consortia, etc.

EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation Directory of Japanese Sources of Information on Trade and Technology

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