

# Japan Construction Material & Housing Equipment Industries Federation

## (J-CHIF)

### ■ Purpose of activities

The Federation collects and shares information relating to the construction materials and housing equipment industries, carries out surveys and research, promotes the wider use and understanding of high-quality construction material and housing equipment and the creation of a base for the construction material and housing equipment industry, in order to contribute to the development of industry and improvements in citizens' lives in Japan.

### ■ History

The Federation was founded in 1949 as the Japan Construction Material Association, and was reformed into the Japan Construction Material Industry Federation (under license from METI) in 1988, with the intention of taking on the role of liaising among companies and groups engaged in the construction material industry as a whole. In 2005, the Federation undertook the work of the Japan Housing Equipment Systems Association, and changed its name to the Japan Construction Material and Housing Equipment Federation. Since April 2007, furthermore, the Federation has taken on the work of the Federation for Promotion of Landscape Material. Besides, the Federation became a general incorporated association authorized by the Cabinet Office on April 1, 2012.

### ■ Address

KDX Hamacho Building, 2-17-8, Nihonbashi Hamacho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-0007 JAPAN  
TEL.03(5640)0901 FAX.03(5640)0905 URL:<http://www.kensankyo.org/>

**■ Role of Japan Construction Material & Housing Equipment Industries Federation (J-CHIF)**

Construction materials and housing equipment industries currently distributed to various industry sectors and business categories are collected as one industry to enhance the social presence, thus J-CHIF strives to become a core organization for exploiting a new sphere of these activities. Moreover, J-CHIF will perform activities to achieve a central role as a liaison between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the whole of industry.

**■ Holding Advisory Meeting**

Considering expectations from an administrative view, the role, function, etc. to be achieved by J-CHIF are discussed from a broader perspective, and reflected in the operation, business activity, etc. of J-CHIF. Members are president and vice-president of J-CHIF, Director of METI Housing Industry Ceramics and Construction Materials Division, executive director of J-CHIF, and Chairperson of Operational Committee.

**Role of each committee, and activity of each subcommittee and working group**

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ Activity of each subcommittee is developed under the following six (6) committees. ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

**【1】 Operational Committee**

Comprehensive administration of J-CHIF activity, coordination and communication between mutual committees, deliberations and planning on common matters not belonging to other committees, and deliberations and planning on proposal matters from Board of Directors are carried out.

**【2】 Planning and Public Relations Committee**

[Research and Statistics Subcommittee]  
"Handbook of Statistics of Construction Materials and Housing Equipment" is due to update the amount of production, shipping money amount, etc. to the newest data and will be published in November. Moreover, contents of electronic data which have begun release on the homepage are made complete.

[Technical Subcommittee]  
J-CHIF performs active exchange of information between member companies to aim at improvement in technical knowledge of the member organizations and companies by holding technical seminars and observation meetings, including new technology and technology trends, and also meets common technical challenges.

[Bulletins Subcommittee]  
An information magazine, "J-CHIF Information", is published ten times per year, and a newsletter, "J-CHIF Communication", is electronically delivered on an as-needed basis to describe J-CHIF activities or give relevant information to members. Moreover, future information services can be searched using the homepage.

[Landscape Subcommittee]  
Spreading and promotion of high quality landscape materials are carried out for development and improvement in landscape, and projects for collecting and providing a variety of information are promoted. For example, an exchange meeting with the Tokyo Society of Architects and Building Engineers called "Bridge" is held.

[Information Service Committee]  
Promotion of utilization of the informational service "CATALABO" system of building materials and housing equipment, and enhancement of information are carried out. For promotion of impression and application to manufacturers, distributors, remodeling contractors, etc., public-relations and invitation activities are implemented and information contents are enhanced, and activities from a user viewpoint are planned and carried out.



**【3】 Quality Committee**

[VOC Subcommittee]  
Formaldehyde emission grade examination projects and VOC self-imposed certification mark systems are implemented. When new regulations are enforced, a mechanism for compliance with those regulations is created promptly, and introduction of the mechanism is promoted.

[Antibacterial Subcommittee]  
Indoor building materials, housing equipment, etc., are examined and registered in accordance with METI's guidelines for antibacterial performance. Products conforming to criteria established by J-CHIF are labeled as "J-CHIF antimicrobial product".

(Formaldehyde emission grade labeling registration)  
New registration and review of F\*\*\* are performed.

(Self-imposed certification mark systems regarding VOC emission from decorative plywood, etc.)

Approval is given to new 4-VOC compliance marks, and renewal of approval is examined. "Product compliant with 4-VOC Standards" (trademark registration) can be indicated as a uniform mark on conforming items.

(4-VOC means the four substances, toluene, xylene, ethylbenzene and styrene).

[Humidity Conditioning Subcommittee]  
For humidity-conditioned building materials with predetermined humidity conditioning properties, a "humidity conditioned building material mark" is displayed and registered. Products of excellent quality are supplied to contribute to a more comfortable life.



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## [4] Energy and Environment Committee

### [Energy Planning and Diffusion Subcommittee]

Promotion and public relations activities, such as seminars on energy generation, saving and charging, and activities in alignment with policy information about them, are carried out to introduce high performance, energy-saving houses.

### [Remodeling Promotion Subcommittee]

Consideration is given to recommendations on policies to be implemented as national policies for revitalization of the remodeling market, and projects to be voluntarily conducted by J-CHIF.

### [Apartment Energy-saving Renovation Promotion Subcommittee]

Public-relations and PR activities to consumers of energy-saving building materials and equipment, enhancement of public-relations and PR data, information exchange organization maintenance with users, etc. are carried out for promotion of energy-saving renovation of existing housing and mid-to-high-rise complex housing.

### [Heat Insulation Material Promotion Subcommittee]

Pressure confronting the industry is surveyed and examined about heat insulating materials, and improvement in recognition of consumers and expansion of demand for heat insulation renovation are carried out. Moreover, efforts are made to upgrade the quality of heat insulation materials used for houses and buildings by giving approval to excellent heat insulation materials, and promoting performance indication marks.



### [3R Subcommittee]

Activities for resource recycling society construction, such as information service on 3R, industrial waste treatment, green procurement, etc., commendation recommendation of 3R promotion persons and companies are carried out.

## [5] Standardization Committee

### [Standardization Planning Subcommittee]

Examination and planning on contents of standardizing operation related to building materials and housing equipment are performed.

### (JIS Establishment and Review Working Group)

New creation of JIS and periodic review of previous JIS related to building materials and housing equipment, etc. are carried out.

Building materials related JIS: 12 cases

(including co-sponsored with other commonwealth)

Housing equipment related JIS: 4 cases (same as the above)

Establishment and maintenance, etc. of 8 cases of J-CHIF standards.

### [WPRC Subcommittee]

Promotion and awareness-raising activities for wood and plastic recycled composites are carried out by standardization of those products, and providing places for information exchange for appropriate market formation and development of the industry.

### [Bath Unit Subcommittee]

Appropriate measures and examinations for JIS specifications established in fiscal year 2011 will be undertaken if the need to revise them arises in the future.

## [6] International Cooperation Committee

### [Interchange Subcommittee]

Information on specifications/standards of building materials and housing equipment in foreign countries centering on ASEAN and East Asian countries, as well as institutions and systems in each country, is collected and provided to members. Further, the presence of Japan in the Asian market is enhanced by strengthening networks to communicate with other countries, promoting public relations for excellent Japanese green building materials, and grasping needs in foreign countries.

### [International Standardization Subcommittee]

Information on international specifications, such as ISO and IEC, is collected and provided, and proposals on international standardization are made. Responses to foreign countries' proposals on international standardization are ensured.

### (ISO/TC77 Domestic Advisory Council)

Japan's proposal on establishment of testing methods for fiber-reinforced cement products and international standards for products is implemented. Responses to periodic review of ISO standards and foreign countries' proposals on international standardization are ensured.

### (ISO/TC89 Domestic Advisory Council)

Japan's proposal on establishment of testing methods for wooden boards (fiberboards, particle boards) and international standards for products is implemented. Responses to periodic review of ISO standards and foreign countries' proposals on international standardization are ensured.

## Other Activities

### ■ Liaison Conference

A Liaison conference is held as an object organized by collective members of J-CHIF.

Executives of each relevant ministry, such as METI, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, National Police Agency, Fire Defense Agency, are invited, and policy explanation and opinion exchange are performed.

Moreover, the conference is utilized also for information exchange between organizations.

### ■ Media Meetings

For the purpose of public relations of J-CHIF activities, get-togethers with press-related persons are carried out.

### ■ Building Materials Product Liability (PL) Counseling Office

Inquiry from and consultation for general consumers, consumer centers, related PL centers, etc., are supported.