

(Wood suppliers' side)

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Organization name	Japan Plywood Manufacturers' Association (JPMA)

I Brief introduction of the organization

1) Establishment

July 1965 (A nationwide federation of commercial and industrial associations based on the Small Enterprises Law)

2) Purpose of the association

To implement projects on R&D for production technologies, expanding demand, information gathering and provisions related to plywood, in order to develop Japan's plywood industry, as well as to stabilize and streamline management of the association through cooperatives and partners of the cooperatives.

3) Organization of the association

The association consists of four plywood industry cooperatives in four areas of Japan (Tohoku, Tokyo, central Japan, and western Japan). Partners of cooperatives are 35 factories from 31 enterprises, and produce plywood that accounts for approximately 90% of Japan's total domestic plywood production (approx. 2,500,000 m³). (As of July 2012)

4) Major activities

Create statistics regarding plywood, encourage the spread of domestic plywood, develop new products, and implement environmental measures, such as measures against illegal logging.

II Outline and dissemination of "goho (legal)-wood" activities

1) The "Self-disciplinary Code of Conduct on Measures against Illegal Logging" and "Procedure to Authorize Member Companies Related to the Verification of Legality of Wood and Wood Products" were established in March 2006 according to the Forest Agency's guidelines.

2) Authorized companies (JPMA's partners of cooperatives, etc.) as of August 1, 2012, total 36 factories from 26 enterprises.

3) Shift in the supply of Goho-wood

- Shift in input of logs for manufacturing plywood

(Unit: thousand m³)

Year	Input of logs (A)	No. of legally verified logs (B)	(B)/(A)%
FY 2007	4,808	1,706	35%
FY 2008	3,195	1,856	58%
FY 2009	2,834	2,079	73%
FY 2010	3,426	2,568	75%
FY 2011	3,363	2,207	66%

(Note) Enterprises affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011 have not been included in the numerical values for FY2010.

(Source) Summary values of the Japan Plywood Manufacturers' Association (JPMA)

• Shift in the utilization of domestic wood in logs for manufacturing plywood

(Unit: thousand m3)

Year	Input of logs (A)	Input of domestic logs (B)	(B)/(A)%
FY 2000	5,401	138	3%
FY 2005	4,636	863	19%
FY 2010	3,811	2,490	65%
FY 2011	3,858	2,524	65%

(Note)

The numerical values include enterprises outside the Japan Plywood Manufacturers' Association (JPMA).

(Source) Statistics by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

• Shift in output of domestically-produced plywood (table)

(Unit: thousand m3)

Year	Output of production (A)	Output of legality verified products (B)	(B)/(A)%
FY 2007	2,572	147	6%
FY 2008	2,079	425	20%
FY 2009	2,092	472	23%
FY 2010	2,412	405	17%
FY 2011	2,264	414	18%

4) Dissemination activities

Display at Eco-products 2011 for legality verified domestic plywood, etc.



III Activities to secure credibility

1) Public relations activities

- The Self-disciplinary Code of Conduct, Procedure to Authorize Member Companies and names of authorized companies are posted on JPMA's website.

2) Implementation of training, monitoring, etc.

- Training programs are held for executives of authorized companies and for persons in charge of the separation of Goho-wood from other wood and the management of documents

Year	No. of trainees	Training venues
FY 2007	50	Sendai, Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka
FY 2008	37	
FY 2009	34	
FY 2010	28	
FY 2011	46	Sendai, Tokyo, Nagoya, Shimane

- Every year, monitoring of approximately three member companies is conducted, based on the Procedure to Authorize Member Companies. Personnel from the head office of JPMA visit and interview persons in charge at the member companies and confirm the separation of Goho-wood from other wood and management of document.

IV Evaluation from the demand side

- 1) With promotion of the construction of durable, long-lasting houses with excellent anti-earthquake and energy-efficient features through the utilization of "Goho-wood," etc. and implementation of the Act for Promotion of the Use of Wood in Public Buildings, there is a growing interest in Goho-wood as designated procurement items based on the Law Concerning the Promotion of Procurement of Eco-Friendly Goods and Services by the State and Other Entities.
- 2) Many prefectures have supported houses built using wood, and have established an approval system for excellent quality wood. As one of the requirements for approval, more and more systems verify the legality of wood and wood products in accordance with the Forest Agency's guidelines.
- 3) With an increasing number of house builders and furniture makers becoming conscious of environmentally-friendly eco-products, more companies now have procurement policies requiring wood whose legality has been verified.
- 4) Against this backdrop, although *goho*-wood has attracted greater attention, only a few orders have been made for legality-verified plywood (JPMA has provided guidance regarding the shipment of plywood with verified legality, regardless of the presence or absence of requests from users.)

V Problems to be solved

1) Requests for the government

To provide incentives for the use of Goho-wood (such as Goho-wood use points).

To create a mechanism to promote Goho-wood by labeling Goho-wood and wood products with a common mark.

2) Requests for log suppliers including importers, etc.

To promote the supply of legality verified logs regardless of whether those logs are imported or produced in Japan.

3) Issues in securing credibility

Research on an appropriate and effective method to separate Goho-wood from other wood and systematization of documents by a third-party agent for office procedures.