The Japan Gas Association (JGA), an organization of city gas utilities, contributes to the economy and people’s welfare in Japan by promoting the sound development of the general gas utility business as well as the major gas related projects and gas pipeline projects and by coordinating the stable supply energy supply, ensuring safety and addressing environmental issues.

Japan’s gas business started in Yokohama in 1872. The Imperial Gas Association, Japan’s first association of gas utilities, was founded in 1912 at a time when the number of gas utilities increased rapidly in the post-war boom after the Russo-Japanese War. After many changes, the Japan Gas Association was founded in 1947 and received its charter as an incorporated association in 1952. Subsequently, in 2011, JGA received its charter as a general incorporated association.

### History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 May 1912</td>
<td>The Imperial Gas Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Oct. 1927</td>
<td>The Imperial Gas Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Dec. 1944</td>
<td>The Gas Industry Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Aug. 1945</td>
<td>The Gas Control Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Feb. 1946</td>
<td>The Japan Gas Industry Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Oct. 1947</td>
<td>The Japan Gas Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 June 1952</td>
<td>The Japan Gas Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Apr. 2011</td>
<td>The Japan Gas Association</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Successive Chairpersons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noburo Tsuru</td>
<td>Oct. 1947 to Feb. 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masaji Yamawaki</td>
<td>June 1948 to May 1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takejiro Iguchi</td>
<td>May 1950 to May 1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hirotoshi Honda</td>
<td>May 1955 to May 1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagatomi Fujiyama</td>
<td>May 1964 to May 1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiroshi Anzai</td>
<td>May 1968 to May 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masafumi Ohnishi</td>
<td>May 1986 to May 1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiroshi Watanabe</td>
<td>May 1992 to June 1998</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board of Directors

Chairperson : Michiaki Hirose (Chairman, Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Vice Chairpersons : Takehiro Honjo (President, Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.)
                   Koichi Yasui (Chairman, Toho Gas Co., Ltd.)
                   Toshio Sakemi (Chairman, Saibu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Secretary General : Satoru Sawada (Senior Managing Director, The Japan Gas Association)

Directors :
Takashi Saito (President, Asahikawa Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiroshi Otsuki (President, Hokkaido Gas Co., Ltd.)
Yuzo Kumagai (Chairman, Morioka Gas Co., Ltd.)
Kazuyuki Anamizu (President, Tobu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Michiya Ujiie (Administrator, City of Sendai, Gas Bureau)
Kenkichi Nishikata (President, Fukushima Gas Co., Ltd.)
Kazutomo Tsurui (President, Hokuriku Gas Co., Ltd.)
Moriharu Aoyama (President, Tatebayashi Gas Co., Ltd.)
Toshinori Hara (President, Bushu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiroshi Habu (President, Keiyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Takashi Uchida (President, Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Shinichi Yamashita (President, Buyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiromasa Tanaka (President, Nagano Toshi Gas Co., Ltd.)
Masaki Hara (President, Odawara Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiroyuki Kishida (President, Shizuoka Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiroshi Torii (President, Chubu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Yoshiro Tominari (President, Toho Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hachiro Nitta (President, Nihonkai Gas Co., Ltd.)
Masakatsu Yamagiwa (Administrator, Otsu City Public Enterprise Bureau)
Masataka Fujiwara (Vice President, Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.)
Akira Okazaki (Chairman, Okayama Gas Co., Ltd.)
Kensuke Matsufuji (President, Hiroshima Gas Co., Ltd.)
Shuichi Mikita (President, Yamaguchi Godo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Tsuguo Manabe (Chairman, Shikoku Gas Co., Ltd.)
Yukinori Michinaga (President, Saibu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Sadatoshi Tsumagari (President, Nihon Gas Co., Ltd.)

Managing Director: Fumio Honda (The Japan Gas Association)

Auditors: Mitsuo Hashiguchi (President, Miyazaki Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hironari Kitahara (Lawyer)

(July 16, 2019)
Organization and Administration

The supreme decision-making body of the JGA is the General Meeting, to which all full members are invited. The Council and the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Meeting discuss and decide important matters of the JGA, as the executive body under the General Meeting. Committees study issues in specific fields.

General Meeting → Council → Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Meeting

Standing Committees (5)
- General Affairs Committee
- Corporate Planning Committee
- Technology Committee
- Diffusion Committee
- Regional Committee

Committees for Specific Issues (2)
- Natural Gas Vehicle Deployment Committee
- Municipal Utilities Committee

Special Committees (5)
- Research Committee for Gas Facilities Technical Criteria
- Evaluation Committee for Gas Pipeline Rehabilitation and Repair Methods
- NGV Safety Measures Committee
- Committee of Safety Measures for High-pressure Gas Facilities for CNG Vehicles
- Special Committee for Research on Safety Technology for Hydrogen Pipelines to Build Hydrogen Networks

Special Committees: Committees formed with the participation and cooperation of external experienced people such as academics and government officials.

(July 2019)
Our secretariat is composed of 5 divisions. Under the Senior Managing Director (Secretary General), the organization supports the activities of the committees, and acts as a liaison with regulatory authorities or other related industries.
On October 31, 1872, Bashamichi Avenue in Yokohama was lit up by gaslights, marking the start of the city gas business in Japan. 100 years later in 1972, the Japan Gas Association designated this day as “Gas Day”.