OUTLINE OF
THE JAPAN GAS ASSOCIATION 2016

THE JAPAN GAS ASSOCIATION
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.

JGA has a regular membership of 203 city gas utilities and an associate membership of 273 companies and businesses involved in the city gas business (as of June 2016).

### History

**30 May 1912**
*The Imperial Gas Association*

Founded

**15 Oct. 1927**
*The Imperial Gas Association*

Reorganized as a corporate association

**11 Dec. 1944**
*The Gas Industry Association*

Due to economic controls during the Second World War, the Imperial Gas Association was reorganized into an industry controlling body named the Gas Industry Association.

**18 Aug. 1945**
*The Gas Control Association*

Since another industrial association was already using the name “Control Association,” the Gas Industry Association applied for permission to change its name to the Gas Control Association. This was granted after the end of the war.

**19 Feb. 1946**
*The Japan Gas Industry Association*

With the end of hostilities and abolition of the Key Industry Association Law, the functions of the Gas Control Association were terminated and the Japan Gas Industry Association was established.

**15 Oct. 1947**
*The Japan Gas Association*

In August 1947, the Japan Gas Industry Association was ordered by GHQ to close down. The Japan Gas Association was founded as a voluntary group for the exchange of goodwill and information among city gas utilities.

**7 June 1952**
*The Japan Gas Association*

During the post-war economic recovery, the Japanese city gas industry faced various problems. In order to solve these problems, the above organization was reorganized as a corporate association under Article 34 of the Civil Code. This association has continued to the present.

**1 Apr. 2011**
*The Japan Gas Association*

In December 2008, the law concerning the charitable corporation system was introduced, requiring incorporated associations to redefine their corporate status within five years. In 2011, the JGA chose to become a general incorporated association to gain greater flexibility, including the common benefit business as well as its traditional charitable business.

### Successive Chairmen

- **Noburo Tsuru** (Toho Gas Co., Ltd.) Oct. 1947 to Feb. 1948
- **Masaji Yamawaki** (Saibu Gas Co., Ltd.) June 1948 to May 1950
- **Takejiro Iwuchi** (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.) May 1950 to May 1955
- **Hiroshi Honda** (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.) May 1955 to May 1964
- **Nagatomi Fujisaka** (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.) May 1964 to May 1968
- **Hiroshi Anzai** (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.) May 1968 to May 1986
- **Masafumi Ohsugi** (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.) May 1986 to May 1992
- **Hiroshi Watanabe** (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.) May 1992 to June 1998
- **Shin-ichiro Ryoki** (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.) June 1998 to June 2002
- **Kunio Anzai** (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.) June 2002 to June 2006
- **Akio Nomura** (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.) June 2006 to June 2009
- **Norio Ichino** (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.) June 2009 to June 2010
- **Mitsunori Torihara** (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.) June 2010 to June 2013
- **Hiroshi Ozaki** (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.) June 2013 to June 2016
- **Tsuyoshi Okamoto** (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.) June 2016 to present
Board of Directors

Tsuyoshi Okamoto
Chairman

Takehiro Honjo
Vice Chairman

Koichi Yasui
Vice Chairman

Yuji Tanaka
Vice Chairman

Matsuhiko Hataba
Vice Chairman

Chairman:
Tsuyoshi Okamoto (Chairman, Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Takehiro Honjo (President, Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.)
Koichi Yasui (Chairman, Toho Gas Co., Ltd.)
Yuji Tanaka (Chairman, Saibu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Matsuhiko Hataba (Secretary General, The Japan Gas Association)

Vice Chairmen:

Directors:
Katsumi Onuma (Chairman, Asahikawa Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiroshi Otsuki (President, Hokkaido Gas Co., Ltd.)
Yuzo Kumagai (President, 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.)
Eiichi Tsurui (President, Hokuriku Gas Co., Ltd.)
Moriharu Aoyama (President, Tatebayashi Gas Co., Ltd.)
Toshinori Hara (President, Bushu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hidekiyo Gatayama (President, Keiyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Michiaki Hirose (President, Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Shin-ichi Yamashita (President, Buyo Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiromasa Tanaka (President, Nagano Toshi Gas Co., Ltd.)
Masaki Hara (President, Odawara Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiroshi Tonoya (President, Shizuoka Gas Co., Ltd.)
Shoji Nakamura (Chairman, Chubu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Yoshiro Tominari (President, Toho Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hachiro Nitta (President, Nihonkai Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hiroshi Yamamoto (Administrator, Otsu City Public Enterprise Bureau)
Hidetaka Matsuzaka (Vice President, Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.)
Akira Okazaki (President, Okayama Gas Co., Ltd.)
Kozo Tamura (President, Hiroshima Gas Co., Ltd.)
Takamasa Kono (President, Yamaguchi Goko Gas Co., Ltd.)
Tsuguo Manabe (President, Shikoku Gas Co., Ltd.)
Toshio Sakemi (President, Saibu Gas Co., Ltd.)
Sadatoshi Tsumagari (President, Nihon Gas Co., Ltd.)

Managing Directors:
Shinichi Tada (The Japan Gas Association)

Auditors:
Tomokatsu Fukushima (President, Oita Gas Co., Ltd.)
Hironari Kitahara (Lawyer)

(June 27, 2016)
The supreme decision-making body of the JGA is the General Meeting, to which all full members are invited. The Council and the Chairman and Vice Chairman 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**

**Chairman and Vice Chairman Meeting**

**Standing Committees (9)**

- General Affairs Committee
- Corporate Planning Committee
- Business Operating Committee
- Municipal Utilities Committee
- Gas Manufacturing Committee
- Gas Distribution Committee
- Safety Measures Committee
- Research and Development Committee
- Environment Committee

**Committees for Specific Issues (3)**

- Committee of Gas Calorific Value Conversion Operator Qualification
- Natural Gas Vehicle Deployment Committee
- Committee for the Promotion of Energy Application Diversification

**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.
Our secretariat is composed of 7 departments. 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.

Chairman  
Vice Chairman

Senior Managing Director  
(Secretary General)

Managing Director  
(Deputy Secretary General)

General Affairs Dept.

Corporate Planning Dept.

Business Operating Dept.

Managing Director  
(Deputy Secretary General)

Gas Technology Dept.

R&D Dept.

Energy System Dept.

Environment Dept.

Hokkaido Branch

Tohoku Branch

Kanto Chuo Branch

Tokai Hokuriku Branch

Kinki Branch

Chugoku Shikoku Branch

Kyushu Branch
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”.

The Japan Gas Association
Address: 1-15-12, Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0001, Japan
Telephone: +81-3-3502-0116 Facsimile: +81-3-3502-0013
URL: http://www.gas.or.jp/en/