

SEGJ-Japan Country Report

February 22, 2006

Name of Region or Country: Japan

Name of Coordinators/Representatives

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SEGJ Goals in 2005 – 2006

- Increase membership services by means of seminars, meetings, workshops, etc.,
- Seek reader-friendly technical journals,
- Promote society-driven geophysical researches,
- Promote geophysics in public, and
- International collaboration.

SEGJ

1. Membership

The number of SEGJ membership (as of 18 January 2006):

- Active member: 1466
- Honorary member: 26
- Corporate member: 145

Ref.) SEG members in Japan: (from e-SEG web; *surprisingly the number of individual members shown below is much greater than that (311) in 2005 Year Book.*)

- Individual member total: 500
 - Emeritus member: 13
 - Active member: 131
 - Associate member: 308
 - Student member: 47
- Corporate member: 2

2. Coming technical meetings

1) SEGJ 2006 Spring Meeting

Date: May 8-10, 2006

Location: Tokyo

2) Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2006

Date: May 14-18, 2006

Location: Makuhari, Chiba

(Japan Geoscience Union was established in May 2005. SEGJ joined it in October 2005. It now consists of 37 societies which are related with earth sciences in Japan.)

3) SEGJ 2006 Fall Meeting

Date: October 16-18, 2006

Location: Fukuoka

4) 8th SEGJ International Symposium – Imaging and Interpretation –

Date: November 26-28, 2006

Location: Kyoto

Co-sponsors: **SEG**, Korean SEG, Australian SEG, EAGE, EEGS, Vietnam Association of Geophysicists (VAG)

3. Publications

- 1) Six issues of the technical journal, Butsuri-Tansa (Geophysical Exploration)
 - The first issue every year is a joint publication with Australian SEG and Korean SEG since 2004.
- 2) Special Publications in the past year:
 - English version of “Application of Geophysical Methods to Engineering and Environmental Problems”
 - “Dictionary of Exploration Geophysics, Second Edition (in Japanese)”

4. Seminars

- 1) Geophysics Short Course: a 3-day seminar on fundamental of geophysics and its application; held in June 2006.
- 2) Campus Visit: Professional geophysicists designated by SEGJ visit a university and give lectures on geophysics or demonstrations of instruments and software to young students.
- 3) Technical Caravan: Professional geophysicists designated by SEGJ visit a company to give lectures on specific subjects that the company requests.

5. Research Committees and Consortiums

Several Committees and Consortiums are actively holding workshops on specific topics including civil engineering, geological hazard mitigation, and nuclear waste depository.

6. Preparation for 60th Anniversary Event

SEGJ will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2008. We have started the planning of the special anniversary events.

7. SEG Council Meeting

SEGJ will send representatives to SEG 76th Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

Student Sections in Japan

The number of Student Membership at SEGJ is not large as compared with SEG. It's approximately 70 members, which is approximately five percent of the total Active Membership.

Student Sections in Japan are as follows:

1. Akita University Geophysical Society

Affiliated June 18, 1974

Faculty adviser: Tadashi Nishitani

Akita University Mining College

Faculty of Engineering and Resource Science

1-1 Tegata Gakuen-Cho

Akita 010-8502 Japan

E-mail: takahashi@geophys.mine.akita-u.ac.jp

President: Yukie Takahashi

2. Kyoto University Geophysical Society

Affiliated September 11, 1998

Faculty adviser: Yuzuru Ashida

Kyoto University

Department of Earth Resources Engineering

Exploration Geophysics Lab

Yoshidahonmachi, Sakyo-ku

Kyoto 606-8501 Japan

E-mail: sanada@tansa1.kumst.kyoto-u.ac.jp
President: Yoshinori Sanada

3. *Kyushu University Geophysical Society*
Affiliated August 26, 1999
Faculty adviser: Keisuke Ushijima
Kyushu University
Exploration Geophysics Laboratory
Department of Earth Resources System Engineering
Hakozaki 6-10-1, Fukuoka 812-8581 Japan

Membership Value

- To access state-of-the-art geophysical technologies developed and applied in other countries, through SEG journals and conferences.
- To publish their research results and case studies on GEOPHYSICS/TLE or present at SEG conferences. However, the number of technical papers by Japanese authors has not been much as compared with the number of SEG members in Japan. It may be because of a language problem or a communication problem. In addition, we feel a sort of hesitation to submit our papers to GEOPHYSICS because of its slow review and edit process, although the cycle for paper submission to final publication on GEOPHYSICS has been getting shorter these years.
- To attend a DISC, which is held in Japan, is very useful for us.

How can SEG better serve geophysicists in your Region/Country and gain new members?

There are 500 SEG members in Japan according to e-SEG database; most of them are SEGJ members. However, there may be a significant number of scientists who study or use geophysics but not a SEG member. Major such groups are geophysicists in earthquake seismology, volcano studies, and tectonophysical studies, on which Japan is one of the leading countries in the world. SEG as well as SEGJ should plan joint symposia with those communities and seek for more members from them.

Engineering and environmental geophysics is more important in majority by members than natural resources in SEGJ. We should go into civil engineering and rock engineering communities to expand our memberships. For that, short courses, like DISC, or symposia on near-surface geophysics should be planned.

Oil and Gas Industry

Japan is not a major oil-producing country. Even so, exploration projects for (coal-originated) natural gas and offshore deep reservoirs are being conducted steadily by Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC). JOGMEC is also conducting a large-scale methane-hydrate exploration project in deep seas around Japan. So far, geophysics is taking an important role in these projects.