Profile
Public Interest Incorporated Association
Japan Water Works Association
Safe and tasty water anytime, anywhere

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Executive Director’s Message

Japan Water Works Association (JWWA), a Public Interest Incorporated Association, was established on May 12th, 1932 with the aim of spreading water supply in Japan and sound development of water supply technologies. Water supply is an essential lifeline for people’s daily life as well as social and economic activities. Therefore, it is particularly important to provide safe and stable supply service as well as quality water. JWWA’s main activities include research and study of water supply management, technologies and water quality. JWWA also provides various service such as inspection and certification of water supply related products to maintain stable and safety water supply, which is indispensable for people’s daily life. In addition, JWWA actively lobbies and makes recommendations to government for solving water utilities’ related issues in Japan, so as to help sustain water services toward the future.

Ei Yoshida
Executive Director
Background and Organization

At the time when the Federation of Water Authorities (JWWA's predecessor) was established in 1904, Japan was in an early stage of introducing modern water supply. Modern water supply service was provided only in major port cities including Yokohama (service started in 1887), Hakodate, Nagasaki, Osaka, Tokyo, Hiroshima and Kobe.

In those days, there were growing tendency among water utilities toward research and study of subjects related to construction, public hygiene and administration of water supply, and water quality was the most critical issue. Dr. Tinkichi Toyama (Director of Tokyo Institute of Public Health), who advocated establishing a "standard method of water quality examination", called on holding a "Consultative Meeting for Establishing a Standard Method of Water Quality Examination" (the first meeting was held in Tokyo), and this became the origin of JWWA.

In the second meeting held in the following year and subsequent meeting, not only water quality but general issues relating to water supply such as purification and distribution engineering.

This led to the current tradition in the water-supply utilities that all stakeholders are involved to collectively find solutions for various issues.

As water supply started to cover cities and towns in Japan and the number of cities participating in the meeting increased, the role of the "Federation of Water Authorities" became important.

JWWA established on May 12th, 1932 on behalf of the Federation under the approval of the Minister of Interior. (The body was changed to Incorporated Association in 1956 and became Public Interest Incorporated Association in 2013.)

Currently, there are seven regional branches, 46 prefectoral branches as well as five branches in Hokkaido. The secretariat consists of five departments, one regional office, one institute and one center. JWWA is committed to fulfilling our members' objectives for advancing water supply service and providing safe and sustainable water supply for the people.
General Assembly / Branch Assembly
The general assembly is the supreme decision-making body of JWWA. Contents of meetings include reporting of JWWA activities, approval of accounting reports, reporting of budgets as well as award presentation for meritorious members who made significant achievements in the field of water supply and discussion on issues raised by members. Through discussions at general assembly meetings of prefectural and regional branches, members table critical issues that require urgent actions and cannot be individually solved by water supply utilities. In a general assembly, members gather their ideas and knowledge to solve issues through intense discussions. Each regional branch and prefectural branch also holds the branch’s general assembly. In each general assembly, issues raised by members mentioned above as well as reporting of regional activities, approval of regional accounting reports and budgets are discussed.

Handling of Issues Raised by Members
If the general assembly concludes that an issue requires support from the central government, petition drafts and relevant authorities to lobby are decided by the nearest board of directors meeting and JWWA aggressively lobbies the government and legislators to attempt to solve the issue. If an issue can be internally handled by the secretariat, the standing committees (management, engineering, water sanitation) are tasked to study the issue and study results are disclosed to members.
Executive Board
Executives consist of the president, the vice-presidents, executive director, directors and auditors. The board of directors consists of the executive director and directors. Members of the board discuss matters related to arrangement and management of general assembly and approval of budgets. Matters important for the water supply industry that is raised by members and lobbying activities are discussed by the directors of regional and prefectural branches. The auditors do audit and publish accounting reports.

Lobbying Activities
At the standing board of directors meeting held at the beginning of each fiscal year, plans for securing government budget allocations are established. JWWA headed by the board of directors aggressively lobbies the central government and legislatures on appropriate occasions during the course of budgetary process until the budget is authorized by the cabinet.

Conference and Symposium
Stakeholders of water supply service such as government, national research institutes, water supply utilities and water supply industries gather together to present results of their research and study activities at JWWA’s annual conference and symposium. The conference consists of the following ten divisions: management, planning, water resources/water intake, purification, water conveyance/transmission/distribution, service installation, mechanical/electrical/instrument, water quality, and risk management/disaster contingency plan. English. In conjunction with presentations, water forum is held for discussing common issues in the field of water supply.
Research on Management
The management standing research committee and special committees of management, labor relations, marketing operation, public relations and water supply statistics research and study on their respective field.

Water Utility Management Advisory Service
In response to a recommendation by the Water Supply Tariffs System Research Council issued on August 20, 1996, JWWA has been providing the water utility management advisory service since April 1, 1997 to support development of water supply management through improvement of efficiency.

By request from members, export advisors are dispatched to give assessment and advice with regard to management of water supply, technology, water quality and hygienic conditions.

Management and Legal Consultation Service
JWWA provides management and legal consultation service. If necessary, we seek advice from a chartered accountant as a management advisor and a lawyer as a legal advisor to give appropriate responses to inquiries.

Public Relations
JWWA's promotes public understanding and awareness of water supply for stakeholders. JWWA engages in nationwide PR activities with the special focus on Water Supply Week, which takes place between June 1 and 7 annually.

JWWA prepares and distributes various PR materials such as posters and pamphlets entitled “Water Supply for Everyone”, “Water Supply in Japan” and “Water Supply Story Series”. These materials are widely used by water supply utilities in Japan.

Our website also provide a wide range of information about the association and general water supply related topics for our members and the general public.

Various Survey Activities
JWWA conducts various surveys with members regarding water supply statistics. We collect and analyze data and publish in the JWWA monthly journal.

Director General Conference
The Director General Consultative Conference was established in 1968. This conference consists of director generals of 51 water supply utilities elected in the prefectural branches.

Committee is held three times a year to exchange information and ideas as well as to discuss various water supply related issues.

Conference for Small-Scale Water Supply Utilities
This conference was established in 1978 and consists of members of 51 water supply utilities recommended by the directors of prefectural branches. Members of executive directors, the director general consultative committee and the water supply technical director general consultative committee are excluded from member selection. Conference meetings are held two times a year to exchange information and ideas as well as to discuss various water supply related issues commonly shared by small-scale utilities.

Prefectural Water Supply Utilities Conference
This conference was established in 1982 and consists of 22 prefectural water supply utilities. In here, members exchange information and opinions as well as discuss various water supply related issues commonly shared by prefectural water supply.
Research Activities

Water Supply Technology

Technical Research and Study
The Engineering Standing Committee, the Water Quality Standing Committee and the Special Research Committee conduct research and study on water supply technology to solve issues related to water supply. The Engineering Standing Committee selects and researches current technical issues. Research results are provided for water supply utilities. With regard to standards of water supply equipment, four Technical Standardization Committees are commissioned to define or amend various standards if requested. The Water Quality Standing Committee is tasked to deal with water quality related issues and to define specifications of chemicals used for water supply. This committee also publishes books entitled standard methods of water quality examination and organisms in drinking water in Japan. With regard to special publications related to water supply (e.g. design criteria for water supply facilities, guidelines for water supply maintenance and management, seismic design and construction guideline for water supply facilities, research of earthquake contingency planning), special research committees are formed based on the approval of the board of directors. And the “Challenging Committe for Consideration of Future Water Supply scheme” deals with issues that have significant impact on water supply and require urgent action.
Committees’ discussion results are published as guidelines and policies. Results are also available for members through the JWWA journal and website.
JWWA conducts research and study commissioned by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and other entities.

Standardization Service
JWWA’s Engineering Standing Committee and Water Sanitation Committee as well as special technical committees established by these committees evaluate durability, compatibility, adaptability and hygiene of water supply equipment and materials upon request from members. The evaluation results are published as JWWA standards or used to modify existing standards. (There are 89 standards as of March 31, 2015.)

Consultation Service
JWWA gives advice and support with regard to urgent issues relating to water supply technology and water quality that requires swift action as the necessity arises.

Water Supply Technical Directors Conference
Technical directors of 51 water supply utilities exchange information with regard to technical issues ranging from reservoir facilities to supply systems to study measures and improve technical levels. The members visit facilities to get ideas on new technology. This was established in 1971 and holds meetings three times a year.

Water Works Engineering General Institute
In order to solve various technical issues in water supply, the Water Works Engineering General Institute conducts research and study activities including performance indicators (PIs), seismic technology, maintenance and management of water supply pipelines, environmental issues, water quality issues and ISO standards. Results of its activities are made available to the members.
Currently, the institute mainly focuses on research and study of practical issues in water supply utilities. Also, the institute established “Project Promotion Department” in September 2009 to dynamically respond to latest needs surrounding water supply. The department has initiated the “Nationwide public and private partnership promotion project” to strengthen operations of water supply with specific support activities.
Training

JWVA provides various training programs and seminars relating to management and technology to develop and improve their skills of employees in water supply utilities. The table below shows the regular training programs conducted every year. Special programs are also provided depending on demands. Training programs are mostly offered in the Kawaguchi Training Center and the Osaka Building, which are excellent training facilities.

Practical Training Course

In order to maintain and improve piping technique and skills, JWVA has been providing pipeline design and piping technique training programs for designing and piping technicians since 2001. Technicians who have completed the training course of distribution pipe laying can be registered as a “distribution pipe laying technician”.

Accreditation and Registration Scheme

JWVA has an evaluation and accreditation scheme for water supply engineers and operators of both private and public sectors in terms of water supply facility maintenance and management skills. There are two types of qualification: One for water treatment, and another for piping. Each qualification has three grades from first to third grade. This scheme is established jointly by four major organizations in the field of water supply.

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<th>TITLES OF TRAINING COURSES</th>
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<td>&lt;Management Course/Technical Course&gt;</td>
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<td>Basic Course of Water Supply</td>
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<th>&lt;Management Course&gt;</th>
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<td>Newly Appointed Director Generals</td>
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<td>Executive Staff on Management</td>
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<td>Water Utility Management</td>
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<td>(1) Administration</td>
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<td>Practical Training for Collection of Unpaid Water Bills</td>
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<th>&lt;Technical Course&gt;</th>
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<td>Technical Directors</td>
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<td>Training for Water Leak Prevention</td>
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<td>Practical Technical Training Course on Water Purification Plant</td>
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<td>Training for Water Supply Engineers</td>
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<td>Course A</td>
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<td>Course B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialized Training for Water Supply Engineers</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Design, construction, maintenance and management of service pipes and distribution facilities</td>
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<td>(2) Water treatment facilities</td>
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<td>(3) Water supply system</td>
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<td>(4) Water quality management</td>
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<td>(5) Water purification facilities</td>
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<td>(6) Mechanical, electrical and instrumentation equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training for Seismic Design and Construction</td>
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<td>Training for Water Supply Engineers by Regional Blocks</td>
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<td>Training of Distribution Pipe Laying</td>
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<td>Training of Pipeline Design</td>
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Accreditation and Registration Scheme for Water Supply Facility Management Technicians
International Activities

Japan’s water supply is regarded as one of the best services in the world for its high technical levels and excellent operational know-how. As water supply services expand to global markets, elevating Japan’s current levels of water supply in line with international trends as well as contributing to uplift in developing countries based on Japan’s experience are anticipated. JWWA actively promotes international activities to play a responsible role in the international community and to continue to provide high quality water supply services in Japan.

Cooperation with overseas associations
• Interaction and Cooperation with Overseas Water Works Associations
It is essential to utilize an international network when implementing various international activities. JWWA, as Japan’s national water works association, strengthens and expands international cooperation with different overseas water works associations including the associations of the US, Australia, Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, India, Vietnam and Thailand.

• Activities Related to the International Water Association (IWA)
IWA is an international organization for promoting information sharing in both academic and practical areas of water management to develop public interest. Its headquarters are located in The Hague, Netherlands. To establish an international cooperation framework for research and information sharing in the water field, JWWA and the Japan Society on Water Environment jointly form the IWA Japan National Committee and represent Japan in IWA as a member of the board. As the Governing Member of IWA, JWWA promotes participation in IWA activities. In the conferences, JWWA organizes the exhibition booth “Japan Pavilion” with our members to present Japan’s technology and know-how to international markets and to provide international networking space for future relationships and business.
JWWA successfully organized IWA-ASPIRE conference in Tokyo in 2011, and it was decided that IWA World Water Congress in 2018 will be held in Tokyo.

• WOPs (Water Operators Partnership) Related Activities
To improve an image of international contribution of Japan’s water supply industry and to strengthen future activities, JWWA actively promotes WOPs, a framework between Japan and developing countries.

• Promotion of Water Business
As a part of government growth strategies, Japan’s infrastructure technology related industries are encouraged to go to overseas markets. The water supply industry is also keen to promote services as water business through export of Japan’s water supply technology and operational know-how.
JWWA focuses on providing support for the water supply industry through various activities including information sharing with interested water supply utilities, presenting a Japan pavilion at international conferences, and holding Water Seminars commissioned by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare in developing countries to demonstrate Japan’s technology in water supply.

Activities for International Standardization
International standards on services and management of drinking water supply and wastewater are established by ISO/TC224 in 2007. Other standards related to water and wastewater management are also continuously developed under this Technical Committee.
Japan is actively involved in these ISO activities to contribute development of standards as the country which boasts high level of service to the customers and established crisis management systems for water supply and wastewater.

Overseas Training
JWWA has been providing overseas training programs to develop human resources with international perspective and knowledge and to promote global partnership since 1990. About 800 staffs of water supply utilities have sent overseas for training and networking through JWWA training program.

JICA Group Training Course
In response to request from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), JWWA has been providing training programs for water supply engineers from developing countries since 1968. As of the end of 2013, 669 participants have been trained in our programs.
JWWA also has the registration system for senior technical experts to nominate JICA experts to be dispatched to developing countries. This cooperation scheme aims to contribute to development of human resources required for advancement of water supply services, technical transfer and improvement of water supply in developing countries.
Fair and independent inspection service
In order to provide safe drinking water for the public, JWWA conducts performance testing and product inspections of water supply equipment and materials based on objective inspection criteria when requested by manufacturers who intend to provide equipment and materials. The Inspection Committee, consists of academic experts, consumer representatives, and water supply utilities, conducts research and study of inspection service from expert viewpoints. The committee aims to provide optimum inspection services by improving inspection technique and methods. The Inspection Outline Task Force established under the Examination Committee discusses compliance with the “Ministry ordinance on technical standards of water supply facilities” and appropriateness of inspection methods. Five inspection offices and 16 local suboffices provide efficient inspection service. In order to provide a safe and stable water supply for the public, it is essential to use quality and reliable water supply equipment and materials. Thus, third-party performance testing of water supply equipment and materials is becoming more important.

Four Inspection Service
1. Performance Testing and Inspection

Products are tested at inspection facilities based on technical standards and purchasers’ criteria to maintain quality. Test items include performance testing such as hygiene levels and overall inspection.

2. Inspection Certification Mark
The inspection certification mark is attached to products that are verified for their proper performance through product inspection process. The certification mark enables purchasers such as water supply utilities to easily identify quality products. (See lower right)

3. Inspection Certificates
To clearly assure that a product has passed inspection in writing, JWWA issues a quality conformity certificate to the manufacturer. The manufacture issues an inspection certificate for the product with the quality conformity certificate on request from water supply utilities to prove the product quality. (See the figure below)

4. Listing
Manufacturers’ inspection facilities and certified water supply equipment and materials are registered with JWWA and listed on our website. JWWA aims to improve products quality and to enable purchasers such as water supply utilities to choose quality water supply equipment and materials.

JIS Mark Certification Service
In November 2005, JWWA was certified as an authorized certification organization for JIS mark certification by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry based on the Industrial Standardization Law. If a manufacturer wants to produce JIS standard water supply related products, JWWA, upon the manufacture’s request, conducts appropriate and precise inspection of the manufacture’s quality control system and product testing to grant the JIS mark to certified products.

JIS Certification Mark

URL
http://www.jwwa.or.jp/kensa/
Quality Certification Service

Since April 1997, JWWA has been providing third-party certification service that verify and certify water supply equipment and materials. The Ministry ordinance on standards of water supply equipment and materials (the Ministry of Health and Welfare Ordinance No. 14, March 19, 1997) specified under the Waterworks Law.

In addition, since October 2000, the third-party certification service has been extended to water supply equipment and materials and water treatment chemicals, which are specified in the “Ministry ordinance on technical standards of water supply facilities (the Ministry of Health and Welfare Ordinance No. 15, February 23, 2000)” under the Waterworks Law.

Products verified and certified by JWWA are listed on JWWA’s website.

Third-party certification process

JWWA’s third-party certification consists of two processes: “certification registration” and “quality verification”. JWWA, upon request from a manufacturer or a dealer, inspects water supply products such as service pipes, equipment, and materials and water treatment chemicals with standards specified by the Waterworks Law. And conformed products are registered on the book or website.

JWWA conducts “qualify verification” before a certification registered product goes into the market. In quality verification process, JWWA checks manufacturing process of the product. Once the product passes quality verification, the product is registered as a JWWA certified product.

There are two types of quality verification process: Self-inspection and JWWA check and assess a manufacture’s quality control system. If the system is appropriate, JWWA approves his self-inspection as JWWA’s quality inspection: Sampling inspection - JWWA it self sample product for inspection.

Target Products

The following target products: ① Service installation - service pipes and fittings directly connected to the distribution pipes (service pipes, taps, valves, joints, water meters) ② Materials - used for water purification process (e.g. Surface coating materials, filtering materials) ③ Water treatment chemicals - (e.g. Floculants, powdered activated carbon, disinfectant)

Examination Criteria

The following criteria are applied to quality verification: ① Basic criteria (service pipes/water supply equipments) ② Performance standards specified by the Ministry ordinance on standards of water supply equipment structures and materials ③ Technical criteria (water supply materials/chemicals) ④ Technical standards according to the Provision 4, Article 5 of the Waterworks Law

Certification related Committee

A “certification mark” is attached to certified products as quality confirmation. This certification mark enables customers to easily check products’ quality with standards specified by the Waterworks Law.

Quality certification marks can be attached by pasting stickers, engraving, molding or printing. Typical quality certification marks are as follows:

Certification marks attached to basic standards conforming products

Certification marks attached to special standards conforming products and technical standards conforming products

URL

http://www.jwwa.or.jp/Center/
GLP Accreditation Service

Water Supply GLP
Since tap water is used as drinking water by consumers, quality testing of tap water especially requires a high level of reliability. To maintain reliability of water quality testing, JWWA defined the “Guidelines for Tap Water Quality Testing Good Laboratory Practice” (“GLP for Water Supply” in short) in September 2004. This GLP for Water Supply covers legal requirements and accreditation standards for certified water quality testing authorities specified by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. In addition, while this GLP for Water Supply conforms to ISO 9001, actual conditions of water quality testing organizations are considered for practical application. In terms of water quality testing requirements, part of ISO/IEC 17025 provisions are selected for the same practicality. To enable water quality testing organizations to implement a quality assurance system in line with the GLP for Water Supply, JWWA has been providing GLP accreditation services since August 2005.

Requirements
To succeed “GLP for Water Supply” accreditation, a water quality testing organization needs to meet administrative and technical requirements of water quality testing specified in the GLP for Water Supply and takes inspection by JWWA. Administrative requirements include establishment of a quality control system, clarification of management responsibilities, proper record management and scheduled training programs. Technical requirements include standard work procedures based on the applicable laws specified by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, proper inspection facilities suitable for water quality testing and proper management of inspection equipment. Accreditation objectively certifies that an accredited water quality testing organization performs proper inspections under a controlled structure and actively implements measures for maintaining reliability of quality testing results.

Accreditation Status
JWWA has the “GLP for Water Supply Service Committee” and the “GLP for Water Supply Accreditation Committee” for maintaining fair and independent inspection and accreditation services. Each inspection for accreditation by JWWA is conducted objectively. Since the first accreditation granted in December 2005, 117 water quality testing organizations including water supply utilities and water quality testing authorities registered under the Article 20 of Waterworks Law have been certified as GLP for Water Supply accredited organizations by the end of March 2015.

Outline of the GLP for Water Supply, ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 9001

- ISO 9001: Administrative requirements
- ISO/IEC 17025: Administrative requirements, Proof of technical levels
- GLP for Water Supply: Administrative requirements for water quality testing, Capability of water quality testing
JWWA publishes water supply related books on both managerial and technical subjects. In recent years, we have been publishing books based on new projects and revising existing books to accommodate needs for effective management of water supply utilities and changing environment of the water supply industry.

JWWA’s main publications include books such as “Design Criteria for Water Supply Facilities”, “Guidelines on Waterworks Maintenance and Management”, “Standard Methods for Water Quality Examination” and “Details of the Waterworks Law Provisions”. And our periodical includes monthly publication “JWWA Journal” and yearly publications “Water Supply Statistics”, “Water Tariff Tables” and “Proceedings of JWAA’s Annual Conference and Symposium”. Since its first issue (December 1932), JWWA Journal has been providing various water supply related information as an official our publication and playing a major role in advancement of water supply services. And many excellent study papers published in JWWA Journal have been contributing to development of various water supply related engineering.

Water Supply Insurance scheme
The water supply insurance scheme has been introduced in 1979 by members’ request. JWWA represents members to sign up group contracts. Insurance claims can be made for accidents related to water supply. The water supply insurance scheme covers water supply general liability insurance as well as damages caused by accidents of machine facilities and submarine pipes and accident liability insurance for contracted meter readers.

JWWA publications

Administration/Management/General Subjects
- Water Supply Related Legal Cases: 2008
- Proceedings of JWAA’s Annual Conference and Symposium: Yearly publication
- Water Supply Rates Tables: Yearly publication
- Detail Guidelines for Water Supply Services: 2005

General technology
- Instruction on Design of Mechanical and Electrical Equipment in Small and Medium Scale Water Supply Facilities: 2000
- Flow Rates at Pipes and flood-gates: 2002
- Water Treatment Plant Operation and Management Services: 2009
- Service Pipe Maintenance and Management Services: 2010
- Damage Estimation on Water Supply Service Pipes by Earthquake: 1998
- Guidelines for Water Supply Facility Upgrade: 2005
- Water Supply Related Accident Case Studies for Practical Use 2008: 2008

Water Treatment
- Guidelines for Advanced Water Treatment Facility Installation: 1988
- Total Design of Water Treatment Facilities: 1996

Water Quality
- Treatment of Trihalomethanes: 1981
- Water Supply and Asbestos: 1989
- Algae in Water Supply - Types and Details: 1992
- Organisms in Japan’s Water Supply - Pictures and Details (Japanese Version): 2008
- Organisms in Japan’s Water Supply - Pictures and Details - (English Version): 2000
- Water Examination Methods in Disaster Events Such as after Earthquake: 2011
- Health Impact Evaluations by Chemicals in Drinking Water (II) Chemical Substances: 1993
- Health Impact Evaluations by Chemicals in Drinking Water (III) Agricultural Chemicals: 1994
- Guidelines for Measures for Foul Smells and Taste Caused by Organisms: 1999
- Cryptosporidium - Details and Testing Methods: 2002
- Outlook of Practical Use of Ultraviolet-Based Sterilization Methods: 2004
- Manual for Preventing Organism-Related Troubles in Water Treatment: 2006
- Water Quality Testing/Management Services Outsourcing Fee Estimation Guidelines: 2011

Machine and Instrumentation
- Practical Manuals for Water Supply Mechanical and Electrical Engineers Comprehensive know-how 2007: 2007

Manuals

Inspection / Certification
- JWWA Inspection Procedures: 2003
- JWWA Quality Certification Service Procedures: 2012

Others
- Water Supply Statistics: Yearly publication