

Almost all of energy indispensable for industrial activities and people's lives in Japan depend on imports via sea ports. Stable and low cost imports of energy becomes more and more important these days due to the competition for natural resources being accelerated by development of rising countries and due to increasing dependency on fossil fuels since the Great East Japan Earthquake.

The feature of this month introduces ports' roles for energy import with the updated trend of energy.

■SPECIAL ESSAY

Energy import and roles of port infrastructure /Yoshihiko Sakanashi

Japanese industry and energy challenges we're facing and expectation to ports

/Hiroaki Machii

■Port and energy

History of energy situation and port facility improvement from the post-war reconstruction period /Ryota Abe/Ryosuke Jogo

Efforts of IGCC(Integrated coal Gasification Combined Cycle) and port contribution

/Tamotsu Fukushima

Plan of LNG import zone at Port of Hachinohe,Aomori

/Koji Matsuda

Port of Niigata & Port of Naoetsu –center of gas pipe line network

/Yoshiyuki Inari

Roles of Chubu Coal Center at Port of Yokkaichi

/Hiromasa Niimi

■International trends of energy

Cargo stowage structure of LNG/crude oil tanker/coal carrier and trend of bulk carrier such as jumbORIZATION, energy saving and so on /Nobuhiro Kashima

To what degree the shale gas revolution prevailing?

/Masumi Motomura

Energy resource development in the Arctic Circle and the transportation of the energy

/Eiji Sakai

Securing of navigation safety in the Strait of Malacca/Singapore

/Tomoyuki Fukuhara