



JIFFA REPORT 2024 Summer

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDERS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Issued in September 2024

JIFFA Signs MoU with HNLA

International Exchange Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Hanoi Logistics Association (HNLA) to promote their logistics businesses and cooperation between their respective members and related organizations. The agreement was reached in Hanoi on Jan. 29, 2024 at a ceremony attended by relevant parties from Japan and Vietnam.

Those attending the MoU ceremony from Japan:

Mr. Atsushi Kaji, first secretary, Japanese Embassy in Vietnam;

Mr. Susumu Yoshida, secretary general, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Vietnam;

Mr. Kazuyoshi Mizuno, Transport Department, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Vietnam (director, Yusen Logistics (Vietnam));

Ms. Tran Minh Ha, coordinator, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Vietnam;

Mr. Keisuke Kobayashi, deputy chief representative, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Hanoi;

Ms. Mihoko Kurosu, deputy chief representative, JETRO Hanoi;

Ms. Nguyen Thi Thuy, deputy director of foreign affairs, JETRO Hanoi; and
Mr. Hisanao Kawachi, executive director and secretary-general, JIFFA



From Vietnam:

Mr. Tran Thanh Hai, deputy general director, Agency of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Industry and Trade;

Mr. Nguyen The Hiep, deputy director, Hanoi Trade and Industry Department (HTID);



Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy, vice-director, North Hanoi Sub-Department of Customs;

Mr. Le Quang Trung, vice-president, Vietnam Logistics Business Association;

Mr. Tran Duc Nghia, president, the HNLA;

Ms. Pham Thi Lan Huong, vice-president and general secretary, HNLA;

Ms. Le Thanh Load, executive board member, HNLA; and

Ms. Le Thi Hoang Oanh, executive board member, HNLA.

JIFFA Opens New Chinese Course for Business Use

Language Training Committee

“Ni Hao”

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA) opened a new language course in June with Ms. Fan Ting Ting, who has been teaching Chinese in JIFFA programs for a long time.

The more practical course was created for those who have attended JIFFA’s annual introductory Mandarin Chinese course and want to further improve their skills. It is, however, helpful not only for those who have completed the introductory course, but also for those who took Chinese classes at school and still remember Pinyin but do not have a chance to speak Chinese in daily

business routines. It could help them upgrade their business skills as well.

The class is being given to those who have learned Pinyin and listening comprehension on top of fundamental skills, such as pronunciation, grammar, writing and basic conversation.

The program will not conduct a final examination. It is made up of unique lessons where students can learn various Chinese phrases, usages and so on in so relaxed a way that they can apply them in business in future business situations.

The course is given on Tuesdays—after the introductory Mandarin course



from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. that began in June, both of which are taught carefully and kindly by Ms. Fan Ting Ting.

JIFFA’s Language Training Committee is accepting applications from many of those who are interested in the course, details of which are available from JIFFA’s website at <<https://jiffa.or.jp>>.

JIFFA Holds 13th General Assembly

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA) kicked off its 13th general assembly at 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 13, 2024 at the Dai-ichi Hotel Tokyo in Minato Ward. Out of the association’s 533 regular members, 149 were present in person at the hotel’s Primavera banquet hall and 257 by proxy for a total of 406.

After giving the opening address at the beginning of the general assembly, Chairman Junichiro Watanabe was elected to preside over the meeting by the attending regular members.

The general assembly began with briefings given by Senior Executive Director Tsuneo Suzuki on 1-1) a fiscal 2023 business activity report and 2-1) a fiscal 2023 account settlement report. The latter report was approved after an audit by Auditor Shuji Yamaguchi. Then, 1-2) business activity and income and expenditure budget reports were also submitted. 2-2) reelected executives were approved as proposed by the assembly president.

After the general assembly came to an end, JIFFA convened its 55th meeting of

its board of directors, at which Mr. Munenori Kimura was elected as next JIFFA chairman.

JIFFA member freight forwarders handled 115.65 million tons of imports to and exports from Japan in fiscal 2023, which decreased 6.2% from the previous fiscal year. The association’s membership is constantly growing although the entire logistics industry is in a severe business condition. At the end of fiscal 2023, regular members consisted of 530 freight forwarders, an increase of 11 from a year earlier, and supporting members amounted to 27 enterprises and organizations for a total membership of 557.

In fiscal 2024, JIFFA will continue to contribute to the development of international logistics. To this end, more specifically, it will exchange information at higher levels and enhance partnership with relevant public and private organizations and so on in Japan and overseas. To help all of its member freight forwarders to continue to do business accurately, deal with demand and circumstance changes adequately and



provide higher-quality services, JIFFA will conduct activities to reinforce its members’ capabilities, such as seminars and workshops; ensure safety in business and improve business environments; and collect information on international affairs and other relevant matters and provide it to its members. It will also strive to develop the international freight forwarding business more soundly as well as increase mutual profitability for and raise the status of its members.

Under the aforementioned policies, JIFFA will promote the following business activities:

- 1) Conducting investigations and studies on NVOCC and relevant services in international multimodal cargo transport;
- 2) Having contacts, holding discussions and making arrangements with international organizations, relevant governmental and industry bodies and so forth on freight forwarding and other services;
- 3) Promoting informatizing efforts on

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Message from New JIFFA Chairman at Get-Together After JIFFA's 13th General Assembly

Thank you very much for attending today's get-together despite your hectic schedules.

We have guests today that include Mr. Hirohisa Tsuruta, director-general of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)'s Logistics and Road Transport Bureau; other officials from the ministry; and executives from other relevant organizations. I am grateful to them from the bottom of my heart for expressing exceptional understanding of and bringing exceptional cooperation to our operations all the time.

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA) recently held its 13th general assembly, which was smoothly completed as scheduled. The general assembly was followed by the 55th board of directors meeting, at which I assumed the association's chairmanship, succeeding to Former Chairman Junichiro Watanabe. I have taken heavy responsibilities as his successor because he steadily officiated as JIFFA chairman for as long as five years, when international freight transport was disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic and other factors.

Due to the pandemic, JIFFA cancelled get-togethers after its general assemblies for the three years from 2019. Last year, we at last enjoyed an opportunity to have present talks with you again for the first time in four years. I hope that I can share precious time with you today, making a fresh start as new JIFFA chairman.

Thanks to you, JIFFA's membership is growing every year. Last fiscal year, it increased by 11 from the previous fiscal

year. Since April, we have welcomed 10 new members. By June 1, we had grown to consist of 540 regular member freight forwarders, 16 supporting enterprises and 11 supporting organizations for a total of 567. We are very happy that our foundation has further solidified. Our membership is expanding because of the advice on and cooperation to our activities that we have from you. On behalf of all of JIFFA's executives, we are once again heartfully thankful to you and hope that you will continue to support and cooperate with us at higher levels.

In fiscal 2023, as Former Chairman Watanabe described at the general assembly, NVOCC cargo handled by JIFFA-affiliated freight forwarders decreased 2.8% year on year in export and 8.5% in import. Exports and imports totaled 115.66 million tons, which shrank 6.2%, indicating that we were in a tough situation due to economic slowdowns overseas and stagnant demand in Japan.

As there have been signs showing that the depreciation of the Japanese yen is easing, our entire industry projects that freight movement will turn upward in the second half of this year. Shipments from China and other Asian economies are quantitatively on the rise. We believe that cargo to and from Japan as well as freight rates will head toward recovery. There are challenges facing us domestically, including the so-called 2024 problem, or driver shortages and other logistics disruptions resulting from new overtime restrictions imposed on April 1. I, nevertheless, hope that all of JIFFA's member freight forwarders will grow further this fiscal year by putting our

relations activities on the freight forwarding business; and

6) Holding seminars, workshops and other events (including online events) needed to promote the business activities described above.



Chairman Munenori Kimura

heads together.

JIFFA, for its part, has a variety of business activities for this fiscal year, including those to be performed by in-house committee. We will improve and enrich our operations mainly by advancing our important missions, which are education and training programs, overseas logistics affairs research and the promotion of the JIFFA B/L and other transport documents more extensively.

In addition, we will strive to rise logistics productivities through the advancement of digital transformation and so on. We will also provide information to our member freight forwarders by interacting with relevant overseas associations and organizations and further expanding our global network.

We humbly ask the MLIT officials and other guests that we have today and our members to continue to understand and cooperate to our activities. I hope that you will take as much time as you can enjoying today's get-together. We would also be very happy if we would hear from you unconstrained opinions on our operations and others, taking advantage of this rare opportunity. I would like to close my opening message by praying that our member forwarders will further prosper and wishing all of today's guests the best of health and happiness.

Thank you very much.

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the freight forwarding business;

4) Compiling and analyzing statistics and other data on the freight forwarding business;

5) Conducting promotion and public

Exports Turn Downward; Imports Continues to Fall in H2 of FY2023 Total Decreased for 1st Time in 3 Years in FY2023

Forwarding Committee

Freight forwarders affiliated with Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA) moved 57.126 million tons of cargo to and from Japan in the second half of fiscal 2023 (October 2023-March 2024), which decreased 7.5% year on year.

The total of exports and imports was on a growing trend for a while after coming back to exceed the 60-million-ton line in the second half of fiscal 2020 during the coronavirus pandemic. In fiscal 2023, however, it continued to shrink throughout the year.

Exports from Japan, which returned to growth in the second half of fiscal 2022, turned downward again in October 2023-March 2024, sliding 6.3% to 23.377 million tons. Meanwhile, imports

to Japan remained on the decline in October 2023-March 2024 due to surges in raw material costs, the depreciation of the Japanese yen and other adverse factors, which fell 8.3% to 33.749 million tons. Major contributing factors included shipments traded with Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries, which have been plummeting since Russia's invasion of Ukraine began, plummeting a notable 39.3% to 51,000 tons.

1) Exports

In the second half of fiscal 2023, JIFFA member freight forwarders handled 23.377 million tons of exports from Japan, down 6.3% from a year earlier. Exports to China managed to hold the

largest share of the pie, but in terms of volume, they contracted 10.6% to 4.554 million tons. Finishing in second place, those to the U.S. came back to grow 5.3% to 2.989 million tons. Taking the No. 3 spot, shipments to Europe stayed on the rise, which swelled 6.6% to 2.453 million tons. Those to South Korea also marked a double-digit improvement, jumping 10.3% to 1.773 million tons to come in fourth. Winning fifth place, exports to Taiwan declined 1.8% to 1.459 million tons, while those to Thailand shrank 7.7% to 1.347 million tons to get sixth place. Freight to Vietnam sank 15.6% to 1.292 million tons, falling to seventh place from fifth in the first half. Exports to other Asian nations totaled 984,000 tons, down 33.5%, coming in eighth place. Ranked ninth were those to the Middle

East, which picked up 2.8% to 949,000 tons. At the bottom of the top 10 were exports to Latin America, which rose 7.8% to 926,000 tons.

Exports to China accounted for the largest part in TEU terms as well, but quantitatively, they contracted 12% to 220,227 TEUs. They were followed by those to the U.S., which climbed 4% to 126,090 TEUs. Ranked third were containers to Europe, which waned 7.5% to 82,369 TEUs. Exports to Thailand gained fourth place, decreasing 12% to 69,068 TEUs. Coming in fifth, those to South Korea sank 32.2% to 65,141 TEUs.

2) Imports

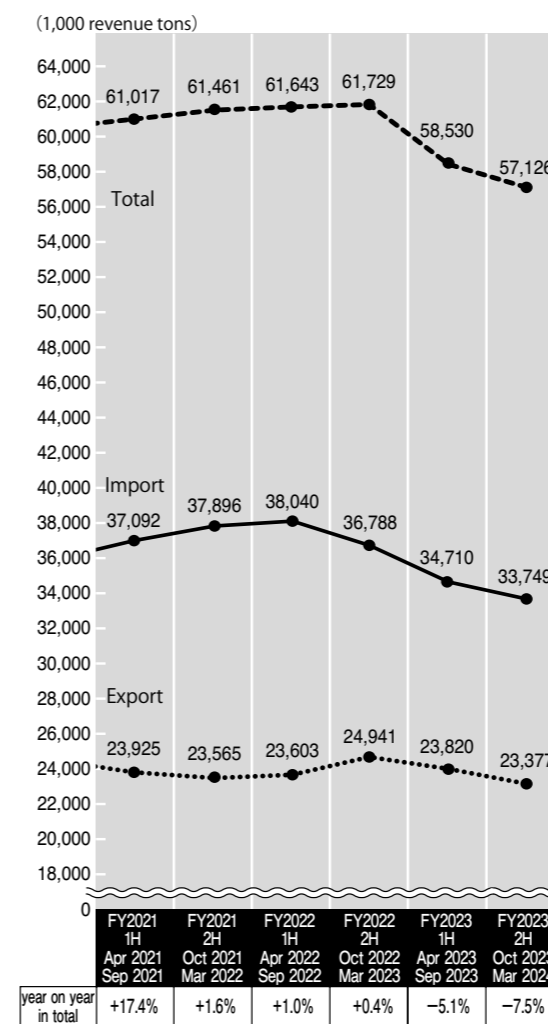
Imports to Japan carried by JIFFA members shrank 8.3% year on year to 33.749 million tons in October 2023-March 2024, which have continued to incur negative growth since the second half of fiscal 2022. By origin, imports from China decreased 7% to 17.225 million tons but managed to enjoy the leading share of the total. The second largest source was Vietnam, from which 3.442 million tons were imported, up 6.2%. Imports from Europe plunged 18.8% to 2.48 million tons and finished in third place. Those from Thailand, which came in fourth, slid 5.4% to 2.143 million tons. Imports from the U.S. were ranked at the end of the top five, falling 9.4% to 1.617 million tons.

In terms of TEU, imports from China amounted to 727,973 TEUs, down 8.9%; from Vietnam, 127,903 TEUs, up 7.2%; from Europe, 98,712 TEUs, down 15.1%; from Thailand, 88,242 TEUs, down 6.5%; and from South Korea, 60,188 TEUs, down 28.2%.

3) Export/import total

JIFFA member freight forwarders hauled 57.126 million tons of cargo to and from Japan in the second half of fiscal 2023, which went down 7.5% from the corresponding six months of fiscal 2022. The total has declined year on year for

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JIFFA Organizes Member-Only Cybersecurity Seminar Held In-Person, Online, in Redelivered Version for 54 People

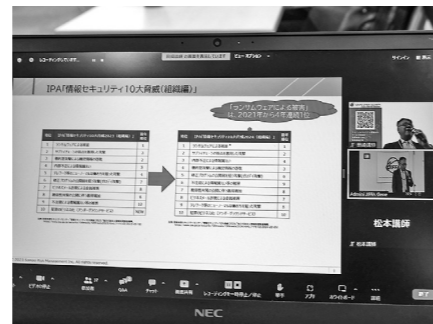
IT Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarding Association Inc. (JIFFA)'s IT Committee organized a cybersecurity seminar on Feb. 22, 2024 at the association's head office in Tokyo. Subjects covered at the seminar included security measures against cyberattacks, which have become an immediate threat, and relevant cybersecurity insurance. To have the subjects understood widely, the seminar was streamlined on the internet at the same time. It was attended and viewed by a total of 42 people. Also, the internet version was re-delivered on

demand on online video platform Vimeo from March 21 through March 27, which was viewed by 12 people.

In discussing cybersecurity, Mr. Kazutaka Tasaki, a lecturer from Sampo Risk Management Inc., a Tokyo-based risk management company, detailed a ransomware attack on the Port of Nagoya in 2023 and other cases that attracted extensive industry attention and had exercised various adverse impacts. In outlining cybersecurity insurance, Mr. Koichi Matsumoto, a lecturer from Sampo Japan Partners Inc., an insurance agency in Tokyo, explained the importance of precautions and gave examples of postventions.

A survey conducted after the seminar showed that viewers garnered information eagerly from the seminar, with one answering questionnaires saying, "[The seminar] was meaningful and understandable.



About the Seminar

Session 1

Subject: Cybersecurity, matters peculiar to the logistics business, etc.
Lecturer: Mr. Kazutaka Tasaki, Sales Senior Assistant Manager, Sampo Risk Management Inc.

Session 2

Subject: Cybersecurity insurance
Lecturer: Mr. Koichi Matsumoto, Manager, Sampo Japan Partners Inc.

The IT Committee will continue to field requests and collect opinions and information from member companies and give seminars and other event.



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two back-to-back terms since falling into negative territory in the first half.

By trade partner, the ranking of the top five economies remained unchanged from a year earlier. Exports to and imports from China accounted for the greatest part of the pie; in terms of volume, however, they reduced 7.8% to 21.779 million tons. In second place, those to and from Europe totaled 4.933 million tons, down 7.9%, which were followed by shipments to and from Vietnam, which amounted to 4.734 million tons, down 0.8%. Finishing in fourth place, those to and from the U.S. came to 4.606 million tons, down 0.4%, and in fifth, those to and from Thailand weighed 3.49 million tons, down 6.3%.

On a TEU scale, exports to and imports from China went down 9.7% to 948,200 TEUs; to and from Vietnam, up 6.6% to 189,836 TEUs; to and from the

U.S., up 0.5% to 183,766 TEUs; to and from Europe, down 11.8% to 181,081 TEUs; and to and from Thailand, down 9% to 157,310 TEUs.

4) Full fiscal 2023

In fiscal 2023, JIFFA member freight forwarders exported 47.197 million tons of cargo from Japan, down 2.8% from the previous fiscal year. Exports from Japan increased minutely in the first half but turned downward in the second half. Meanwhile, imports to Japan weighed 68.459 million tons, down 8.5%. They shrank over 8% in both the first and second halves due to the weakening of the Japanese yen. In total, they fell 6.2% to 115.656 million tons, the first year-on-year decrease in three years.

Looking at exports to the top five destinations, those to China slid 5.6% to 9.53 million tons. Exports to the U.S. waned 2.5% to 5.855 million tons, while those to Europe picked up 4.2% to

4.629 million tons. Exports to South Korea jumped 12.5% to 3.489 million tons, making a dramatic comeback from a double-digit contraction in fiscal 2022. Those to Vietnam decreased 1.7% to 2.839 million tons.

Imports from the top three sources all worsened from the previous fiscal year, when year-on-year improvements were registered. Those from China were down 8.3% to 34.755 million tons; from Vietnam, down 4.8% to 6.475 million tons; and from Europe, down 12.2% to 5.244 million tons. Taking fourth and fifth places, imports from Thailand and the U.S. declined 8.7% to 4.346 million tons and 14.2% to 3.288 million tons, respectively.

In TEU terms, exports from Japan fell 2.5% to two million TEUs as they were mostly sluggish. Imports to Japan sagged 9.4% to 2.736 million TEUs as they were also slow across the board. They totaled 4.737 million TEUs, down 7.5%.

Workshop for Overseas Expatriates Held in Ho Chi Minh City Organized for 1st Time in 5 Years

Education Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA)'s Education Committee resumed its annual workshop for overseas expatriates in fiscal 2023.

The workshop was organized on Feb. 29, 2024 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam with support from The Japanese Chamber

of Commerce and Industry in Ho Chi Minh City. It was held for the first time in five years as the committee suspended it in fiscal 2018 due to escalations in the coronavirus pandemic.

The one-day intensive workshop, consisting of three lecture sessions, was

attended by many people from around Ho Chi Minh City, where many employees from Japan are stationed, and Hanoi. Japanese enterprises doing business and



overseas expatriates from Japan working in Ho Chi Minh City have both increased in number since JIFFA travelled to the city for its annual workshop in 2015. There were many women participating in the February event.

The Education Committee launched the program in 2010 to encourage employees that member freight forwarders send from Japan and hire overseas to advance their knowledge by covering subjects that can help them learn more about international intermodal cargo transport.

About the Workshop

Date: Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024

Venue: Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon

Number of attendees: 52

JIFFA Honors Top Performers of FY2023 Chinese, English Language Courses

Language Training Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA) Chairman Junichiro Watanabe conferred certificates of completion to students who had made outstanding achievements at its language courses at a conference room in its headquarters in Tokyo on Nov. 28, 2023.

JIFFA's Language Training Committee opened its annual practical English correspondence courses in May 2023 and introductory Mandarin Chinese course in June. The English course, made up of 36 classes (three classes a day), and the Chinese course, consisting of 15 classes (one class a day), were both held in Tokyo and completed in October. After students took respective final examinations, the Language Committee organized a meeting of its final examination board and selected four top performers from the English course and three from the Chinese course. The English course was attended by 25 students, 11 of which were present at all of the 36 classes, and 20 passed the final examination, while all of the seven students enrolling at the Chinese course passed the final examination.

Chairman Watanabe was grateful to the seven excellent students, saying that it must have been very hard to make various efforts themselves to attend the courses despite their busy schedules as their companies resumed business after the coronavirus pandemic. "I express my respect to you all for working so hard as to be honored today, despite the fact that you struggled to continue to learn [foreign] languages and deeply understood how difficult it was to do so," he continued. "I am sure you will make the best of the assets you acquired from the courses in your business routines," he continued.

After the conferring ceremony, JIFFA held a press conference, inviting reporters and other relevant parties from six industry journals. The students each had lively conversations on a variety of topics with the media, enjoying a peaceful time, although they were probably interviewed by the press for the first time. They clearly answered questions about how they had studied outside the courses; what difficulties they had had, such as

how to make time while commuting to their companies, in other morning hours and at home; how they had received cooperation from their families and workplaces; and what seminars they would like to have from JIFFA and what they want to become in the future.

JIFFA shows its respect to all of the attendees at the English and Chinese language courses. It thanks them for learning for a long time with cooperation from their supervisors and other co-workers and hopes they will play more important roles based on and armed with the languages skills they gained from the courses.

JIFFA is profoundly thankful to Mr. Masaharu Nozawa (English), Ms. Fan Ting Ting (Chinese) and other relevant people for cooperating to its language courses.



JIFFA Organizes FY2024 Workshop for New Employees

Education Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA)'s Education Committee organized its annual workshop for new employees of member companies and those who had been newly assigned to freight forwarding-related tasks on May 22, 2024 at a conference room in the General Insurance Building in Tokyo. The workshop had an enrollment of 76 participants, 70% of which just joined their companies within the previous two months. They included individuals from outside the areas around Tokyo, such as the prefectures of Miyagi, Shizuoka, Aichi, Osaka and Kagoshima. The workshop is conducted in two sessions: four classroom lectures on Day 1 and a field trip to logistics facilities at the Port of Tokyo on Day 2.

Before lectures began on Day 1, the Education Committee played a DVD on the international oceangoing freight forwarding business that JIFFA produced in 2023 for new staff members of member freight forwarders. The DVD helped the participants understand how shipments are carried from Japan to

overseas. In the classroom lectures, they learned some basics of the international freight forwarding business, such as technical terms, the export and import flow of goods, the International Commercial Terms (Incoterms), details of transport documents and the importance of insurance.



After Vice-President Ms. Yuko Oka of the Education Committee gave the opening address, the workshop members were given an opportunity to exchange greetings and introduced themselves. They were seen to enjoy conversation with each other.

On Day 2, the Education Committee took the participants to logistics facilities at the Port of Tokyo. With support from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG)'s



Bureau of Port and Harbor, they went on board the Tokyo Minato Maru and observed terminals and containerhips at a short distance while on board the vessel owned by the bureau.

They then visited Tokyo Minatorie, an exhibition room in the Tokyo Waterfront Area, having a lecture from Bureau of Port and Harbor staff members and learning the history of the Port of Tokyo.

The last facility the attendees visited on the day was the container terminal at the Outer Central Breakwater. From an observation room on the fifth floor and the rooftop floor of a building, they enjoyed a view of the entire container terminal and observed gantry cranes.

Members said that visiting the facility helped them understand the lectures they had on Day 1 more deeply, and that what they obtained from the workshop will be helpful conducting future business routines.

together for the five students, inviting its chairman, the top executives of its Education Committee and media reporters. One of the students said, "I was able to have a large amount of time to study, while another said, "I gained extensive knowledge."

At the qualification examinations, the most excellent student scored 98 out of 100 points with the average being 84.63 points.



JIFFA Holds Courses for Qualifying Int'l Multimodal Transport Specialists in Tokyo, Osaka

216 New Specialists Certified

Education Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA)'s Education Committee held its annual courses for qualifying international multimodal transport specialists in Tokyo and Osaka in 2023.

The courses both consisted of 30 classes given on 10 days. The Tokyo course began on Oct. 5 and ended on Nov. 16, having an enrollment of 147 students, while the Osaka course was opened on Oct. 19 and closed on Dec. 1 for 69 students. The Education Committee administered unified qualification examinations in Tokyo and Osaka on Dec. 13. All of the 216 students passed them and became qualified as international multimodal transport specialists.

To date, JIFFA has produced a total of 6,725 international multimodal transport specialists.

The Education Committee organized a ceremony for conferring qualification certificates for five top performers on Jan. 25, 2024 at JIFFA's head office in Tokyo. Chairman Junichiro Watanabe delivered a congratulatory message to encourage the students to make the most of the knowledge they had gained from the courses.

After the ceremony, JIFFA organized a get-

JIFFA Hosted Webinar on '2024 Problem'

Public Relations Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA)'s Public Relations Committee hosted an online seminar on Feb. 14, 2024 to discuss the co-called 2024 problem, as it is feared that transport capacity will significantly decrease due to shorter working hours.

New overtime limits applied to truck drivers and other workers were



implemented on April 1, 2024, generating concern over transport capacity shortages due to shorter working hours.

JIFFA organized a similar event in March 2023 on the 2024 problem, or truck driver shortages and other logistics disruptions that could be caused by the new regulations, inviting Mr. Hiroaki Oshima, Managing Director of NX Logistics Research Institute and Consulting, Inc. There were new developments after the webinar, including a package of new policies announced by the government of Japan in June 2023, and JIFFA member freight forwarders are highly interested in the issue. As such, the committee had Mr. Oshima give a lecture

again at the February seminar to study ongoing challenges.

As it was within two months from the implementation of the new labor regulations, the February seminar was attended by as many as 390 people. Many positive comments were made, including, "[The seminar] was so highly comprehensive that I was able to more deeply understand the present situation," "I wanted [the seminar] to be attended by not only logistics service providers, but shippers as well," and "I want [JIFFA] to continue to hold a seminar on the 2024 issue."

The Public Relations Committee will continue to organize seminars, workshops and other events on subjects that member companies are interested in, looking forward to welcoming attendees.

JIFFA Project Help Improve English Skills Seminar Held on Online Presentation Know-How

Language Training Committee

Japan International Freight Forwarders Association Inc. (JIFFA)'s Language Training Committee held a two-session online seminar on Jan. 22 and Feb. 20, 2024 to study know-how on online presentations.

Attended by nine students, the webinar was designed to encourage them to learn know-how on online presentations as the number of occasions is increasing on which online presentations need to be given. The students were required to speak on strong points of logistics services and other related subjects that had been assigned to them in advance.

In Session 1, Lecturer Mr. Sean O'Connell taught how to prepare presentation materials in Japanese. The students learned detailed points to keep in mind when making presentation materials, such as how to make settings, who they speak to and how to develop theoretical thinkings. At the end of the session, the lecturer delivered a sample presentation so that the students can refer to when making materials on their own. The students then spent a week preparing for Session 2, during which

they created presentation materials, had rehearsals with JIFFA staff members and blushed up their skills.

In Session 2, the nine students were divided into two groups, which lecturers Mr. Jeff and Ms. Ivanova were responsible for. They gave presentations in the respective groups and revised and improved them with feedbacks from the lecturers. The lecturers stressed the importance of reducing tension over and over again, saying that it was important not to panic but to get relaxed when they were in unusual situations while being online.

The lecturers gave lessons almost individually to the students from a professional point of view on how to give different impressions from single expressions and why stories, passion, attention to listeners, questions and answers and speed are necessary. The lessons were highly satisfying with excellent contents as the students were able to share others' ideas within their groups on line and learned things from a



various angles, which was newer than they had expected.

Two students were picked up from the respective groups and delivered their presentations to the rest of the members. The presentations were both much improved and easier to understand, in which what they wanted to day were much clearer. They were highly rated by the lecturers as well as Lecturer Mr. O'Connell, who taught Session 1.

Some of the students said after the seminar that "I was given a chance to listen to my presentation in an objective fashion" and that "corrections were so highly helpful that having practice many times made me confident." They give a satisfaction degree of 100% to the lecturers, all of which picked up eighter "satisfactory" or "strongly recommended."