

For safe, secure, and eco-friendly buildings



The Building Center of Japan



**BCJ**

Descriptive Pamphlet

# The Building Center of Japan (BCJ)

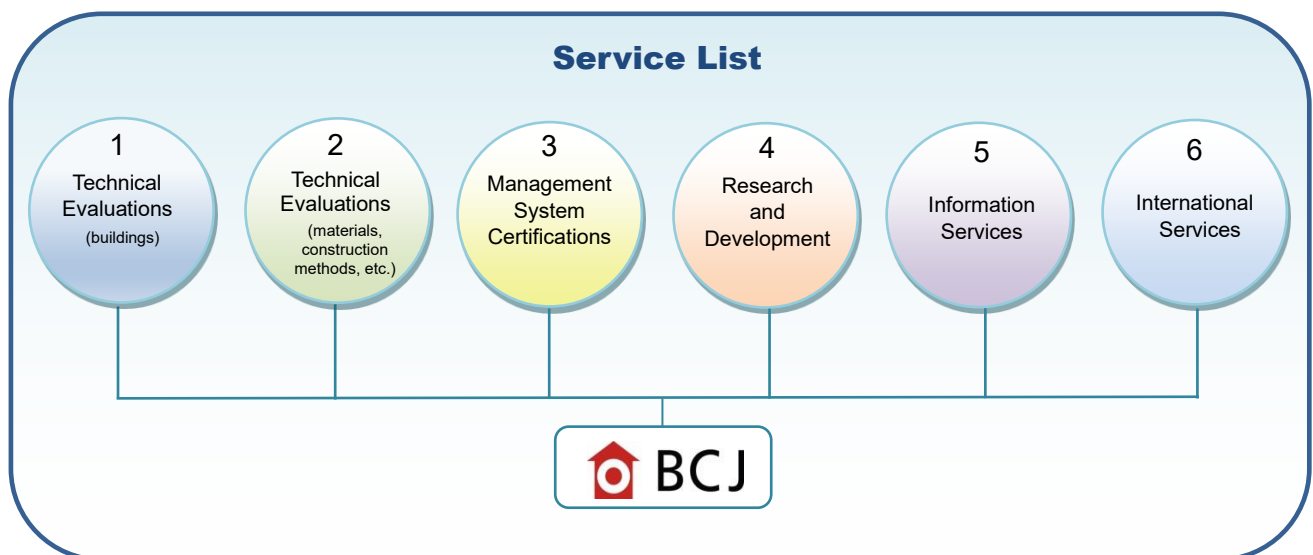
## For safe, secure, and eco-friendly buildings

Various technical criteria are in place to ensure the basic performance of buildings, including items related to safety.

Recently, the expected needs for buildings, such as enhancement of energy conservation measures and the efficient use of existing buildings, have become more sophisticated and diversified due to changes in socioeconomic conditions and because of serious global environmental problems.

Therefore, there is a need for third parties to evaluate building design and construction in order to assure that buildings meet the basic performance standards, and that they meet the sophisticated and diversified needs.

BCJ offers various evaluation services for buildings. These are conducted impartially and fairly. BCJ contributes to the realization of safe, secure and environmentally-friendly buildings by using its extensive experience and technical capability, which has been cultivated since its founding in 1965.



### 1. Technical Evaluations (buildings)

#### Required examinations and evaluations for construction of buildings

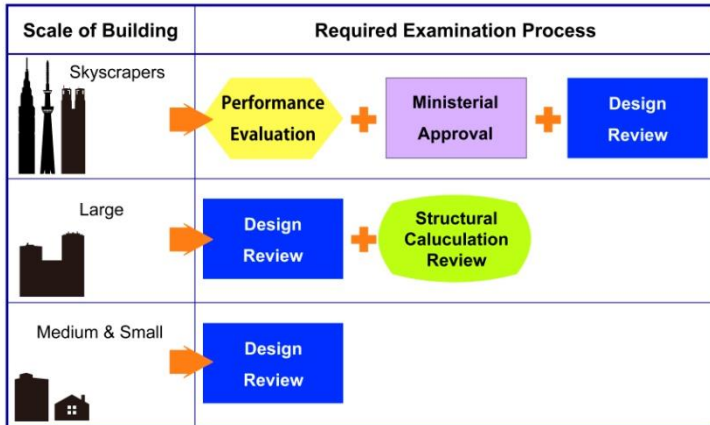
For construction of buildings in Japan, design examinations (permission) are conducted to determine whether buildings are designed in accordance with the regulations, in order to assure the safety of buildings under the Law. Inspections are carried out to determine whether buildings are constructed exactly as required. The design examinations and inspections are conducted by local authorities and private inspection bodies. BCJ conducts design examinations and inspections as one of the private inspection bodies.

The diagram on the following page shows the required examination process for structural design.

When a building is above a certain height, a structural calculation review by structural engineering experts is included in the examination process.

For skyscrapers, ministerial approvals must be obtained in the examination process. These approvals are carried out based on the evaluation of structures by specialized evaluation bodies. BCJ conducts structural calculation reviews by experts, and also does evaluations as a specialized evaluation body.

## Main Procedures for Structural Examination



### Other evaluations related to buildings

BCJ conducts the following evaluations to address the various requirements related to buildings:

- Performance evaluation to indicate each performance of housing, such as energy-saving performance and that of barrier-free systems.

- Certification of the Japanese green-building assessment (CASBEE)



- Assessment to verify whether seismic diagnosis and seismic-retrofitting plans for existing buildings are adequate.

## 2. Technical Evaluations

(materials, construction methods, etc.)

In Japan, for the use of primary materials, such as steel, construction methods must either comply with specification criteria or ministerial approvals must be obtained based on evaluations by specialized evaluation bodies. BCJ conducts these evaluations as one of the specialized evaluation bodies.

Furthermore, BCJ evaluates various building materials and construction methods from a third-party point of view.

## 3. Management System Certifications

BCJ conducts certification services of ISO 9001 (quality-management systems) and ISO 14001 (environmental-management systems).

## 4. Research and Development

BCJ conducts research and development activities on topics with high awareness of stakeholder's issue in building/construction field.

## 5. Information Services

BCJ publishes materials regarding building technologies and holds seminars for the dissemination of these technologies.



## 6. International Services

BCJ promotes the exchange of information with overseas organizations as a member of the World Federation of Technical Assessment Organizations (WFTAO), which is a group of organizations that are engaged in technical assessments. BCJ is a representative assessment-organization of building technologies in Japan. We also cooperate with the Japanese government in providing training programs for developing countries.

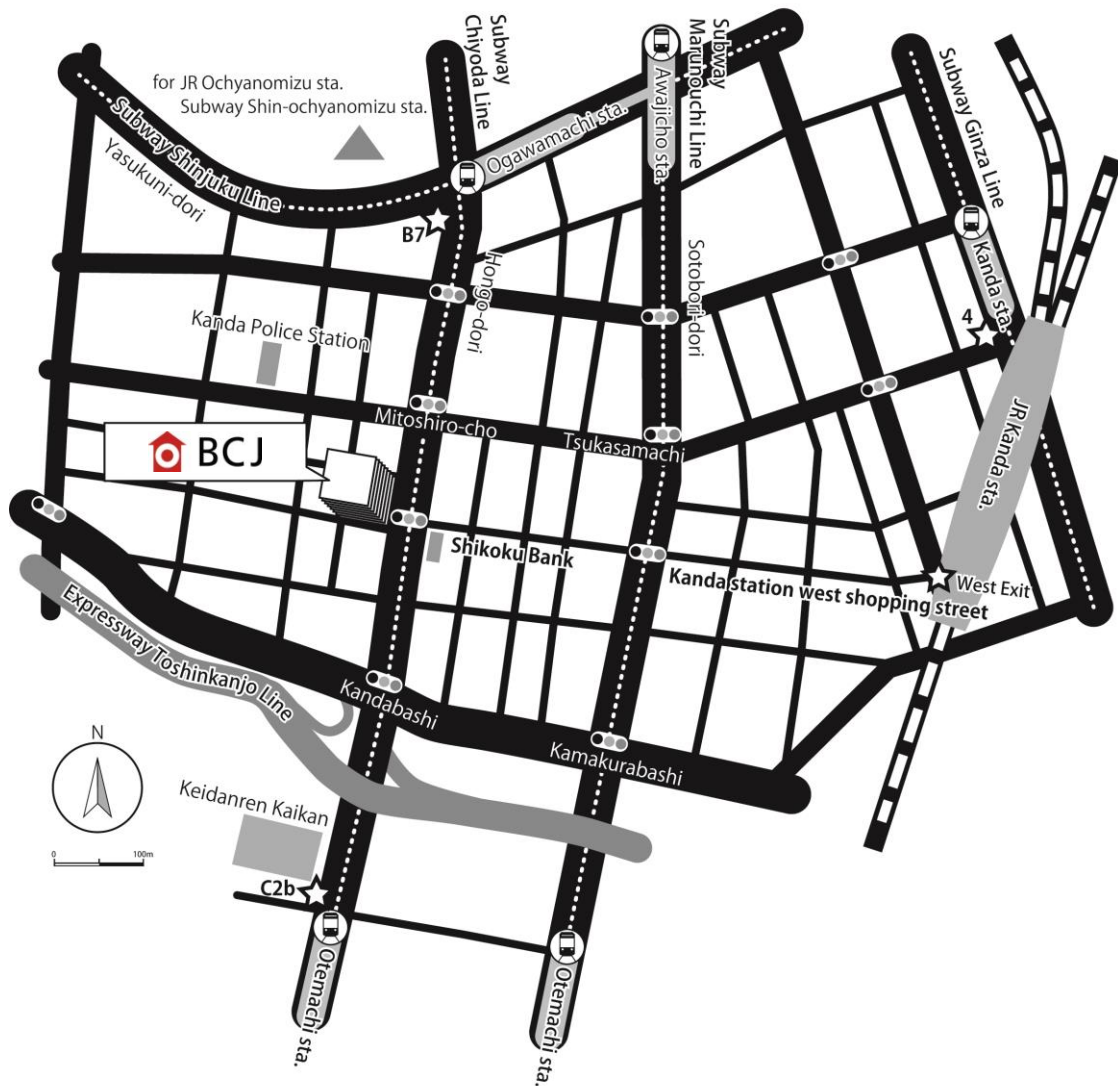


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### On foot from the nearest stations

- 08 min. from JR Kanda sta. (West Exit)
- 08 min. from Subway Kanda sta. (Exit 4)
- 08 min. from Subway Otemachi sta. (Exit C2b)
- 08 min. from Subway Awajicho sta. / Ogawamachi sta. (Exit B7)