

This mail service is intended to provide the latest information concerning building regulations and our activities with domestic and overseas organizations, which are engaged in technical assessments and research in the building field.

If you no longer wish to receive this mail, please contact us at the following address:

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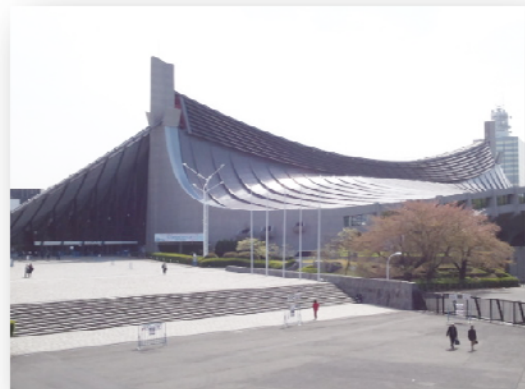
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### **§ 1 . Recent topics on Buildings and Housing in Japan**

#### **(1) Facility plan for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games**

Tokyo was chosen to host the 2020 Olympic- and Paralympic Games at the 125th IOC Session in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 7 September, 2013. Specific facility plan has begun in Japan for the 2020 games.

Existing facilities will be used for 15 of the 37 competition venues. One of the main examples is Yoyogi National Gymnasium, which was built for the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games. This building was designed by a Japanese architect, Kenzo Tange, and constructed of large and small gymnasiums, with the characteristic appearance being a high-tension suspended roof. It is used for a variety of competition venues even today. It will also host handball competitions at the 2020 games.



**Photo of Yoyogi National Gymnasium**

Twenty-two new competition venues will be constructed. Eleven of them will be permanent facilities. The Olympic stadium that will serve as a venue for the Opening- and Closing Ceremonies, Athletics and other competitions will be one of the new, permanent facilities. The new Olympic stadium, which was designed by Zaha Hadid, will be constructed to replace Kasumigaoka National Stadium (constructed in 1958), which will close in the near future. Nine of the 11 non-permanent facilities will be either temporary- or movable structures.

The Olympic Village will be constructed in the waterfront area, along Tokyo Bay, and will be made up of environmentally-friendly facilities. The Olympic Village will produce minimal greenhouse gas emissions, based on the environmental Guidelines for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic- and Paralympic Games, and the CASBEE Urban Development standard will be applied. Additionally, specific elements of the LEED ND (Neighborhood Development) standard will be applied where practicable.

For more information, please visit the following website of the Tokyo organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

- Competition venues: <http://tokyo2020.jp/en/plan/outline/index.html>
- Olympic village:  
[http://tokyo2020.jp/en/plan/candidature/dl/tokyo2020\\_candidate\\_section\\_10\\_enfr.pdf](http://tokyo2020.jp/en/plan/candidature/dl/tokyo2020_candidate_section_10_enfr.pdf)

## (2) Japan's tallest skyscraper

Japan's tallest skyscraper, *Abeno Harukas*, fully opened on March 7<sup>th</sup> in Osaka, Japan. *Abeno Harukas*, a 300 m-high skyscraper complex, took the title of the tallest building in Japan from the Landmark Tower, which is a 296-meter high rise that includes houses, offices, shops and a hotel in Yokohama city. It was the tallest building in Japan for about 20 years. Also, *Abeno Harukas* is the 3<sup>rd</sup> tallest structure in Japan, after Tokyo Sky Tree (634m) and Tokyo Tower (332.6).

*Abeno Harukas* was constructed as a multi-complex facility (total floor area: 212,000 m<sup>2</sup>, SRC/S structure) with a rebuilt department store in the terminal station of a private railway. The new skyscraper includes a railway station, department store, offices, hotel, art museum and an observation deck. It is reported that *Abeno Harukas* has attracted many visitors since it opened and operation of the building has been smooth so far.



Photo of Abeno Harukas

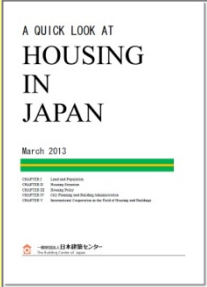
## § 2 . Information on BCJ Activities

### (1) BCJ Publications in English

#### a. Quick Look at Housing in Japan

This is a document that summarizes the housing situation and the housing policy in Japan. It has been updated many times since it was first published in 1985 in order to reflect policy changes and shifts in the housing situation. BCJ is now updating both the English and the Japanese editions again, and the revised versions will be uploaded onto the following website in the beginning of this coming May:

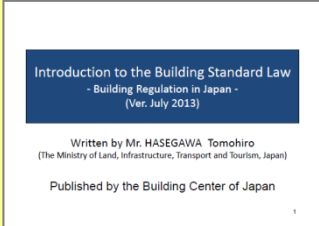
<http://www.bcj.or.jp/en/services/reference.html>

	<p>The current edition <b>A QUICK LOOK AT HOUSING IN JAPAN: March 2013</b></p> <p>Price: Free File form: PDF Language: English/Japanese Pages: 98 (Print Size: A4) Date of publication: March 2013</p>
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## b. Introduction to the Building Standard Law of Japan (Ver. July 2013)

This is a document in English that is issued by BCJ to facilitate the understanding of the Japanese building code, *the Building Standard Law of Japan*, and its related regulations. It was revised in July 2013 and, and it may be downloaded for free from the following website:

<http://www.bcj.or.jp/en/services/reference.html>


	<p>The current edition</p> <p><b>Introduction to the Building Standard Law of Japan (Ver. July, 2013)</b></p> <p>Price: Free</p> <p>File form &amp; size: PDF, 7.2MB</p> <p>Language: English</p> <p>Pages: 237 (Print Size: A4)</p> <p>Date of publication: July, 2013</p>
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## c. The Building Standard Law of Japan on CD-ROM (October 2013)

This is the English translation of the Japanese building code. It includes all of the amendments enforced through January 1, 2013.

For more detailed information, and to purchase this CD-ROM, please visit:

<http://www.bcj.or.jp/en/services/publication.html>

	<p><b>The Building Standard Law of Japan on CD-ROM (October 2013)</b></p> <p>Price: ¥10,000 (¥800 consumption tax will be added to purchases in Japan)</p> <p>Data: PDF format</p> <p>Language: English</p> <p>Pages: 1,294 (Print Size: A4)</p> <p>CD-ROM (Windows/Macintosh)</p> <p>Date of publication: 2013.10</p> <p>ISBN: 978-4-88910-160-7</p>
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## (2) International Regular Meeting Plan of BCJ in 2014

### a. The 6<sup>th</sup> Japan-China Meeting on Building- and Housing Technology

BCJ, CBL\*<sup>1</sup>, and CAG\*<sup>2</sup> will hold the 6<sup>th</sup> Japan-China Meeting on Building- and Housing Technology in Shanghai, Oct. 26-29, 2014.

\*<sup>1</sup> CBL: Center for Better Living (Japan)

\*<sup>2</sup> CAG: China Architecture Design & Research Group

### b. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Japan-France Building Colloquium

BCJ, BRI\*<sup>3</sup> and CSTB\*<sup>4</sup> will hold the 23<sup>rd</sup> Japan-France Building Colloquium in late autumn or in early winter of 2014, in Tokyo.

\*<sup>3</sup>: Building Research Institute (Japan)

\*<sup>4</sup>: Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment (France)

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