

Strengthening of the manufacturing base

“Monozukuri” has supported the development of Japan’s economy and industry. With the aging of the baby boomer generation and the drifting of younger people away from manufacturing, this foundation is beginning to weaken. JAVADA is using the following skills competitions to improve the level of skilled workers and to contribute to society by spreading the appeal and importance of “monozukuri” skills.



National Skills Competition

The National Skills Competition is a competition in which young skilled workers age 23 or under (except for a few job trades) pit their skills against each other. It is held for the purpose of encouraging the development of skilled workers of the next generation, and for having participants experience the importance and wonder of “monozukuri”. Spectators have the opportunity to view the monozukuri process up close, something normally not possible, and be amazed and inspired. The National Skills Competition also serves as a qualifying event for the World Skills Competition.

Event	Year	Host prefecture	Number of competitors
50	2012	Nagano	1097
49	2011	Shizuoka	1066
48	2010	Kanagawa	1028
47	2009	Ibaraki	983
46	2008	Chiba	953
45	2007	Chiba	980
44	2006	Kagawa	1158
43	2005	Yamaguchi	1094
42	2004	Iwate	1068
41	2003	Niigata	974
40	2002	Kumamoto	781



Youth Monozukuri Skills Competition

Targeting youth under 20 years old who are currently learning skills at vocational abilities development institutions, technical high schools or other such institutes of learning, this competition was launched in FY2005 for the purpose of providing them with goals and widening the horizons of young skilled workers.

Event	Year	Host prefecture	Number of competitors
7	2012	Iwate	290
6	2011	Hyogo	258
5	2010	Kanagawa	263
4	2009	Kanagawa	271
3	2008	Kanagawa	208
2	2006	Kanagawa	224
1	2005	Chiba	203



World Skills Competition

The World Skills Competition is a competition between young skilled workers 22 years of age or younger (except for a few job trades) selected from countries all over the world and is held once every two years. Japan has achieved excellent results in these competitions ever since joining the 11th competition in 1962. The competition has been held three times in Japan, including the 19th competition in 1970 (Tokyo, Chiba), the 28th competition in 1985 (Osaka), and the 39th competition in 2007 (Shizuoka). The 39th competition was called the “International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007.”

JAVADA serves as the Japan representative member of World Skills International (WSI), the organizing committee for this global competition and, in addition to sending Japanese teams to the competition, plays an important role in the competition operations.



While the emerging nations of Asia are rising fast, resulting in ever stiffer competitions, the young expert craftsmen representing Japan, the founder of Monozukuri, always accomplish exceptional results that leave everyone else greatly impressed.



● World Skills Competition
Number of medals taken by Japan in recent competitions

Year	Host country (city)	Gold	Silver	Bronze
2013	Germany (Leipzig)	5	4	3
2011	United Kingdom (London)	11	4	3
2009	Canada (Calgary)	6	3	5
2007	Japan (Shizuoka)	16	5	3
2005	Finland (Helsinki)	5	1	2
2003	Switzerland (St. Gallen)	6	2	4
2001	Korea (Seoul)	4	2	4
1999	Canada (Montreal)	6	3	2
1997	Switzerland (St. Gallen)	2	0	4
1995	France (Lyons)	4	3	1
1993	Chinese Taipei (Taipei)	2	6	5

Skill Grand Prix

Worker skills have produced various tangible ideas and research results, supporting industry and enriching people's lives. At the same time, the question of how to pass on to the next generation the precious skills of seasoned skilled workers that have supported our country is an important challenge for the nation as a whole, going beyond industrial and regional frameworks.

Skills Grand Prix is a competition held every two years and brings together experienced skilled workers from all over Japan possessing Advanced, Grade1 and Non-classified certifications.

This competition of highly skilled workers can serve to persuade young skilled workers and others of the importance of these skills and contributes to the development of the younger generation.



Implementation of Project for Supporting the Vocational Ability Development of Young Skilled Workers

As young people continue to drift away from Monozukuri and skills, preparing an environment in which young people can actively aspire to become skilled workers and training and equipping skilled workers with the advanced skills that will serve as the foundation for industry have become challenges.

For that reason, we are implementing the Project for Supporting the Vocational Ability Development of Young Skilled Workers, and in addition to providing support for training young skilled workers and passing on skills through the Monozukuri Master Craftsman Program, we are helping to foster respect for skills like operating web portals that disseminate information on things like improving the qualifications of skilled workers and the NTSTC system.

Monozukuri Master Craftsman Program

Monozukuri master craftsmen possessing advanced skills utilize challenges from skills competitions, the NTSTC, etc. to provide practical skill instruction to many young skilled workers and engage in effective transfer of skills and successor development.

