



July 2020

Hydrographic & Oceanographic Dept.
JAPAN COAST GUARD

Celebrating World Hydrography Day 2020 Japan

Every year around 21 June, many events and exhibitions are held all over Japan to celebrate World Hydrography Day (WHD). This year, unfortunately, due to the impact of COVID-19, many events were canceled. However, the 9th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters located in Niigata and the 10th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters in Kagoshima held events to let the people know about Hydrography, understand its importance and feel it closer, while paying careful attention to the safety measures. Since the IHO's theme for WHD 2020 is "Hydrography- enabling autonomous technologies", exhibition/explanation of Autonomous Ocean Vehicle (AOV) were highlighted.

To avoid the "3-C (closed, crowded and close-contacted)," the exhibition had fewer panels and more spaces between each panel and between people than usual. Nonetheless, local residents, students and local media came and enjoyed the events, keeping social distance.

Panel Exhibition

- 9th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters, Niigata

Pannel Exhibition "150 years of Niigata Port" was held during 22-29 June at the 9th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters. The very first chart of Niigata Port - which is a familiar port to local residents - produced in Japan (1893) and many others were exhibited.

In line with this year's WHD theme, brochures introducing AOV were distributed to the visitors. The four AOVs the 9th Regional Headquarters owns are called "Nodo-guro (black-throat sea perch)," named after a local fish which is quite popular among Japanese people. It is the 9th quarters' wish that their AOVs will be loved by people, just like Nodo-guro.

For more information of the data obtained by these Nodo-guro AOVs, please visit the homepage of the 9th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters.

URL

<https://www1.kaiho.mlit.go.jp/KAN9/aov/index.html>



Brochures to introduce AOV & AUV distributed at the Exhibition

Science Talk

- 10th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters, Kagoshima

A science talk event was held on 27 June at Kagoshima Municipal Science Hall, and two coast guard officers from the 10th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters gave lectures.

The lecture “Survey the Sea” was for the local elementary school students. The young audiences listened as the lecturer talked about the ocean research and hydrographic survey such as sounding for the purpose of producing charts. Most audiences obviously seemed to be unfamiliar with “charts” or “survey”, but at the end of the session, they remarked that they had come to understand that the hydrography indeed supports the daily life of those who live in Japan without their knowing it.



A JCG officer giving a lecture on ocean survey at the event in Kagoshima

There were also panel-exhibitions highlighting the autonomous technologies in accordance with the WHD theme. The panels introduced the 10th Regional Headquarters' AOVs which conduct ocean observation around the local sea, and the survey vessel “Heiyo (4,000 t)” which is a mother vessel to an Autonomous Surface vehicle (ASV) and two Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV). This event was covered by some TV programs and the local newspaper.

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