2.6.3. **Single Window System**

Trade and Port related Procedures in Japan had been complicated in the past. They required various kinds of papers to be submitted to many different public offices. It was necessary to simplify the procedure to facilitate international logistics and to improve the international competitiveness of Japan.

In 1999, the “Port and Harbor Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)” system was introduced. Its aim was to encourage port management bodies and port masters to exchange data related to applications, reports and other administrative procedures electronically. Port and harbor employees were able to submit applications and reports online, as well as by UN/EDIFACT messages.

For the next stage, the EDI system needed to be connected to other systems, in order for users to complete all the necessary trade and port related procedures in a single entry and transmission. This is called the “Single Window” system.

In 2003, the “Single Window” system for governmental procedures was established by implementing interconnection and collaboration of the Sea-NACCS (Customs procedures system), Port EDI system, and Crew Landing Permit Support System.

The system needs more modification to adopt Global standards (IMO/FAL Convention, amended SOLAS Convention, and so on).