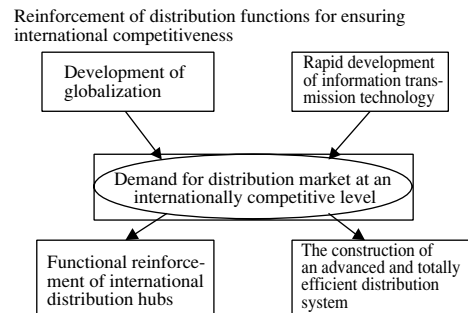


Chapter 10. Promotion of Logistics Measures That Contribute to Reinforcement of Japan's International Competitiveness

[Development of logistics measures that correspond speedily to changes in the economy]

117. Reinforcement of distribution functions for ensuring international competitiveness

In order to secure the international competitiveness of Japan, it is important to develop strong logistics measures that form a distribution market at an internationally competitive level, including costs. For this reason, comprehensive logistics measures are being developed based on New Comprehensive Program of Logistics Policies decided by the Cabinet meeting in July 2001.

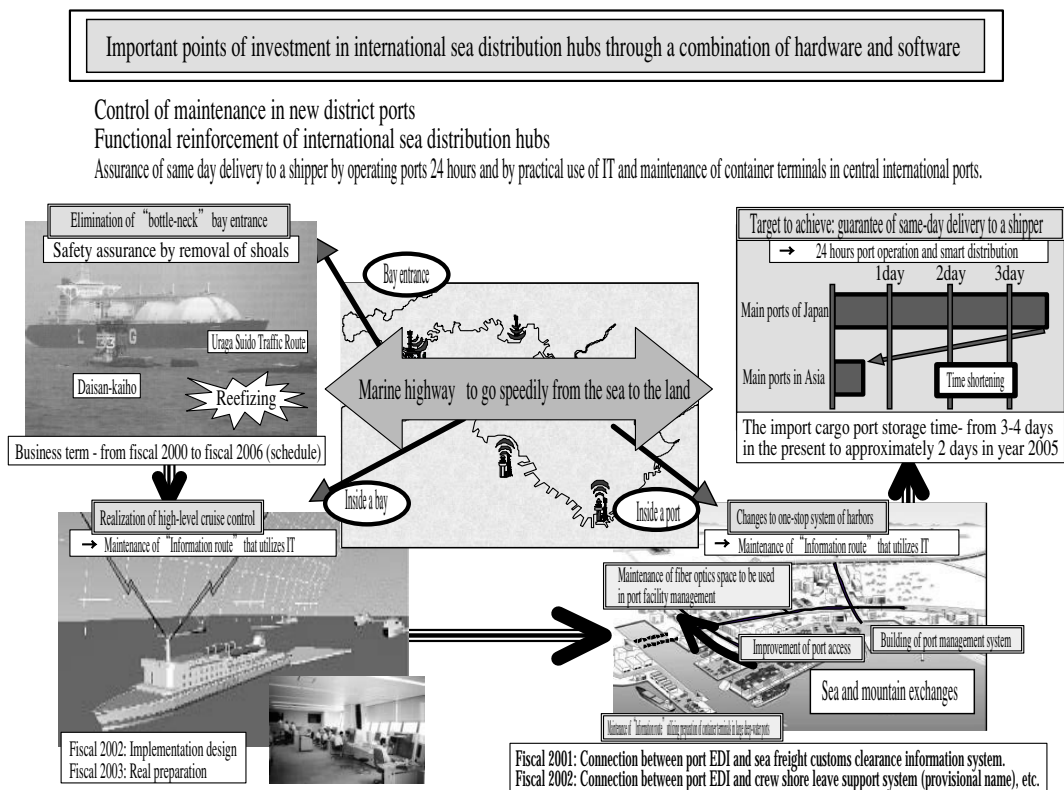


[Construction of a distribution market at an internationally competitive level]

○ Functional reinforcement of international distribution hubs

In order to make possible the smooth offering of consistent service connected with international transportation and domestic transportation, measures are being taken for the construction of a Marine highway network by combining software and hardware measures in such ways as: (1) Maintaining international marine container terminals in center and core international ports, (2) Promoting the improvement of service/efficiency of 24-hour operating ports, and (3) Changing to electronic processing of various procedures, one-stop services (changes to "single window"), and others.

118. (Marine highway network)



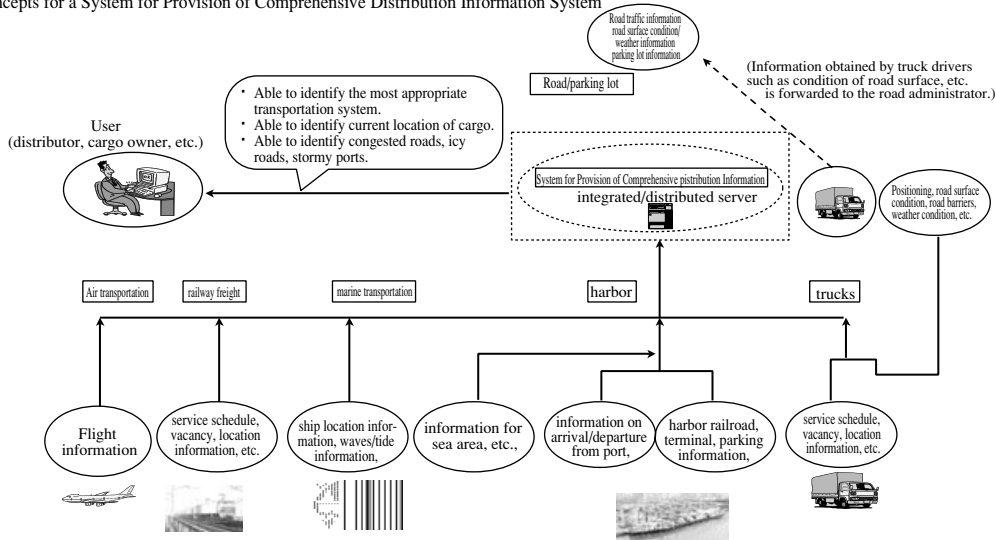
Also, concerning distribution hubs, important ports, etc. connected to highway networks, measures are being taken such as enlargement of vehicles to enable direct loading of sea containers, bridge reinforcement, tunnel reconstruction, etc.

○ Structure of a high-level/efficient logistics system

Measures are being taken to promote computerization of logistics such as diffusion of logistics EDI and building of a system for Provision of Comprehensive Distribution Information utilization of ITS-related information, etc.

119. (Concepts for Comprehensive Distribution Information System)

Concepts for a System for Provision of Comprehensive Distribution Information System



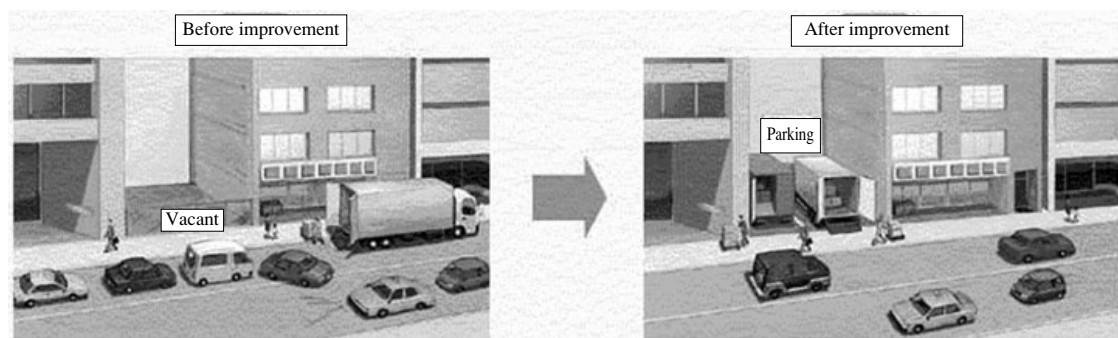
Interregional logistics have been promoting measures and adjustments for each sector, such as unified improvement of roads and wide area logistics hubs around highway interchanges, shipping speed increase and improvement of domestic trade terminals addressing high speed shipping and complex/consistent transport, multi-modal measures connecting multiple traffic systems, etc. Also, based on a comprehensive plan for facilitation of traffic within urban area by local mutual consent, logistics within cities have been conducting the promotion of cooperative collection and deliveries and freight handling efficiency increases along with implementation of ring roads improvement, measure for increase of traffic capacity, and of measures for TDM, etc.

120. Improvement of Logistics Hubs



Source: MLIT

121. (Freight handling efficiency increase)

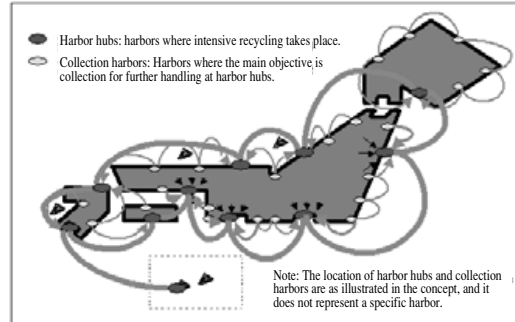
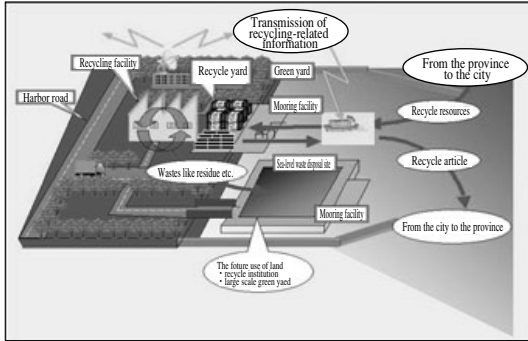


[Creation of a logistics system aimed to reduce environmental burden]

Concerning the long distance shipping sector, in order to promote a “modal shift” that develops the utilization of low environmental burden methods such as railway freight shipping and coastal cargo transport, the followings are being implemented: strengthening of shipping capacity of arterial railroads, improvement of domestic trade terminals that address complex/consistent shipping, improvement of access roads to railway freight stations and harbors, etc.

In addition, in order to cope with the transport of waste and recyclable materials over a wide area, recycling facilities at harbors and bayside waste disposal facilities are being established as part of a comprehensive distribution system. The formation of a multi-modal (sea, river, railway, and road) network to transport waste and recyclable materials is aimed at reducing the burden on the environment.

122. (Formation of a comprehensive distribution center to transport waste and recyclable materials) 123. (Concept of wide distribution network to transport waste and recyclable materials)



There has also been promotion of intensive maintenance of distribution operating facilities that contribute to the control of the total amount of truck circulation, and maintenance support of distribution facilities for transshipment from large trucks to low pollution trucks.