

## **NEWLY APPOINTED CHIEF HYDROGRAPHER OF JAPAN**



Dr. Yasuhiro GANEKO  
New Chief Hydrographer of Japan

Dr. Yasuhiro Ganeko was appointed as the Chief Hydrographer of Japan Coast Guard(JCG), formerly called the Maritime Safety Agency(MSA), on 1st April, after serving the previous year as Deputy Commander of the Ninth Regional JCG.

He was born in 1942. He studied physics at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, and then enrolled in postgraduate course at Nagoya University(NU).

After completing his studies in theoretical physics at NU, he entered the Hydrographic Department of the MSA in 1967. He went to the United States for a year to conduct research into satellite geodesy at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass. He was one to the pioneers in Japan for the study of gravity at sea and obtained a doctorate for his clarification of the geoid around Japan. Following this, he went on to study satellite altimeter data for detecting ocean currents.

As he was engaged in several leading positions during his services, such as Director of the Coastal Surveys and Cartography Division and Director of the Planning Division, he contributed to the plan for establishing the International Standards for the Electronic Navigational Chart(ENC) in the IHO. The JHD produced the first ENC based on the IHO ENC Standard in March 1995 under his supervision.

This year, the JHD started a new project called 'Hydro-Innovation 21,' which aims at providing better services to a wider range of users including those of small crafts. It is expected that the project will be promoted under the leadership of the new Chief Hydrographer.