

NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF JAPAN



Since 1 April 2007
Dr. Shigeru KATO

Dr. Shigeru KATO was appointed as the Chief Hydrographer of Japan on 1st April 2007 after serving as Director of Technology Planning and International Affairs Division, Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard (JHOD).

He was born in 1953. He graduated from the Tokyo Metropolitan University in 1975. After graduating from the University, he entered the Hydrographic Department of Maritime Safety Agency (JHOD, present name) in 1975.

During more than thirty years of service in the Department, he has been engaged mainly in various hydrographic surveys and development of hydrographic technology.

Also, he had assumed the following important posts.

- Director of Hydrographic Department, 5th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters 1996 - 1998
- Director of International Cooperation Office, Hydrographic Department, 1998 - 1999
- Director of Continental Shelf Surveys Office, Hydrographic Department, 1999 - 2001
- Chief of KOCHI Coast Guard Office, Japan Coast Guard, 2001 - 2003
- Counsellor of Coordination Office for Continental Shelf Surveys, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of Japan, 2004 - 2005
- Director of Technology Planning and International Affairs Division, JHOD, 2005 - 2007

In particular, he made a great contribution to research fields for the mitigation of natural disasters through surveying submarine volcanoes, source areas of tsunami and active faults along the plate boundary area.

Moreover, during the service in the Continental Shelf Surveys Office, he planned and promoted the project for a delineation of the continental shelf defined by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. For this purpose, he had established the structure of promoting the continental shelf survey on the all-Japan basis during his tenure in the Cabinet Secretariat.

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