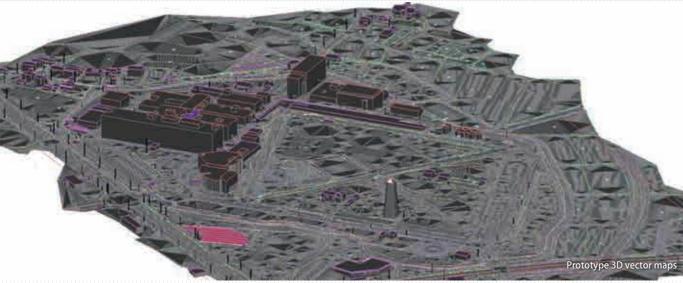
Promoting the administration of surveys







As a National Administrative Organization with jurisdiction over the Survey Act, GSI oversees surveying

In order to ensure accurate and efficient surveys, GSI, as a governmental authority designated under the Survey Act, offers advice on survey operations undertaken throughout Japan, examines survey results to ensure their accuracy, promotes the widespread use of new surveying technologies, and tests and registers nationally accredited surveyors and assistant surveyors, among other duties.

Examination and registration of surveyors and assistant surveyors

Under the Survey Act, surveys conducted in Japan are divided into "Basic Surveys" that form a basis for all other surveys and that are conducted by GSI (Article 4), "Public Survey" that are conducted by the National Government or other public organizations (Article 5), and "Surveys other than Basic or Public Surveys" (Article 6).

A surveyor prepares or executes a survey plan, and an assistant surveyor executes a survey based on the plan made by a surveyor (Article 48 of the Survey Act).

GSI administers the examination for surveyors and assistant surveyors, and examines and registers eligible surveyors based on the following conditions:

Eligibility requirements (Articles 50 and 51, the Survey Act)

	Surveyor	Academic background and practical experience	To be eligible, surveyors must - Acquire credits for survey-related subjects at a university, junior college or national institute of technology, graduate from the above-mentioned school, and have the prescribed practical experience; or - Obtain professional knowledge and skills at a survey technical training school and have prescribed practical experience in surveying; or - Be an assistant surveyor who has acquired advanced knowledge and skills in surveying at a survey technical training school.	
		Examination	- Pass the surveyor examination administered by the Director-General of GSI.	
	Assistant Surveyor	Academic background	Assistant surveyors must: - Acquire credits for subjects related to surveying at a university, junior college or national institute of technology and graduate from the above-mentioned school; or - Obtain professional knowledge and skills at a survey technical training school.	
		Examination	Pass the assistant surveyor examination administered by the Director-General of GSI.	

Efforts in public surveys

Public works projects for development and maintain land infrastructure for the creation of large-scale housing developments, construction of roads, improvements of rivers for disaster prevention, etc., are being carried out all around us. When planning and designing such projects, it is necessary to carry out public surveys to create maps and determine position references.

Preparation of Rules for Operating Specifications

When carrying out public surveys, the "Survey Planning Organizations" of the national government, local public government, etc., in order to ensure the accuracy of the surveys, must establish "operation specifications" which designate the type(s) of surveying instruments, methods of observation and computation, cartographic method, etc., as per Article 33 of the Survey Act. As a model for operation specifications, the Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (GSI) formulates "Rules for Operation Specifications" under Article 34 to set up standard survey work. These rules are as references to establish operation specifications for survey planning organizations.

Popularization of new technologies

In order to adopt the new technologies and disseminate them as quickly as possible, GSI holds seminars throughout Japan and compiles manuals of surveys applying new technologies and releases them on its website.

In addition, when such technologies come into general use, survey methods based on new technology manuals are incorporated into Rules for Operation Specifications at appropriate times.





Verifying handheld laser surveys

Technical advice and review of survey results

GSI gives technical advice on public surveys and examines their results when a survey plan is submitted from the national or local governments. At such times, GSI examines the contents in terms of adaptability of the selected method to the purposes of its plan, accuracy and possibility of redundancy with past surveys and then provides technical advice (as per Article 36 of the Survey Act). Once a public survey is completed, GSI examines the results of the survey submitted by the national and local governments (as per Article 41). Public survey results that have been examined and found to be sufficiently accurate are released to the public via GSI's website and other means. They are widely used to conduct subsequent surveys, to develop maps for daily use, and for other purposes.

In addition, through information released on its website, seminars are held across the country, etc., GSI makes every effort to engage in popularization and enlightenment activities to make public surveys more efficient, maintain accuracy, and utilize new technologies.



Seminars are held throughout Japan for people involved with public surveys.

Tokyo Office

As a Tokyo focal point for working with the national assembly and coordinating with relevant government organizations, the "Tokyo Office" was established in 2020 in the Central Gov't Bldg. No.2 (2-1-2 Kasumi-ga-Seki Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo). When a disaster occurs, the Tokyo Office quickly provides the relevant government organizations with geospatial information such as maps and aerial photos. It is also utilized as a satellite office.





Business office

Central Gov't Bldg. No.2

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