

"Muroran Offshore Wind Industry Promotion Association (abbreviation: MOPA)" was established on 21st January, 2020 to promote offshore wind power generation, which is being introduced one after another in Japan, by utilizing the ports and industrial clusters in Muroran City to attract related businesses. It was through industry-government-academia collaboration, we will promote the superiority of Muroran Port in Japan and overseas with the aim to revitalize local industries as a major base port north of Tohoku.

At the Kuribayashi & Co., Ltd. in Irie-cho, Muroran City, the general board meeting, which was held on the same day, was attended by representatives of Kuribayashi & Co., Ltd., The Japan Steel Works, Ltd., DENZAI Holdings Inc., NIPPON STEEL CEMENT Co., Ltd., Muroran Port Development Co., Ltd. and MURORAN CITY. On the same day, the name and articles are approved.

In recent years, the introduction of offshore wind power has expanded mainly in Europe, the related law have been enforced in Japan, and large-scale development plans are progressing in various places. Offshore wind power requires not only the wind conditions and water depth of the sea where wind turbine is installed but also a base port near the sea area for the power generation equipment to be pre-assembled on land near the port.

Muroran Port already meets the requirements of quay water depth and ground strength as a main port large-scale investment is not required. And around Muroran port, companies which could build foundation structures and industries necessary and sufficient for offshore wind power construction are concentrated.

MOPA will take advantage of high potential of Muroran Port for offshore wind power and is able to actively appeal to domestic and foreign businesses. At the same time, we will work on the activities to spread awareness and understanding of the future of offshore wind power business among the local community.

At this moment, with the on-going project planned in the sea near Aomori Prefecture, we will work for Muroran to be selected as the base port. we will cooperate with the city, port operators and landowners by using the Sakimori Pier, which has sufficient water depth and strength, as a material storage site and assembly yard. We will also exchange opinions on manufacturing, research and development of floating structures that excel in manufacturing costs and maintenance.