

hosted 69 international events with 143,000 parti from worldwide*.

* Source: Annual Report 2012, PACIFICO Yokohama

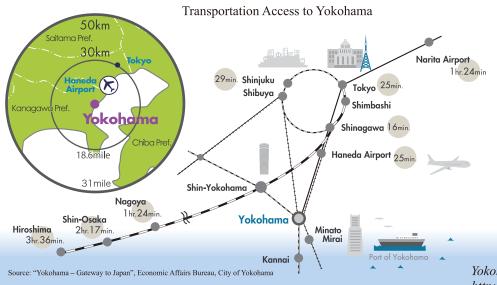
Background and **Objectives**

The global market for MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions) is rapidly growing; however, the competition with major cities in neighboring Asian countries is increasingly becoming intense. Hence, it has always been important for Yokohama to maximize its advantages to elevate its profile in the international MICE industry.

Yokohama City has a favorable environment for MICE in terms of access, being a mere 30 km southwest from Tokyo. The availability of modern train and expressway lines has encouraged the flow of goods and people between Yokohama and Tokyo. Through the Metropolitan Expressway Bay Shore Route, the city is linked directly to Haneda Airport, which is increasing its function as a new international

hub airport. By car, Yokohama City is just a half hour away from the center of Tokyo.

Building on these advantages, Yokohama City has aimed to establish its own brand as an international MICE city. The most important factor for MICE promotion is not only the hardware but also the contents of the MICE program, the overall hospitality of the host region, and the attractiveness of the city itself. Yokohama City has tried to meet these criteria through the active participation of the public and private sector.



Pacifico Yokohama Website http://www.pacifico.co.jp/english/index.html Yokohama Convention & Visitors Bureau Website http://www.welcome.city.yokohama.jp/eng/travel/

Yokohama as a Global Center

Ready High-tech Facilities

Yokohama City is one of the few cities in the world with a highly sophisticated infrastructure for MICE. The city has strategically been investing in this sector to further provide good hardware and attract MICE visitors from all over the world. PACIFICO Yokohama, which is the main convention center in the city, is a third-sector project (a joint corporation invested in by both by the public and private sector), with major investments coming from Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture, Development Bank of Japan, and other big private companies.

MICE Facilities in Yokohama

Facility		Maximum Capacity
PACIFICO Yokohama	National Hall	5,002 persons
	Meeting Rooms	1,440 persons
	Main Hall	1,002 persons
	Exhibition Hall	20,000 m ²
Yokohama Minato Mirai Hall		2,020 persons
Yokohama Royal Park Hotel		1,500 persons
Pan Pacific Yokohama Bay Hotel Tokyu		1,400 persons
Yokohama Grand Intercontinental Hotel		700 persons
Landmark Hall		522 persons
Hamagin Hall Via Mare		517 persons
Nisseki Yokohama Hall		360 persons
Red Brick Warehouse Building No. 1		380 m ²
Yokohama World Porters		198 persons
Navios Yokohama		185 persons

Source: Yokohama Convention & Visitors Bureau

Software is Even More Important

The key to the successful promotion of Yokohama City as MICE location has been the software it continues to provide, together with the aforementioned hardware. It exerted great efforts to acquire the know-how for MICE operation such as strengthening secretariat functions and supporting human resource development, among others. Although many other cities have good hardware, Yokohama's experience says that software is actually the key to successful MICE activities.

The city has also served as secretariat for CITYNET since its establishment 25 years ago, which helped the city expand its network of international societies and cities abroad.

Interaction with residents is also important, such as dialogues on certain issues or introduction of Japan's culture.

All-in-One Strategy

The feature of Yokohama City's MICE is its "All-in-One Strategy," which refers to the fact that convention halls, exhibition centers, hotels, amusement parks, and tourism destinations within the city are all located close to each other. Being multifunctional is precisely the strategy that has led to the city's success in the MICE industry.

Genuine Hospitality

Hospitality has two sides, i.e., one is in terms of hardware (e.g., amenity of facilities and hotels) and the other in terms of software and humanware. Yokohama City Hall, the Convention Bureau, facilities such as PACI-FICO, and residents as volunteers all contribute in providing a truly conducive environment for MICE participants. For example, citizens hold traditional Japanese musical performances as after-convention entertainment.

Starting Small, Growing Big

Many users of PACIFICO are repeat cliants who attest to the usefulness and convenience of PACIFICO's facilities—there are few facilities which house both convention and exhibition halls—and the warm hospitality of PACIFICO staff. Some guests even cite their previous experiences of holding small meetings at PACIFICO as reasons or incentives for coming back as organizers of, or sponsors for, large international events.

Linking Urban Design

Few people are aware that the location of PACIFICO is quite strategic, too; walking from the station, it is at the very end of the Queen's Axis, one of the three main urban design axes in Yokohama City. With such a layout, people can shop and dine on their way to and from PACIFICO.



Recent Undertakings...Yokohama has come this far.
2010 APEC Meeting 2013 TICAD V

The 18th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting was held at PACIFICO Yokohama in 2010 with the theme "Change and Action" to articulate the vision of further building and integrating the Asia-Pacific region in the twenty-first century and the paths to realize that vision.

Representatives from APEC member countries issued a joint statement entitled "The Yokohama Vision – Bogor and Beyond."

The 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), which is held every five years, was held at PACIFICO Yokohama on 1–3 June 2013 with the theme "Hand in Hand with a More Dynamic Africa." TICAD V was co-organized by the Government of Japan along with the U.N., Office of the Special Advisor on Africa, UNDP, African Union Commission, and the World Bank.