

September 1, 2017

<Corporate Information>

KDDI CORPORATION
Kokusai Cable Ship Co., Ltd.

KDDI to construct Japan's first submarine cable-laying ship to support communications, electric power, observation, and resource exploration operations

KDDI CORPORATION and Kokusai Cable Ship Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "KCS"), a KDDI Group company, have announced plans to construct a new submarine cable-laying ship, which is scheduled to launch in fiscal year 2019.



Conceptual image

Since its establishment in 1966, KCS has deployed submarine cable-laying ships equipped with cable-handling equipment for use in the construction and maintenance of the optical submarine cable network across the Asia-Pacific region. Two vessels, the KDDI Ocean Link and the KDDI Pacific Link, are currently in operation.



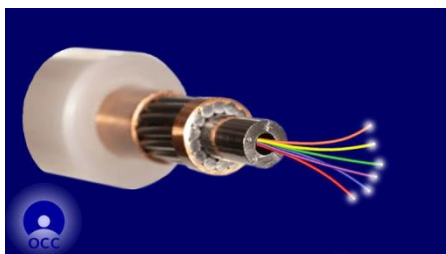
KDDI Ocean Link



KDDI Pacific Link

By utilizing the expertise accumulated through experience in laying and repairing communications cables, the new submarine cable-laying ship will be Japan's first [1] ship capable of supporting electric power cable installation, in addition to the cables used in communications, observation, and resource exploration up to now. The submarine cable-laying ship will have a high level of weather resistance, enabling the installation of electric power cables such as those used in operations such as offshore floating wind power generation facilities.

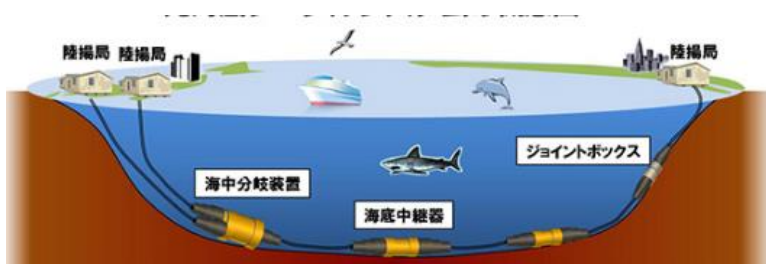
In addition, by improving the sailing distance and speed over those of previous ships, the marine area covered by the ship will expand beyond the current Asia-Pacific region to span the entire globe. Furthermore, the use of retractable azimuth thrusters [2] will improve the weather resistance in adverse conditions, as well as the performance of stationary maintenance operations.



Submarine communications cable (approx. 17 mm)
Image courtesy of OCC Corporation



Electric power cable (approx. 200 mm)
Image courtesy of FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO., LTD.



Conceptual image of optical submarine cable system

Submarine cables provide 99% of Japan's international traffic [1], making them an important component of the social infrastructure.

Moving forward, KDDI and KCS will continue to deploy state-of-the-art submarine cable-laying ships and the latest IT technology to promote IT innovation in marine vessel and offshore construction operations, with the aim of providing communications services with a higher level of reliability than ever before.

■ Main specifications of submarine cable-laying ship (planned)

1	Gross tonnage	Approx. 9,500 tons
2	Length	113 m
3	Breadth	21.5 m
4	Ship complement	80 persons
5	Service speed	13 knots
6	Pulling power	80 tons
7	Flag	Japan

[1] As of September 1, 2017, according to research by KDDI.

[2] This configuration of marine propellers can be rotated horizontally 360 degrees, enabling ships to maneuver more freely in any direction or maintain a stationary position. The propellers can be retracted into the bottom of the ship when they are not in use.