



CALDAP is an information system which provides processors and distributors with catch and landing data of fishery products recorded at fisheries cooperatives or auction houses at landing ports. This data includes vessel name, catch area, fishing gear, weight of caught species, landing date, and landing port.

■ Why do we need to transmit the catch and landing data?

In January 2018, the U.S. Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP) entered into force. Under this new regulation, operators exporting fishery products containing species subject to the SIMP, such as tunas (including skipjack tuna), are required to provide U.S. importers with the product's catch and landing data.

In addition, the European Union (EU) requires exporters from non-member states to provide EU importers with catch and landing information through submitting the *catch certificate* when exporting fishery products (excluding aqua-cultural products, etc.).

Besides the above cases, traceability is also important for seafood destined for the domestic market. Traceability allows operators to rapidly detect and recall affected products in the event of a food incident, and to confirm that a product's label of origin is correct.

In March 2018, the "[Guidelines on Traceability for Seafood Exports](#)" were issued as part of a project commissioned by Japan's Fisheries Agency. The Guidelines describe the necessary steps each stakeholder throughout the supply chain (from catch/harvest to export) should take to ensure seafood traceability, including transmission of catch and landing data.

■ Repurposing data already recorded at landing ports

Distributors in Japan mainly transfer information on seafood products using paper invoices or certificates, meaning that electronic means are not widely employed.

On the other hand, many fisheries cooperatives and auction houses at landing ports have electronic records of catch and landing data, gathered in the process of calculating sales volume and sending account statements to fishing operators and buyers (processors/distributors).

The idea to make use of this electronic data was the starting point for developing CALDAP.

SIMP: Seafood Import Monitoring Program

This regulation is intended to remove IUU fishery products or misbranded seafood from the U.S. market. Importers are required to register electronic data, in a specific format, with the Customs and Border Protection's information system. This data includes catch and landing data.

Catch certificate scheme in the EU

This scheme is based on the regulation established in 2008 by the European Council to prevent, deter, and eliminate IUU fishing (*EC regulation No. 1005/2008*). When exporting fishery products to the EU, exporters are required to submit catch certificates issued by the flag state of the fishing vessel. [In Japan, the Fisheries Agency is the validating authority, and has published a guide for applying for catch certificates.](#)

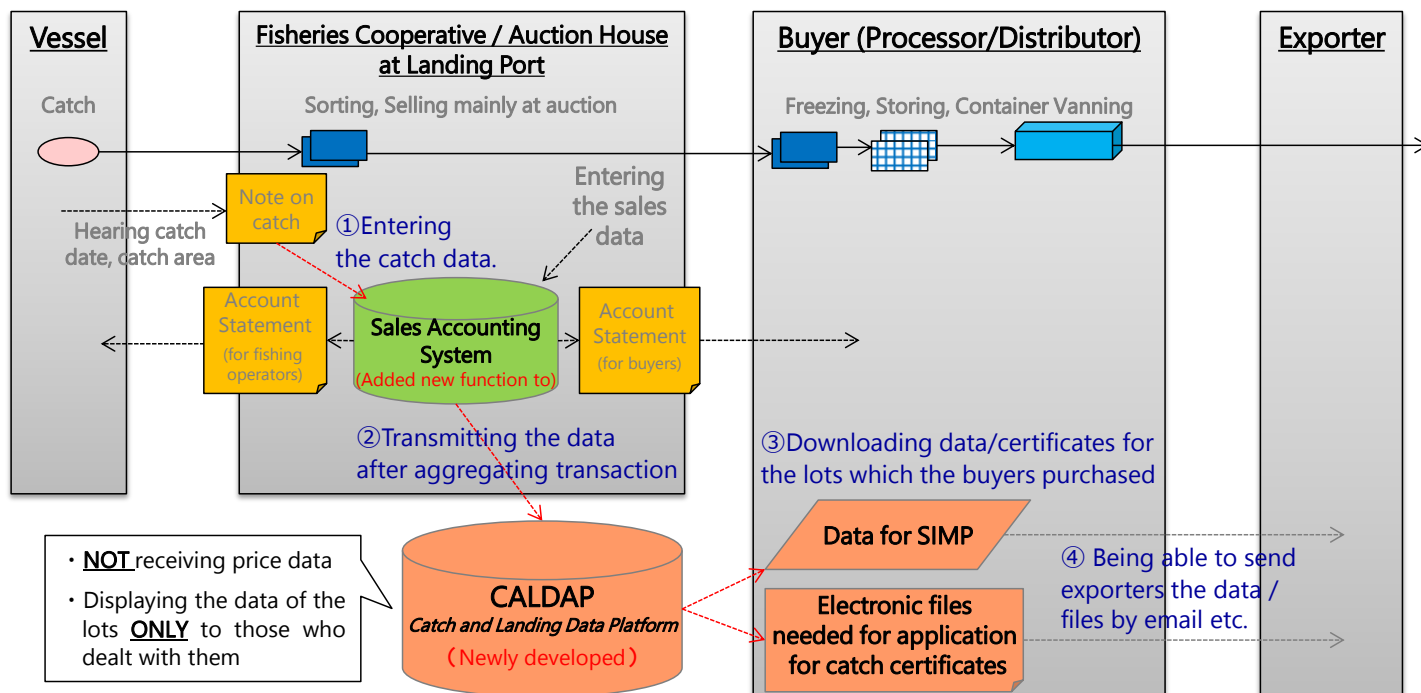
Fisheries cooperatives / Auction houses at landing ports

Fisheries cooperatives are organizations mainly consisting of commercial fishers. They engage in activities aligned with their members' mutual interests, such as selling their catches. The auction houses are private companies or fisheries cooperatives which run trading in the fish market at landing ports.

Most of the catches by Japanese vessels are first received by fisheries cooperatives or auction houses at landing ports.

■ Overview and functions of CALDAP

CALDAP receives electronic data from fisheries cooperatives or auction houses at landing ports, and electronically transmits the catch and landing data or certificates necessary for seafood export to the direct buyers (processors/distributors) of catches.



CALDAP allows buyers to acquire catch and landing data for the lots of catch they have purchased. Such data can be sent anytime to the buyer's computer in the necessary format (such as CSV for SIMP or PDF for catch certificate).

The SIMP and EU certificate scheme require a portion of the data elements to be entered in English or with a specific code. The master data of CALDAP contains translations of such data elements (e.g. name of species, vessel name, fishing gear, catch area), which enables operators to easily respond to the above requirements.

■ Development / demonstration in 2018, and vision for 2019

CALDAP was developed by the Japanese Association of Seafood Traceability (JAST), with funding from Japan's Fisheries Agency. SJC Co. Ltd. manages the development and operation of the software for CALDAP.

In August 2018, a pilot project for CALDAP was started, covering landings of skipjack and albacore tunas at Kesennuma. The Kesennuma Fisheries Cooperative Association, which runs the auction house at Kesennuma fish market, is participating in the project, along with a few buyers. The buyers' customers are able to receive the data/certificates generated by CALDAP, through the buyers (or directly if the customer has an account).

Once the pilot project finishes and necessary improvements are made, from April 2019, we plan to expand CALDAP's coverage to include additional landing sights and species.

We look forward to having many operators in the fishery industry use CALDAP to transmit catch and landing data more efficiently and improve the traceability of their products.

SJC Co. Ltd.

An IT developer in Sendai which excels at systems for fisheries cooperatives and auction houses at landing ports.

Why skipjack/albacore of Kesennuma?

Kesennuma has the highest landing volume of fresh skipjacks in Japan. Some of the landed skipjacks and albacores are often exported to Thailand/Vietnam for canning process, and re-exported to the U.S. These canned products are subject to the SIMP.

Buyers participating in the demonstration (as of Aug 2018)

Abecho Shoten Co. Ltd.
Takahashi Suisan Co. Ltd.

Contact us

Japanese Association of Seafood Traceability
Jun Sakai / Kaoru Yamano: trace@fmric.or.jp

3-1-12, Nishigahara, Kitaku, Tokyo
JAST c/o Food Marketing Research and Information Center

