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Progress toward the Development of Fire-Resistant Wooden Structures in Japan

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Abstract: Since 1987, regulations for wood-based construction in Japan have been gradually reformed, and many wooden residences such as three-story houses and three-story apartment buildings, as well as large-scale wooden structures such as Izumo Dome and Ohdate Jukai Dome, have been constructed. Furthermore, the revision of the Building Standard Law of Japan in 2000 allows for the construction of high-rise wooden buildings when the fire safety of their structural wooden beams and columns has been verified. These innovations have been made possible by advancements in fire science and rigorous full-scale fire testing. This review examines the relationships between wood-based construction and fire science after World War II and recent progress in the development of fire-resistant wooden structures.

Keywords: wooden building, fire-resistant construction, Building Standard Law, full-scale fire test

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