

# How Japanese Policy Leverages Standardization

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# Meiji Revolution (1868-77)

- Era of Industrial Standardization
  - IEC 1906, ISO 1928(1947)
- Good student on Standards
- Imperial College of Engineering established in 1873 (merged to University of Tokyo, 1886.)
- Matured and efficient community education system (“juku”, “terakoya”)
  - Literacy rate – 90%

# Loss of World War II

- Japan Standards Association established 1945
- Industrial Standardization Law published 1949
  - Promote export
  - Stabilizing strategic goods

# Japan - 2007

- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest GDP – after EU and US
  - Will be 5<sup>th</sup> within 10-20 years, after China and India
- Aging and falling birthrate
- Global market, global production, global R&D
- Diversity challenged – female and foreigner
- Standards – leader or follower?
- “Monodukuri” (manufacturing) &

# Innovation 25

- <http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/innovation/>
- International development with intellectual property rights and international standards
- 3 areas: science & technology, social, and people
- 6 focuses:
  - Environments, ICT, University,
  - Education, social reform, commitments

# International Standards Overall Strategy (Dec. 2006)

- Three focuses:
  - Promote Innovation
  - Enforce World-wide Competitive Edge
  - Contribute World-wide Rule Setting
- Five actions:
  - Change mind-sets of industry executives
  - Promote participation/leadership in standardization
  - Human resources development for international standardization
  - Promote relationships with Asian countries/regions
  - Contribute fair and open rules for international standards

# Critical views

- Dynamism in people brings forward standards and innovations
- Rediscover “education” after 140 years, but have long destroyed and neglected “community education systems”
- Curiosity, Diversity and Elegance are key
- Private sectors are driving forces for better standards and useful innovations