

For a better home,
a better living environment
and better construction



一般財団法人

ベターリビング

Center for Better Living

<https://www.cbl.or.jp>



Quality Housing Components (BL Components) Certification

Housing Components and Related Businesses Development division

BL Components Certification System

The BL Components Certification System is used to certify applicable housing components as 'Quality Housing Components (BL Components)' based on certification standards for performance (safety, functionality, and durability), production quality, and after-sales service. (There are currently 66 BL certified components in use as of February 2025 including kitchen systems, water heaters, windows, and garages etc.). Housing components with additional features that are designed in particular to meet societal demands regarding energy conservation, assistance for the elderly, use of housing stock, improvement of crime prevention and other considerations are certified as 'BL-bs Components.'

Dissemination of BL Components

The BL label is displayed on BL Components and in catalogs as a symbol of reliability. CBL promotes the dissemination of BL Components through activities conducted in collaboration with certified companies and related industries.

Support with guarantee of quality by BL insurance

There are two types of BL insurance, namely warranty liability and indemnity liability, which support the implementation of liability for damage caused by defects, and defect warranty liability relating to BL Components' design, manufacturing and the construction of installation work for the components.

Customer services

Customer services Tel 03-5211-0680

CBL accepts inquiries from users relating to matters including after-service and defects concerned with items such as BL Components. CBL also cooperates with relevant companies and provides support through means such as introducing appropriate consulting services and repair services, etc., when necessary.

JIS Certification

As a product certification body registered in Japan, CBL performs products certification following seven standards based on the JIS (Japanese Industrial Standards) mark system under the Industrial Standardization Law. There are seven JIS standards applicable such as windows, door sets, sealed insulating glass, and precast prestressed concrete products etc.



ENE-FARM
(Household fuel cell
co-generation system)



BL label

Testing, Assessment, Type approval and Certification

Tsukuba Building Research and Testing Laboratory/Housing and Building Evaluation Center

Performance tests for building systems, components and materials

As a JNLA registered examination organization, the Tsukuba Building Research and Testing Laboratory (TBTL) carries out various performance tests and research for buildings in general on BL components, building materials, structures, environmental equipment, fireproofing and construction materials from a fair and neutral position.

Assessment (Certification of conformity to technical standards)

CBL conducts assessments as a third party to rate conformity with the Building Standards Law and other technical standards of building materials and parts, construction methods of structures, and construction quality.

Relating to the Building Standards Law

[Performance evaluation related to approval of construction methods, etc.]

As a designated performance evaluation organization, CBL evaluates performance in 24 classifications such as fireproofing, wall magnification of frame constructed walls methods and framework methods, building material quality (including formaldehyde emitting construction material), elevators and omission of drawing documents for piles.

[Approval of specific-type components and certification of specific-type housing components manufacturers]

CBL approves compliance with the provisions of laws and standards in the fields of building parts, fire safeguards, ventilation systems, water supply facilities and elevators as well as certifying the manufacturers of specific-type-approved housing components.

Relating to the Housing Quality Assurance Act

[Tests related to approval of special evaluation methods]

CBL performs tests related to special construction methods etc., as a means of supplementing the evaluation method standards in the housing performance indication system.

[Approval of specific-type housing performance and certification of specific-type housing manufacturers]

CBL approves conformity to standards in the performance of standard design (specific-type-approved) housing or part as well as certifying the manufacturers of specific-type-approved housing.



Main building for testing and research



Testing device for bending pile



Horizontal heating furnace

Building Confirmation and Inspection, Housing Performance Evaluation, etc.

Housing and Building Evaluation Center

Building confirmation and inspection

As a designated inspection organization, we carry out confirmation inspections, intermediate and final inspections, and provisional use approvals for buildings, etc., in accordance with the Building Standards Act.

Structural calculation review

As a designated structural calculation conformity assessment body, we judge whether the structural design contents of some buildings subject to building confirmation conform to specific structural calculation standards, etc.

Housing performance evaluation

As a registered housing performance evaluation body, CBL evaluates new and existing housing in accordance with the evaluation methods specified in the Housing Performance Indication System. We also conduct inspections to confirm the long-term use structure, etc., of properties in order to obtain certification as long-term quality homes.

Review of conformity to energy-efficiency standards

As a registered energy conservation assessment body and registered energy conservation evaluation body, we assess the conformity of buildings' energy consumption performance, etc. We also carry out evaluations related to the environmental performance of buildings, such as BELS (Building Energy Efficiency Labeling Scheme) and CASBEE (Comprehensive Assessment System for Built Environment Efficiency).

Other

CBL undertakes the following assessments etc.

- Certification of conformity for the Japan Housing Finance Agency
- Site inspections for housing defect liability insurance
- Certification of Tokyo zero emission house.
- Technical review of new construction plans of low carbon buildings
- Other non-statutory review, evaluation and inspection services.



Housing performance evaluation
(Reinforcement arrangement inspection)



BELS Label

Management System Certification and Registration

System Certification and Registration Center

ISO management system certification and registration

We provide ISO certification services, inspecting the construction and operation of systems and registering them based on the international standard ISO management system, which is used to improve the management structure and level of management at organizations (companies, etc.).

[ISO 9001 (Quality management system)]

ISO 9001 is a management system governing a consistent supply of products and services of a quality that meets customers' and society's requirements.

[ISO 14001 (Environmental management system)]

ISO 14001 is a management system for identifying and appropriately controlling the causes of environmental damage.

[ISO/IEC 27001 (Information security management system (ISMS))]

ISO/IEC 27001 is a management system for identifying information resources such as personal data and maintaining their confidentiality. Also, as an expanded standard, CBL support Privacy information Management Systems (PIMS) and ISMS Cloud Security Certification, and have established a system to provide a wide range of certification services related to the information security field.

[ISO45001 (Occupational Health & Safety Management System)]

ISO 45001 is a management system used to evaluate and manage occupational safety risks in work activities in order to prevent or otherwise minimize the occurrence of occupational accidents.



Certificate of registration

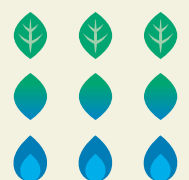


Certification mark

住宅部品 × SDGs 宣言



In October 2020, CBL declared in collaboration with the Association of Living Amenity that they will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) advocated by the United Nations through the development, supply, dissemination and so forth of quality housing components that contribute to the realization of safety, security and comfortable living lifestyles over the course of 10 years of business activities.



ガスで森をつくる。
BLUE & GREEN
PROJECT

Support for Formation and Utilization of Quality housing stock

Housing Components and Related Businesses Development division/ Public Relations and Information Group

Information management related to housing and housing components

CBL manages traceability information to identify dwelling units installed with products for housing components that require regular inspection and replacement.

Provides an information system where housing history information such as repair records, design drawing documents used when existing housing is bought and sold, and renovation or maintenance management for housing inspection and repairs can be stored and browsed.



Iekarute (housing history information) logo

Promotion of housing renovation

CBL cooperates with the 'Better Life Reform Association' and promotes housing renovation to achieve a safe, secure and convenient life for consumers through initiatives aimed at improving the reliability, proposal making ability and technical capability of small to medium-sized renovation businesses in the region.

As part of these initiatives, CBL assists housing renovation business operators by providing services that include a better life housing renovation advisor registration system and a renovation work quality examination registration system.



The Better Life housing renovation advisor registration system

Surveys, Research, Dissemination of Technology and related activities

Sustainable Living Research Center/ Tsukuba Building Research and Testing Laboratory

Surveys and Research

At the request of public institutes and companies or in its role as a foundation, CBL independently performs investigations and research to contribute towards achieving sustainable housing and lifestyles, develops new construction methods and also performs technical investigations and research from the perspective of energy saving and disaster prevention, etc., and then transmits this information.

Building technology review and certification

In order to examine the various new technologies related to housing, etc., developed in the private sector, and to promote its dissemination, CBL evaluates the relevant technology from a fair and neutral perspective and creates examination certificates and associated reports.

Performs housing and construction related information exchange, technical exchange and conducts training courses

- CBL transmits information useful for the lives of consumers using results from surveys and research relating to housing and housing components. Also, CBL performs tasks such as exchanging information with affiliate companies based on these results and contributes towards growth in the housing industry.
- We hold lectures and technical presentations being a venue for disseminating information to people in the housing and construction-related industries.



Research leaflet

International exchange

CBL aims to exchange and collaborate with related organizations both domestically and internationally for the purpose of international exchange in the housing and construction field and also performs activities such as participating in international conferences and accepting training or research groups from overseas.



Bulletin of TBTL

The Blue & Green Project is working to promote the dissemination of highly efficient gas water heaters and heating appliances (EcoJoz, EneFarm) to Japanese households, and is also promoting contribution activities to the environment by supporting tree planting, with CBL, gas companies and gas equipment manufacturers working together to promote CN2050. The first stage of this was completed in Vietnam (2006-2016), the second stage in Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture (2014-2022), and the third stage (scheduled for 2025-2032) will be carried out in Cambodia.



ガスで森

検索

<https://www.gasdemori.jp/>



A ceremony was held in Cambodia to sign the agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of Cambodia, the Japan International Forest Promotion and Cooperation Center (Public Interest Incorporated Foundation) and CBL.

Center for Better Living provides security, safety and reliability through its standards certification and test research relating to housing and buildings.

CBL, as a fair and neutral third-party organization, faithfully carries out the design, construction, evaluation and registration of parts and materials for homes and other architectural structures, as well as research and studies.

As Japanese society has a decreasing and elderly population, initiatives are urgently being sought to deal with the decreasing birth rate and aging population, as well as the state of housing and construction, such as achieving goals toward the construction of a decarbonized society and the preservation of safety and security in the face of increasingly severe natural disasters.

At CBL, we will utilize the expertise and strengths we have cultivated as a standards certification, testing and research organization to create various values through collaboration with various entities and contribute to the realization of a sustainable society.



Jun Manabe, President

History

1973	Approval granted by the Ministry of Construction (MOC), established as a foundation, the 'Jyutaku Buhin Kaihatsu Center'.
1974	Designated as a Quality Housing Component Certifying Organization by the MOC. (In 1987, CBL inherited the "Excellent Housing Components Certification System" from the Ministry of Construction.)
1981	Opening of the Performance Test Laboratory (from 2008 [Tsukuba Building Research and Testing Laboratory]) in Tsukuba city.
1988	The name of the foundation changed to 'Better Living'.
1989	Designated as a Performance Test Organization for sound insulation by the MOC.
1996	Establishment of the System Certification and Registration Center offering services for certification and registration of ISO9001, ISO14001 management system.
2000	Designated as a Performance Evaluation Body and Approval Body under the Building Standards Law by the MOC. Also Registered as a Housing Performance Evaluation Body under the Housing Quality Assurance Act by the MOC.
2002	Designated as a Confirmation and Inspection Body under the Building Standards Law by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT).
2007	Started Structural calculation review services under the Building Standards Law.
2008	Establishment of Sustainable Living Research Center.
2011	Changeover into a general incorporated foundation in accordance with the reform of the public-interest corporation system.
2015	Opening of the Nagoya Test Laboratory (Nagoya Lab) in Midori-ku, Nagoya city as a branch of the Tsukuba Building Research and Testing Laboratory.
2016	Opening of the Structural Safety Judgment Branch in Naka-ku, Nagoya city, which performs structural calculation review services.
2017	Registered with the MLIT as an 'Energy-saving review body and an 'Energy-saving evaluation body' under the Building Energy Efficiency Act.
2022	Opening of the Structural Safety Judgment Branch in Aoba-ku, Sendai city, which performs structural calculation review services.
2024	Opening of the Structural Safety Judgment Branch in Chuo-ku, Osaka city, which performs structural calculation review services.

About the Foundation's mid-term plan (2024-2028)

The Center for Better Living Foundation has established a five-year mid-term plan to set out the goals and business development of the foundation's operations and to provide mid-term guidance. The key points of the fourth medium-term plan for the 2024 fiscal year to the 2028 fiscal year are as follows.

- I . Accelerating GX efforts to realize CN2050
- II . Maximizing effectiveness in meeting customer needs through thorough digital transformation, etc.
- III . Thoroughly improving human resource development and working environment, and strengthening management foundation



Please visit our website for further details

Headquarters

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102-0071 JAPAN

(Elevator hall is on the second floor. Please come to the office by elevator from the second floor.)

TEL +81 3-5211-0556 FAX +81 3-5211-0548



By train: 3 min. from Iidabashi sta. (JR, Metro)

Housing Components and Related Businesses
Development division (6F)

TEL +81 3-5211-0665

Housing and Building Evaluation Center (7F)

TEL +81 3-5211-0578

System Certification and Registration Center (4F)

TEL +81 3-5211-0608

Sustainable Living Research Center (4F)

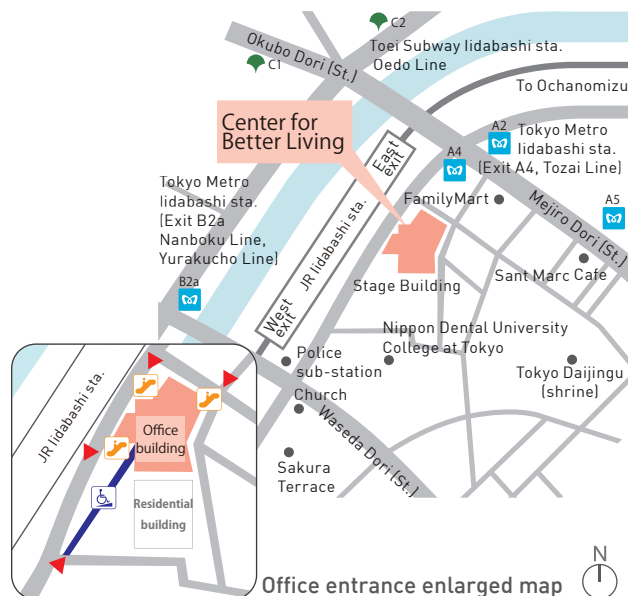
TEL +81 3-5211-0585

Public Relations and Information Group (6F)

TEL +81 3-5211-1402

General, Financial Affairs and Planning Group (6F)

TEL +81 3-5211-0556



Tsukuba Building Research and Testing Laboratory (TBTL)

2, Tachihara, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 305-0802 JAPAN

TEL +81 29-864-1745 FAX +81 29-864-2919



By train: Tsukuba Express (TX), Get off at Tsukuba sta. then take 'Tsuku bus' bound for Tsukubasanguchi (15 min.) and get off at 'Oohomadoguchi center', 10 min. on foot. Or 15 min. by taxi from Tsukuba sta.



By car: Joban Expressway; Approx. 15 km from Yatabe Interchange [I.C.] or Sakura-Tsuchiura I.C. bound for Gakuentoshi. Kenoh Expressway; Approx. 10 km from Tsukuba Chuo I.C. along route 408.



Nagoya Structural Safety Judgment Office

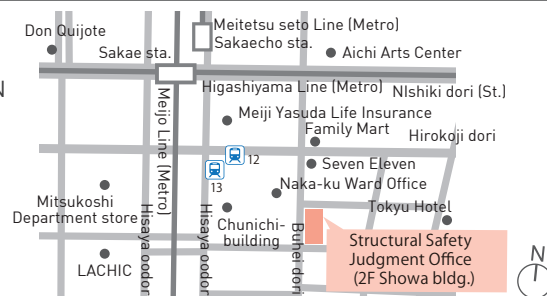
2F Showa bldg. 4-3-26, Sakae, Naka-ku, Nagoya, Aichi, 460-0008 JAPAN

TEL +81 52-212-9056 FAX +81 52-212-9057



By train: 5 min. from Sakae sta.

(Subway Higashiyama line or Meijo line)



Nagoya Test Laboratory (Nagoya Lab)

1-101, Kamegahora, Midori-ku, Nagoya, Aichi, 458-0804 JAPAN

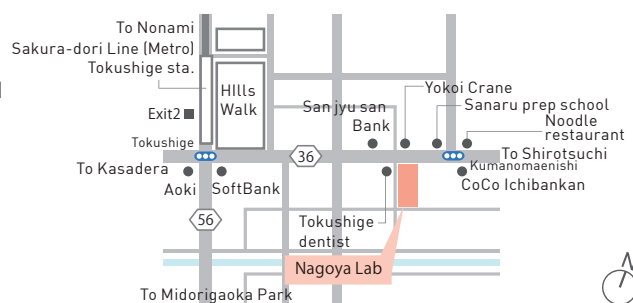
TEL +81 52-879-2151 FAX +81 52-879-2153



By train: 10 min. from Tokushige sta.
(Subway Sakura-dori line)



By car: Nagoya-Daini-Kanjo Expressway: 1.5 km from Narumi Interchange (IC), turning left at Tokushige crossing on prefectural road 56.



Osaka Structural Safety Judgment Office

Semba Central Building 5F, 2-6-8 Honmachi, Chuo-ku, Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture, 541-0053 JAPAN

TEL +81 6-7176-3794 FAX +81 5-6252-8866



Subway Midosuji Line, Honmachi Station, Exit 3, 3 minute walk
3 minute walk from Exit 15 of Sakaisuji Honmachi Station on the Sakaisuji Line

