

Cruise Summary

1. Cruise Information

- Cruise ID: YK24-18
- Name of vessel: R/V Yokosuka
- Title of the cruise : Performance verification test of URASHIMA after conversion to 8,000m class AUV (1/2)
- Chief scientist: Takeshi Nakatani [JAMSTEC]
- Representative of the Science Party: Takuya Shimura [JAMSTEC]
- Cruise period: November 25, 2024 – December 8, 2024
- Ports of departure / arrival: Yokosuka (JAMSTEC)- Yokosuka (JAMSTEC)
- Research area: Suruga Bay and Sagami Bay

2. Overview of the Observation

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JAMSTEC is currently upgrading AUV URASHIMA from 3,500m class AUV to 8,000m class AUV with the aim of acquiring the capability to survey at ultra deep-sea, including the Japan Trench.

During YK24-18 the first sea trial of the URASHIMA 8000 was conducted for two weeks using R/V Yokosuka. Firstly, we conducted wet tests of URASHIMA 8000 at Sagami Bay. Then, six dives of URASHIMA 8000 (#302-307) were carried out at Suruga Bay. Through the sea trial, the acoustic communication and positioning function, navigation control function, and observation function of URASHIMA 8000 were confirmed at a depth of 1,000m.