

To Whom It May Concern

Request for Co-operation with a Survey on the Situation of Actual IT Usage

July 8, 2005

Financial Services Agency Planning and Coordination Bureau,
Communications and Policy Division

We would like to offer our gratitude for your co-operation with the Agency's work in the past.

As previously advised, in the "Work Schedule for the Implementation of the Program for Further Financial Reform" announced in March this year, the FSA is "Implementing a survey in order to grasp the actual situation of IT usage by financial institutions, collecting and then officially announcing the survey results (proposed for August 2005)".

We apologize for making this request at such a busy time, but would you please be so kind to peruse the following notes and complete the survey?

Operation Guide for the IT Survey

1. Objective of this Survey

This survey, by comprehensively grasping the state of IT usage by financial institutions conducting business in Japan, and by collecting and officially announcing the survey results, intends to become a basis for discussions that will "exchange information between business heads and experts on the efficiency of IT investments and policies for the strategic application of IT", along with providing information to each financial institution when making IT investment decisions or constructing business models.

Of course, each financial institution decides in what way it uses IT and how it will make its own investment, based on their management strategy.

However, we consider that by administering the gathering, collecting and publishing of statistical information that shows the usage of IT in the financial sector this will be a useful reference for performing an objective evaluation of the positioning of a financial institution's own IT investment effectiveness and business strategy.

Also, by collecting information which paints an overall portrait in this way, it will also be possible to perform studies, etc. of the actual IT investment in the financial sector in comparison to other countries.

This survey is being conducted in the hope that the information gathered and published, which would be impossible for individual companies and difficult even for industry associations to gather, will be used as a reference for future IT investment decisions by each financial institution.

2. Placing the Results of this Survey

Based on the above objectives, the information gained from this survey on individual financial institutions will not be used for audit or supervision.