

Departure Ceremony Held for "A-double Truck"

- Achieving laborsaving and carbon-free long-distance transportation -

SENKO Co., Ltd. (Head office, Kita-ku, Osaka; President, Yasuhisa Fukuda; "SENKO") held a departure ceremony at Fujitec's TOKYO FIT (Ota-ku, Tokyo) on January 26 for an "A-double truck," a truck configuration operated by a single driver capable of transporting two large trailers of cargo.



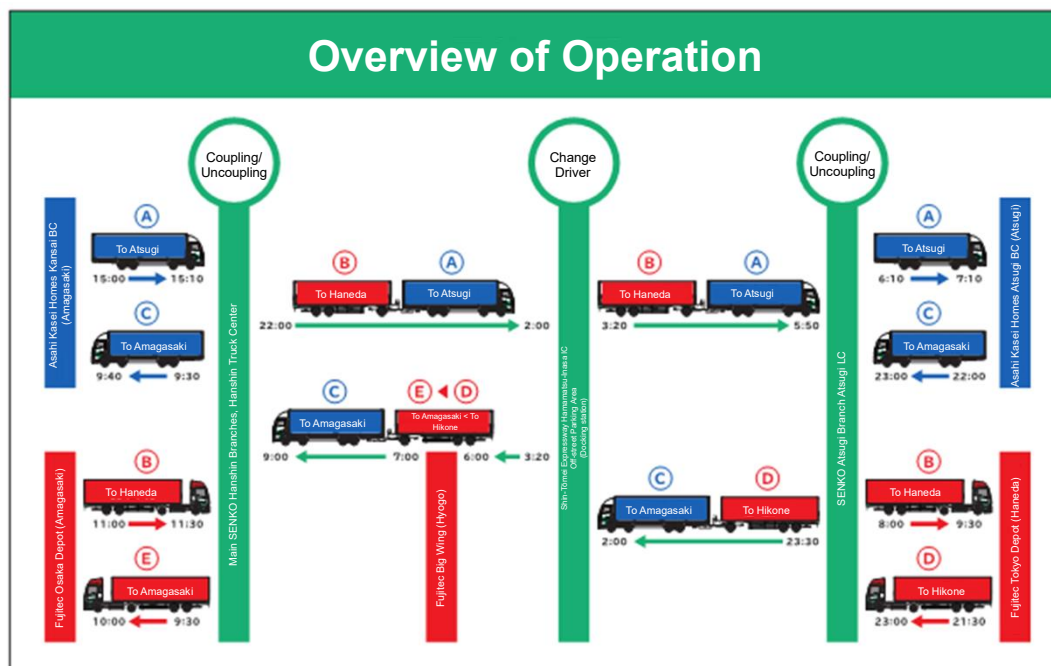
Cutting the ribbon

(from left: SENKO Director and Managing Executive Officer Toshihiro Kawai, Fujitec Executive Officer and Logistics Department Manager Tadahisa Nakayama, SENKO Executive Officer and Director Noboru Ogoshi, Asahi Kasei Homes Construction Department Logistics Manager Toru Hashi, SENKO Executive Officer Seiji Kono)

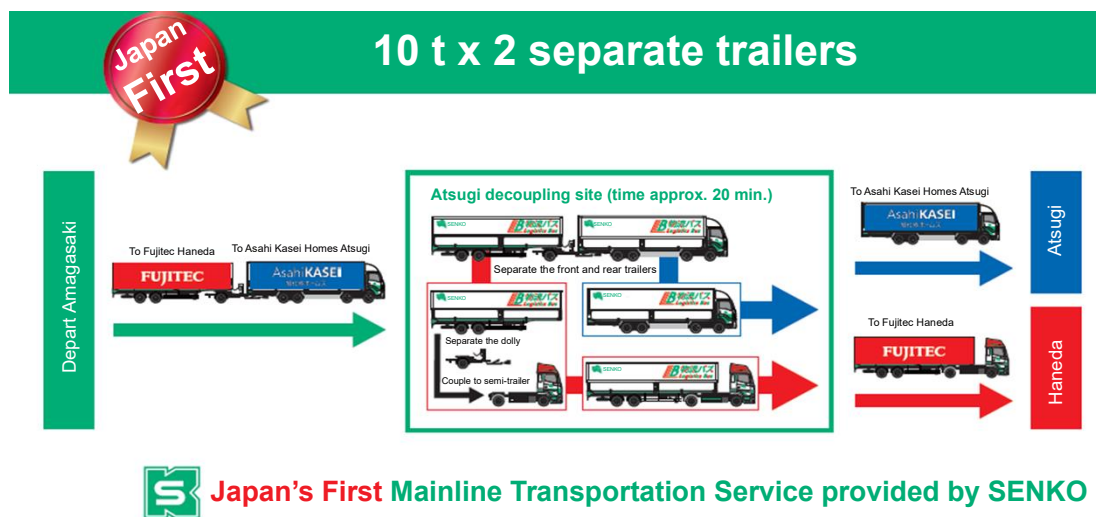


A-double truck

As issues related to labor shortages become worse with the increasing age of truck drivers, and law reforms coming into effect from 2024 reducing the working hours of drivers by one hour per day, the current methods used for long-distance transportation will make smooth deliveries increasingly difficult, resulting in potential bottlenecks with economic activities.



A solution to address this is one of the Logistics Bus service options announced in a March 2021 press release, with the start of operations of A-double trucks capable of transporting two large trailers of cargo over long distances by a single driver. This transportation system uses the dolly* method, where two separate trailers of cargo are coupled together as an A-double truck at a SENKO logistics site. A single driver then transports the cargo over a long distance on the expressway to an A-double truck docking station, where the driver changes to a return truck and drives it back to where the trailers are uncoupled again. The cargo is then separated into the large truck and semi-trailer, and driven to separate destinations. This system helps to reduce driver working time as well as cut down on the amount of CO₂ emissions.



Trailers on long-distance mainline routes (via expressway) are coupled together and transported by a single driver. This is then decoupled into a separate 10 t truck and semi-trailer, and can be driven to separate delivery destinations.

This A-double truck configuration began transporting cargo between two participating companies, Asahi Kasei Homes Corporation (Head office, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President, Fumitoshi Kawabata) and Fujitec Co., Ltd. (Head office, Hikone, Shiga Prefecture; President, Koichi Uchiyama). This was the first time an A-double truck was separated mid-way in Japan so that each trailer can be transported to customers in separate destinations.

SENKO is planning to increase the use of A-double trucks to build a next-generation long-distance transportation network.

* Dolly method: Used for coupling or uncoupling trailers with a connector (dolly). This A-double truck has a semi-trailer connected to the dolly at the rear of a 10-ton truck.

Effects of Operation

Reduction in driving hours

Driving hours/year
6,440 hours



BEFORE AFTER

3,908 hours

Before start of B-double bus service

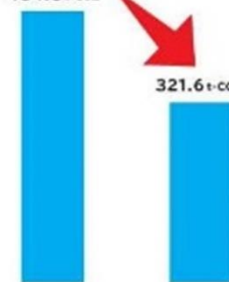
Driving time reduced by

2,532 hours
approx. **40%**

Reduction in CO2 emissions

CO2 emissions/year

484.8 t-CO2



BEFORE AFTER

321.6 t-CO2

Before start of B-double bus service

Emissions reduced by

163.2 t-CO2
approx. **30%**

Effects (daily)	Before Start	After Start	Result
No. trucks	5 trucks	3 trucks	-2 trucks
No. drivers	5 drivers	3 drivers	-2 drivers
Driving distance	2,022km	1,197km	-825km
CO2 emissions	2.02t-CO2	1.34t-CO2	-0.68t-CO2
Driving time	26 hours 50 minutes	16 hours 17 minutes	-10 hours 33 minutes

Effects (annual)	Before Start	After Start	Result	Difference
No. trucks	1,200 trucks	720 trucks	-480 trucks	40.0%
No. drivers	1,200 drivers	720 drivers	-480 drivers	40.0%
Driving distance	485,280km	287,280km	-198,000km	40.8%
CO2 emissions	484.8t-CO2	321.6t-CO2	-163.2t-CO2	33.7%
Driving time	6,440 hours	3,908 hours	-2,532 hours	39.3%

<Related Link>

- March 23, 2021 Press release

“New Logistics Bus, Long-distance Mainline Transportation Service Now Available”

- Helping Solve Problems in the Transportation Industry -

<https://www.senkogrouphd.co.jp/en/about/news/assets/d709c83817fd5959394b86c1de3d1e76239a9148.pdf>