

## New "Logistics Bus" Long-distance Mainline Transportation Service Now Available - Helping Solve Problems in the Transportation Industry -

SENKO Co., Ltd. (Head office: Kita-ku, Osaka City; President: Yasuhisa Fukuda; "SENKO") began operating a new "Logistics Bus" long-distance transportation service from April between the Kyushu and Honshu regions, which provides space on transportation infrastructure that can be reserved in advance similar to a regular bus service.

The "Logistics Bus" service uses a 20 t wing body truck and sells space to suit the volume of cargo a customer wants to transport. In addition to the first and last stops, cargo can also be loaded to and unloaded from the bus at transshipment locations (such as ports) that serve as "bus stops" in much the same way as a regular bus service allows passengers to get on and off at various stops. Any type of cargo can be transported as long as it fits within small lots, medium lots, irregular cargo lots, heavy loads or other specific sizes.

This type of "shared bus" service forms part of an extensive lineup of services to suit customer requirements, including "charter bus," "express bus" that prioritizes lead time, "economy bus" that offers low-cost transport, and the environmentally friendly "eco bus" that uses ships or rail transport.

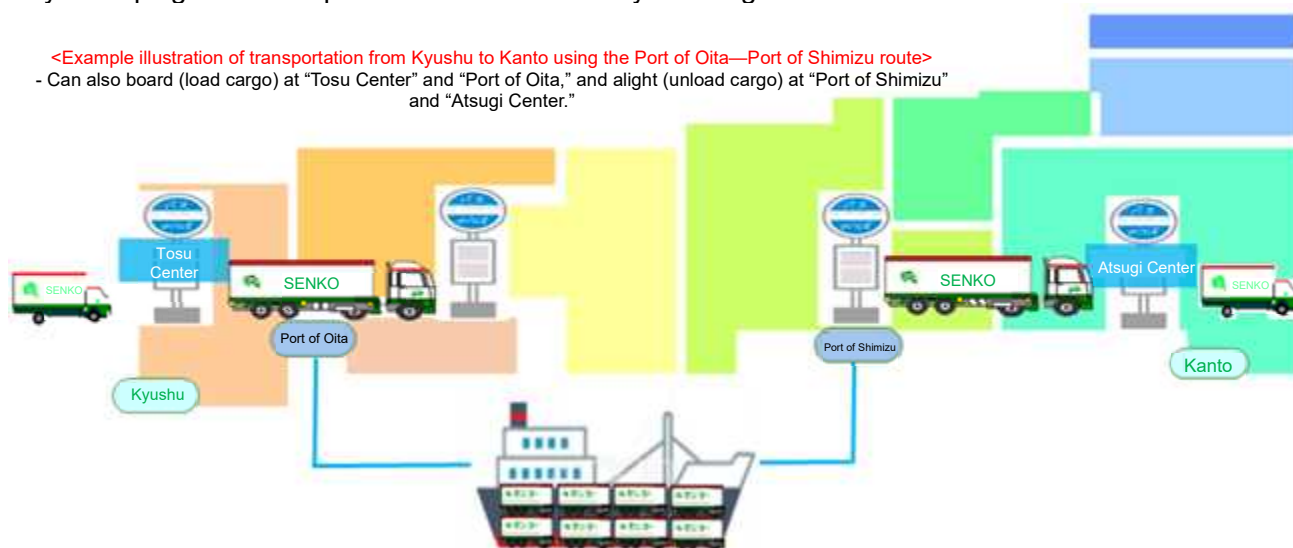
Operating a regular bus service requires availability of cargo volume, transportation capability and delivery sites, and multiple transportation channels are essential to ensure reliable transportation. SENKO is able to harness its delivery capabilities and business site located around the country as well as approximately 300 trucks in the group's possession to make the Logistics Bus service available. The use of cross-docking and ship services operating to and from ports around Japan ensure reliable operation by using a diverse range of transportation channels combining truck, ship and rail services.

To further strengthen coordination throughout the group, "centralized allocation centers" for managing information on cargo and transportation infrastructure in a unified manner have been opened in the Kanto, Kansai and Kyushu regions to ensure availability of cargo volume and efficient operation of the Logistics Bus.

With the shortage of drivers and standards for overtime work as part of work style reform efforts, it has become increasingly difficult throughout the transportation industry to provide reliable services over long-distance routes exceeding 600 km one way, particularly between the Kyushu and Honshu (Kansai, Chubu and Kanto) regions.

SENKO will continue making this type of service available as a platform throughout the industry, as a way of helping to resolve problems that the industry is facing.

<Example illustration of transportation from Kyushu to Kanto using the Port of Oita—Port of Shimizu route>  
- Can also board (load cargo) at "Tosu Center" and "Port of Oita," and alight (unload cargo) at "Port of Shimizu" and "Atsugi Center."



End.