Entry

Japanese Prefabricated Housing Manufacturers

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Materials and Methods

The Japanese housing construction market is highly competitive among private manufacturers, with key players occupying the major share [1], including Daiwa House [2], Sekisui House [3], Asahi Kasei Homes [4], Sekisui Heim [5], Sumitomo Forestry [6], Panasonic Homes [7], Misawa Homes [8], Toyota Housing [9], and Mitsui Home [10]. Among them, Daiwa House, Sekisui House, and Misawa Homes were selected as case studies for close examination and comparison due to their prominence, influence, and exemplary practices within the Japanese prefabricated housing industry. The research methods employed in this study involved a thorough desktop examination of the available information from websites, articles, and reports, as well as two study tours in Japan funded by the New Colombo Plan mobility grant of the Australian Government. The examination and comparison of these three manufacturers encompassed their development trajectories, design customisation, research capabilities and technological advancements, sustainable initiatives and procurement, as well as after-sale services. The Nara Factory and the Kotokurie educational and training facility of Daiwa House in Nara and the Tomorrow's Life Museum of Sekisui House in Kyoto were visited on 5th December, 2022 during the first study tour in Japan. The Tomorrow's Life Museum of Sekisui House at Koga in Ibaraki Prefecture and the Misawa Homes Institute of Research and Development in Tokyo were visited on 5th and 6th July, 2023, respectively, during the second study tour, together with the Zero Energy Mass Custom Home (ZEMCH) Mission trip to Japan in 2023.

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