

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR) announces the following credit rating.

## **Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Company (security code: -)**

### <Rating Change>

Long-term Issuer Rating:	from AA- to AA
Outlook:	from Positive to Stable
Ability to Pay Insurance Claims:	from AA- to AA
Outlook:	from Positive to Stable

### <Affirmation>

CP:	J-1+
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### *Rationale*

- (1) Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Company ("Meiji Yasuda Life") is a core company of the Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Group, one of the major life insurance groups in Japan. It boasts the top share in the group insurance market in Japan. Meiji Yasuda Life Group aims for the Group's overall growth including the overseas business, and the Group has subsidiaries such as StanCorp Financial Group, Inc. in the U.S. and other companies to diversify geographic regions and earnings sources. JCR rates the issuer rating of Meiji Yasuda Life at the same level as the Group's overall creditworthiness. While JCR has been seeing the interest rate risk of life insurers as a relatively large constraint on the rating, Meiji Yasuda Life Group has been steadily reducing its interest rate risk. The sensitivity of economic value-based indicators has decreased through risk reduction, and JCR expects this trend to continue in the future. Despite the considerably stressed business environment, the Group's policy performance has been strong. The Group has been firmly securing earnings power on the back of a large amount of policies in force, and it will maintain its capital adequacy relative to risk in the future. Based on the above, determining the Group's creditworthiness as equivalent to AA, JCR has upgraded Meiji Yasuda Life's issuer rating by one notch.
- (2) Meiji Yasuda Life is characterized by its products that combine the medical, nursing care, work disability and other protections and have greater flexibility in the revisions to the coverage in line with customers' life stages after first taking out insurance. It has been also developing new customers by introducing small-lot life and non-life products to young customers, increasing the number of customers (policyholders). It has been working on offering health promoting products and related services since the fiscal year ended March 2020 (FY2019). It has improved the productivity and efficiency of its sales staff channel, which numbers over 30,000 as a main channel, by reviewing compensation and training systems and upgrading digital sales methods. It is considered that its careful follow-up services have led to control of surrender, lapse and partial surrender rates. In the overseas insurance business, although StanCorp Financial Group has been affected by the insurance claims payments due to COVID-19 pandemic, its policy performance has been solid. Contributions from the overseas insurance business account for more than 10% of the Group's insurance premiums and nearly 10% of the Group's core profit.
- (3) Although the Group's policy results fluctuate depending on sales trend of foreign currency-denominated single-payment products and other factors, they have been solid, and the annualized premiums for new policies increased year on year in FY2021 and the first half of FY2022. The number of policies in force for third-sector products, on which it focuses, is on an increasing trend, and it has been stably securing relatively large mortality gains. Despite a recent increase in COVID-19 related claims and benefit payments, core profit has remained solid. The special treatment for "deemed hospitalization" has already been reviewed, and the downward pressure on profit is expected to be limited to FY2022. Its product mix of policies in force is gradually changing due to the increase in sales of protection products. JCR will pay attention to whether it can maintain the risk-return balance of each product and the extent to which it can contribute to the expansion of group surplus, which indicates economic value-based enterprise value.
- (4) JCR believes that the capital adequacy relative to risk is in line with the AA range rating, due to the accumulation of retained earnings, including various types of reserves. The ESR based on economic value was 201% at the end of September 2022, a level that allows it to maintain soundness even under considerable stress. Regarding ESR, in addition to the level, it is also important to reduce the

sensitivity through measures such as reduction of interest rate risk. From early on, it has been practicing risk management that focuses on controlling interest rate risk under its surplus management type ALM, and its economic value-based management and operations have become widespread. Given its efforts to reduce the duration gap, JCR believes that the trend of reducing the amount of risk is expected to continue over the medium term. Meiji Yasuda Life Group has built an integrated management system for earnings and capital based on risk management through development of ERM system. The speed at which the environment surrounding the industry is changing is rapid, requiring flexible responses in product strategies and asset management policies, increasing the importance of integrated ERM for the Group, including overseas business.

Kiichi Sugiura, Tomohiro Miyao, and Kota Matsuzawa

## Rating

Issuer: Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Company

### <Rating Change>

Long-term Issuer Rating: AA Outlook: Stable

Ability to Pay Insurance Claims: AA Outlook: Stable

### <Affirmation>

CP: J-1+

Maximum: JPY 100 billion

Rating Assignment Date: January 18, 2023

The assumptions for the credit ratings and the definitions of the rating symbols are published as "Types of Credit Ratings and Definitions of Rating Symbols" (January 6, 2014) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/>).

Outline of the rating methodology is shown as "JCR's Rating Methodology" (November 7, 2014) and "Life Insurance" (July 1, 2013) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/>).

The rating stakeholder participated in the rating process of the aforementioned credit ratings.

## Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

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JCR publishes its press releases regarding the rating actions both in Japanese and in English on the same day. In case that it takes time to translate rating rationale, JCR may publicize the summary version, which will be replaced by the full translated version within three business days. (Regarding Structured Finance products, JCR only publicize the summary version in English.)



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FORM

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

### Disclosure Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of Rule 17g-7

Issuer:	Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Company
Rating Publication Date:	January 23, 2023

1

The Symbol, Number, or Score in the Rating Scale used to Denote Credit Rating Categories and Notches and, the Identity of the Obligor or the Identity and a Description of the Security or Money Market Instrument as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

2

The version of the procedure or methodology used to determine the credit rating; as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

3

The Main Assumptions and Principles used in Constructing the Procedures and Methodologies used to Determine the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(C) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, to be applied to assess the likelihood of a given debt payment in light of its issuer's condition and business environment, etc. in the relevant future. There is certain limitation, however, in the time horizon that the rating foresees.
- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, that the factors posted in the below are particularly important for such likelihood to be determined, and that the rating determination is made by evaluating each of them not only quantitatively but also employing qualitative analyses.

A) Business Bases

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to its issuer's business bases - how they can be maintained/ expanded into the future and thereby secure earnings and cash flows in adequacy and in a sustainable way.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the degree of the issuer's indebtedness and loss absorption capacity in terms of equity capital. Also notable is that a financial institution might see a significant loss of financial grounds as a result of changes in value of the assets under its possession.

C) Liquidity Positions

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the adequacy of the issuer's cash and other sources of repayment (liquidity positions).

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The likelihood of debt payment is affected one way or the other by the issuer's related parties such as parent company, subsidiary, guarantor, and the government of the issuer's business domicile, etc. - by their own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

The likelihood of debt payment can be different between given debts of the same issuer. The likelihood of debt payment for an individual debt is dependent on the issuer's discretion, and/ or its rank relative to other debts of the same issuer in the order of seniority in principal/ interest payment which is determined by design as financial product or by laws, etc.

## 4 The Potential Limitations of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- The objective of the credit rating herewith presented does not include any concerns other than the likelihood of debt payment, such as risks of price changes, market liquidity, etc.
- The credit rating herewith presented is necessary to be reviewed along with possible changes of the issuer of rated objects in its business performance and/ or circumstances which include regulatory environment, and hence subject to possible alteration.

## 5 Information on the Uncertainty of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(E) of Rule 17g-7

- The information used for the determination of credit rating as herewith presented is obtained by JCR from the issuer of rated objects and other sources that JCR trusts in terms of accuracy and reliability but possibly contains errors due to human, non-human or other causes. Consequently, the credit rating determined on the grounds of such information does not constitute, explicitly or implicitly, any representation or warrant of JCR on the information itself or any consequences of its use in terms of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, wholeness, market value, or usefulness for any specific purposes.

## 6 Use of Due Diligence Services of a Third Party in Taking the Rating Action as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(F) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any third-party due diligence service in the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

## 7 Use of Servicer or Remittance Reports to Conduct Surveillance of the Credit Rating Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(G) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any servicer or remittance report to conduct surveillance of the credit rating herewith presented.

## 8 The Types of Data Relied Upon for the Purpose of Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(H) of Rule 17g-7

- The information posted in the below, which includes data, is used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

A) Audited financial statements presented by the rating stakeholders

B) Explanations of business performance, management plans, etc. presented by the rating stakeholders

## 9 Overall assessment of the Quality of Information Available and Considered in Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(I) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the warranty made by the issuer, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.
- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- If the credit ratings is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

## 10 Information Relating to Conflicts of Interest as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(J) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR receives payment of compensation for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented from either one of those parties who are issuer, underwriter, depositor or sponsor.
- JCR did not receive in the last fiscal year in the past payment of compensation from the same party for any kind of JCR's service other than the determination of public or private credit rating, such as one in the ancillary business.

## 11 Explanation or Measure of the Potential Volatility of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(K) of Rule 17g-7

### A) Business Bases

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the business bases is large.

### B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating is subject to alteration if the issuer increases/ decreases its debt/ capital or vice versa and thereby makes its individual debt payment liability less or more bearable and its loss absorption capacity into the future decreased or increased. Also, the changes in the quality of asset under the issuer's holding may affect the credit rating, since such changes could raise or lower the likelihood of future loss of the issuer's financial grounds. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the financial grounds and/ or asset quality is large.

### C) Liquidity Positions

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's financial management policy or in the relations with fund procurement sources and the change thereby makes its liquidity positions improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

#### D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's parent company or subsidiary, guarantor or other provider of credit enhancement, or the government of the issuer's business domicile, or other related parties' own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer, and the change thereby makes its business bases, financial grounds and/ or liquidity positions improve or deteriorate, and/ or making the effectiveness of guarantee and other credit enhancement improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

#### E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the rated debt's status in the order of seniority relative to other debts caused by the improvement/ deterioration of the issuer's financial condition. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large. Also, in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, the credit rating is subject to alteration if and when the likelihood of such non-payment is projected to increase or decrease. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

#### F) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a rise/ fall in the general economy and/ or the markets inducing the issuer's revenues/ expenses to increase/ decrease and vice versa, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is exceptionally large.

#### G) Various Events

The credit rating is subject to alteration on occurrence of various events, such as change in the issuer's major shareholders, M&A and other organizational change, accident, violation of the law, litigation, legal/ regulatory change, natural disaster, etc., which are unforeseeable at the time when the credit rating is determined, causing a significant change on the issuer's business bases, financial grounds, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but more often than not as much as a few notches.

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Information on the Content of the Credit Rating, Including the Historical Performance of the Credit Rating and the Expected Probability of Default and the Expected Loss in the Event of Default as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(L) of Rule 17g-7

- Historical records of the credit rating herewith presented are posted in the end of this paper.
- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- Facts of the probability of default are posted as Form NRSRO Exhibit 1 on the JCR website under the URL:

<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/service/company/regu/nrsro/>

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Information on the Sensitivity of the Credit Rating to Assumptions Made as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(M) of Rule 17g-7

#### A) Business Bases

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's business bases and powers of earning or cash flow generation, etc. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases on some drastic change in the operational environments, etc.

#### B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's financial grounds and asset quality. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but

possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's financial grounds and/ or asset quality on some drastic change in its business bases.

**C) Liquidity Risks**

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's liquidity positions. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's liquidity positions on some drastic change in its financial management policy or relations with fund procurement sources, etc.

**D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer**

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's parent company or subsidiaries, guarantor or other providers of credit enhancement, the government of the issuer's business domicile or other related parties' status and stance of support/ assistance for the issuer. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if there is a major change on the part of related parties, such as replacement, disappearance, some drastic improvement/ deterioration of financial grounds/ balances, etc.

**E) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets**

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the prospects of general economy and markets. JCR expects the change should be most likely by a notch but could be as much as a few notches, should the economy or the markets change so greatly.

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## Information on the Representations, Warranties, and Enforcement Mechanisms of an Asset-backed Security as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(N) of rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented is not for an ABS product, and hence no relevant issue.

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## The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	October 6, 2006	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	October 16, 2007	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	October 7, 2008	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	February 20, 2009	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	October 16, 2009	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	October 6, 2010	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	October 18, 2011	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	September 28, 2012	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	November 6, 2013	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	December 29, 2014	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	December 11, 2015	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	January 27, 2017	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	December 20, 2017	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	December 14, 2018	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	December 20, 2019	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	January 19, 2021	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Issuer(Long-term)	January 21, 2022	AA-	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	January 8, 1998	AA	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	March 4, 1999	AA	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	September 30, 1999	AA-	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	September 29, 2000	AA-	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 26, 2001	A+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	November 1, 2002	A+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 18, 2003	A+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	January 5, 2004	A+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	January 20, 2005	A+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 14, 2005	A+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 6, 2006	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 16, 2007	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 7, 2008	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	February 20, 2009	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 16, 2009	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 6, 2010	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	October 18, 2011	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	September 28, 2012	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	November 6, 2013	A+	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 29, 2014	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 11, 2015	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	January 27, 2017	A+	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 20, 2017	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 14, 2018	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 20, 2019	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	January 19, 2021	AA-	Stable
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	January 21, 2022	AA-	Positive
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	December 18, 2003	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	January 5, 2004	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	January 20, 2005	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	October 14, 2005	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	October 6, 2006	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	October 16, 2007	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	October 7, 2008	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	October 16, 2009	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	October 6, 2010	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	October 18, 2011	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	September 28, 2012	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	November 6, 2013	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	December 29, 2014	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	December 11, 2015	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	January 27, 2017	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	December 20, 2017	J-1+	



## The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	December 14, 2018	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	December 20, 2019	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	January 19, 2021	J-1+	
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance	CP	January 21, 2022	J-1+	

## Attestation Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of Rule 17g-7

I, Tomohiro Miyao, have responsibility to this Rating Action and to the best of my knowledge:

- A) No part of the credit rating was influenced by any other business activities.
- B) The credit rating was based solely upon the merits of the obligor, security, or money market instrument being rated.
- C) The credit rating was an independent evaluation of the credit risk of the obligor, security, or money market instrument.

宮尾 知浩

Tomohiro Miyao

General Manager of Financial Institution Rating Department

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